



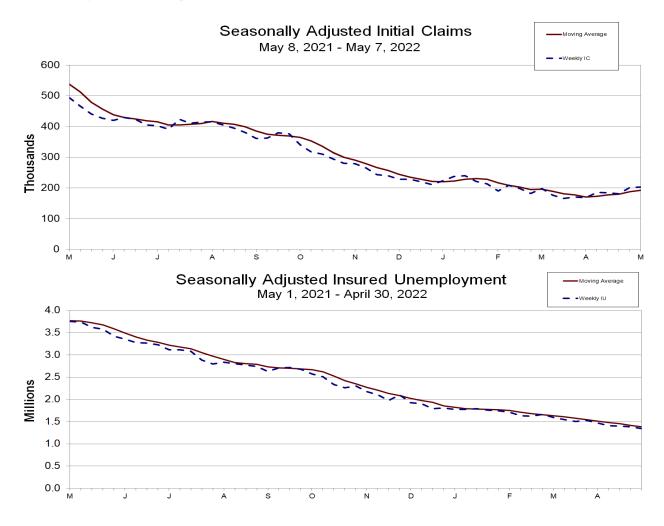
## TRANSMISSION OF MATERIALS IN THIS RELEASE IS EMBARGOED UNTIL 8:30 A.M. (Eastern) Thursday, May 12, 2022

## UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE WEEKLY CLAIMS

# SEASONALLY ADJUSTED DATA

In the week ending May 7, the advance figure for seasonally adjusted **initial claims** was 203,000, an increase of 1,000 from the previous week's revised level. The previous week's level was revised up by 2,000 from 200,000 to 202,000. The 4-week moving average was 192,750, an increase of 4,250 from the previous week's revised average. The previous week's average was revised up by 500 from 188,000 to 188,500.

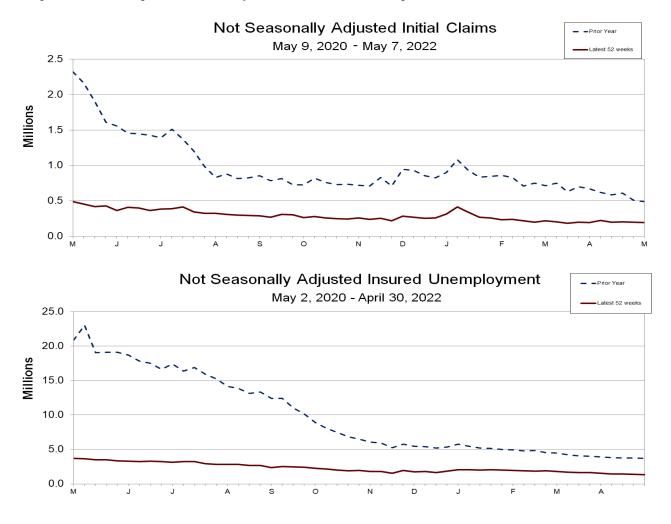
The advance seasonally adjusted **insured unemployment rate** was 1.0 percent for the week ending April 30, unchanged from the previous week's unrevised rate. The advance number for seasonally adjusted **insured unemployment** during the week ending April 30 was 1,343,000, a decrease of 44,000 from the previous week's revised level. This is the lowest level for insured unemployment since January 3, 1970 when it was 1,332,000. The previous week's level was revised up 3,000 from 1,384,000 to 1,387,000. The 4-week moving average was 1,385,000, a decrease of 32,750 from the previous week's revised average. This is the lowest level for this average since January 31, 1970 when it was 1,374,250. The previous week's average was revised up by 750 from 1,417,000 to 1,417,750.



### **UNADJUSTED DATA**

The advance number of actual initial claims under state programs, unadjusted, totaled 191,803 in the week ending May 7, a decrease of 6,554 (or -3.3 percent) from the previous week. The seasonal factors had expected a decrease of 8,071 (or - 4.1 percent) from the previous week. There were 488,815 initial claims in the comparable week in 2021.

The advance unadjusted insured unemployment rate was 1.0 percent during the week ending April 30, unchanged from the prior week. The advance unadjusted number for persons claiming UI benefits in state programs totaled 1,335,108, a decrease of 70,837 (or -5.0 percent) from the preceding week. The seasonal factors had expected a decrease of 27,731 (or -2.0 percent) from the previous week. A year earlier the rate was 2.6 percent and the volume was 3,688,043.



The total number of people claiming benefits in all programs for the week ending April 23 was 1,440,324, a decrease of 38,030 from the previous week. There were 16,848,931 persons claiming benefits in all programs in the comparable week in 2021.

No states were triggered "on" to the Extended Benefits program during the week ending April 23.

Initial claims for UI benefits filed by former Federal civilian employees totaled 439 in the week ending April 30, a decrease of 50 from the prior week. There were 378 initial claims filed by newly discharged veterans, a decrease of 13 from the preceding week.

There were 7,163 former Federal civilian employees claiming UI benefits for the week ending April 23, a decrease of 170 from the previous week. Newly discharged veterans claiming benefits totaled 4,388, an increase of 82 from the prior week.

The highest insured unemployment rates in the week ending April 23 were in California (2.1), New Jersey (2.1), Alaska (1.9), Rhode Island (1.8), New York (1.7), Puerto Rico (1.6), Massachusetts (1.5), Minnesota (1.5), Pennsylvania (1.4), Connecticut (1.3), Illinois (1.3).

The largest increases in initial claims for the week ending April 30 were in New York (+7,329), Illinois (+3,140), Kentucky (+1,152), Michigan (+1,092), and New Hampshire (+469), while the largest decreases were in Massachusetts (-3,029), California (-2,816), New Jersey (-2,466), Connecticut (-2,319), and Ohio (-2,018).

### UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE DATA FOR REGULAR STATE PROGRAMS

May 7	April 30	Change	April 23	Prior Year <sup>1</sup>
203,000	202,000	+1,000	181,000	494,000
191,803	198,357	-6,554	204,126	488,815
192,750	188,500	+4,250	180,000	537,750
April 30	April 23	Change	April 16	Prior Year <sup>1</sup>
1,343,000	1,387,000	-44,000	1,403,000	3,756,000
1,335,108	1,405,945	-70,837	1,442,563	3,688,043
1,385,000	1,417,750	-32,750	1,453,250	3,769,500
1.0%	1.0%	0.0	1.0%	2.7%
1.0%	1.0%	0.0	1.0%	2.6%
	203,000 191,803 192,750 <b>April 30</b> 1,343,000 1,335,108 1,385,000 1.0%	203,000 202,000   191,803 198,357   192,750 188,500   April 30 April 23   1,343,000 1,387,000   1,335,108 1,405,945   1,385,000 1,417,750   1.0% 1.0%	$\begin{array}{cccccccc} 203,000 & 202,000 & +1,000 \\ 191,803 & 198,357 & -6,554 \\ 192,750 & 188,500 & +4,250 \\ \hline \textbf{April 30} & \textbf{April 23} & \textbf{Change} \\ \hline 1,343,000 & 1,387,000 & -44,000 \\ 1,335,108 & 1,405,945 & -70,837 \\ 1,385,000 & 1,417,750 & -32,750 \\ 1.0\% & 1.0\% & 0.0 \\ \hline \end{array}$	$\begin{array}{c ccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccc$

### INITIAL CLAIMS FILED IN FEDERAL PROGRAMS (UNADJUSTED)

WEEK ENDING	April 30	April 23	Change	Prior Year <sup>1</sup>
Federal Employees (UCFE)	439	489	-50	929
Newly Discharged Veterans (UCX)	378	391	-13	523

## PERSONS CLAIMING UI BENEFITS IN ALL PROGRAMS (UNADJUSTED)

WEEK ENDING	April 23	April 16	Change	Prior Year <sup>1</sup>
Regular State	1,402,538	1,439,031	-36,493	3,734,461
Federal Employees	7,163	7,333	-170	14,507
Newly Discharged Veterans	4,388	4,306	+82	7,252
Extended Benefits <sup>3</sup>	12,445	13,978	-1,533	433,208
State Additional Benefits <sup>4</sup>	1,936	2,015	-79	1,665
STC / Workshare <sup>5</sup>	11,854	11,691	+163	82,222
TOTAL	1,440,324	1,478,354	-38,030	16,848,931

## **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 140,025,048 as denominator.
- 3. Information on the EB program can be found here: <u>EB Program information</u>
- 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: <u>Extensions and Special Programs PDF</u>
- 5. Information on STC/Worksharing can be found starting on page 4-8 of the following link: <u>Extensions and Special</u> <u>Programs PDF</u>

# Advance State Claims - Not Seasonally Adjusted

	Initial Claim	ns Filed During Wee	k Ended May 7	Insured Unemployment For Week Ended April 30			
STATE	Advance	Prior Wk	Change	Advance	Prior Wk	Chang	
Alabama	1,902	2,011	-109	2,728	3,812	-1,084	
Alaska	898	811	87	5,161	5,384	-223	
Arizona	3,225	3,494	-269	15,107	16,076	-969	
Arkansas	1,587	1,301	286	5,963	6,318	-355	
California	44,380	40,624	3,756	348,515	343,877	4,638	
Colorado	2,495	2,280	215	18,242	17,495	747	
Connecticut	2,031	2,469	-438	17,217	20,093	-2,876	
Delaware	284	371	-87	3,138	3,539	-401	
District of Columbia	712	751	-39	4,033	4,359	-326	
Florida	4,202	5,221	-1,019	29,300	32,449	-3,149	
Georgia	4,138	4,439	-301	24,459	27,330	-2,871	
Hawaii	1,273	1,104	169	6,088	6,113	-2,871	
Idaho	595	637	-42	3,267	3,808	-541	
Illinois	15,355	11,692	3,663	69,995	71,483	-1,488	
Indiana	4,729	5,779	-1,050	18,985	20,459	-1,474	
Iowa	1,666	1,203	463	7,491	8,430	-939	
Kansas	1,074	895	179	3,567	3,886	-319	
Kentucky	1,688	3,140	-1,452	8,521	7,241	1,280	
Louisiana	1,519	1,645	-126	8,693	10,075	-1,382	
Maine	454	539	-85	4,764	5,575	-811	
Maryland	1,566	1,791	-225	14,388	15,468	-1,080	
Massachusetts	3,787	4,446	-659	43,396	51,459	-8,063	
Michigan	6,953	7,588	-635	40,175	38,697	1,478	
Minnesota	2,996	2,651	345	36,657	39,073	-2,416	
Mississippi	931	863	68	3,513	4,081	-568	
Missouri	2,514	2,666	-152	11,092	13,029	-1,937	
Montana	470	561	-91	3,687	4,160	-473	
Nebraska	581	479	102	2,533	2,542	-9	
Nevada	1,991	1,838	153	12,530	13,635	-1,105	
New Hampshire	251	750	-499	2,194	1,949	245	
New Jersey	5,728	6,113	-385	75,460	78,900	-3,440	
New Mexico	690	734	-44	8,016	8,223	-207	
New York	13,473	23,284	-9,811	126,494	142,646	-16,15	
North Carolina	2,284	2,770	-486	12,463	13,007	-10,15	
North Dakota	2,284	2,770	-480	2,377	2,865	-344 -488	
Ohio	6,937	6,276		33,033			
			661		36,233	-3,200	
Oklahoma	1,478	2,235	-757	10,415	10,853	-438	
Oregon	3,286	3,198	88	21,103	21,564	-461	
Pennsylvania	8,169	8,462	-293	60,276	74,585	-14,30	
Puerto Rico	1,055	1,212	-157	10,340	13,168	-2,828	
Rhode Island	659	808	-149	6,170	7,960	-1,790	
South Carolina	1,706	1,874	-168	8,959	9,482	-523	
South Dakota	107	102	5	908	1,068	-160	
Tennessee	2,085	1,947	138	10,237	11,183	-946	
Texas	13,240	12,977	263	92,393	91,908	485	
Utah	1,460	1,413	47	5,469	5,534	-65	
Vermont	294	346	-52	2,318	2,729	-411	
Virgin Islands	22	27	-5	432	212	220	
Virginia	4,437	1,932	2,505	8,418	7,253	1,165	
Washington	4,075	3,768	307	37,388	35,876	1,512	
West Virginia	637	603	34	5,964	5,790	174	
Wisconsin	3,251	3,712	-461	19,266	21,202	-1,930	
Wyoming	251	314	-63	1,810	1,809	-1,950	
US Total	191,803	198,357	-6,554	1,335,108	1,405,945	-70,83	

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)

		Change					
	_	from		_	from		
	Initial	Prior	4-Week	Insured	Prior	4-Week	
Week Ending	Claims	Week	Average	Unemployment	Week	Average	IUR
May 1, 2021	517	-57	557.00	3,756	-11	3,769.50	2.7
May 8, 2021	494	-23	537.75	3,737	-19	3,759.00	2.7
May 15, 2021	467	-27	513.00	3,618	-119	3,719.50	2.6
May 22, 2021	441	-26	479.75	3,575	-43	3,671.50	2.6
May 29, 2021	427	-14	457.25	3,422	-153	3,588.00	2.5
June 5, 2021	420	-7	438.75	3,352	-70	3,491.75	2.4
June 12, 2021	429	9	429.25	3,271	-81	3,405.00	2.3
June 19, 2021	424	-5	425.00	3,266	-5	3,327.75	2.3
June 26, 2021	405	-19	419.50	3,230	-36	3,279.75	2.3
July 3, 2021	403	-2	415.25	3,116	-114	3,220.75	2.3
July 10, 2021	391	-12	405.75	3,116	0	3,182.00	2.3
July 17, 2021	424	33	405.75	3,082	-34	3,136.00	2.2
July 24, 2021	411	-13	407.25	2,881	-201	3,048.75	2.1
July 31, 2021	411 414	-13	407.23	2,794	-201 -87	2,968.25	2.1
August 7, 2021	414	2	416.25	2,839	-87 45	2,899.00	2.0
-		-11	416.25 411.50			2,899.00	2.1 2.0
August 14, 2021	405			2,804	-35		
August 21, 2021	395	-10	407.50	2,772	-32	2,802.25	2.0
August 28, 2021	381	-14	399.25	2,740	-32	2,788.75	2.0
September 4, 2021	361	-20	385.50	2,628	-112	2,736.00	1.9
September 11, 2021	363	2	375.00	2,705	77	2,711.25	2.0
September 18, 2021	380	17	371.25	2,720	15	2,698.25	2.0
September 25, 2021	376	-4	370.00	2,674	-46	2,681.75	2.0
October 2, 2021	340	-36	364.75	2,571	-103	2,667.50	1.9
October 9, 2021	317	-23	353.25	2,512	-59	2,619.25	1.9
October 16, 2021	310	-7	335.75	2,334	-178	2,522.75	1.7
October 23, 2021	294	-16	315.25	2,263	-71	2,420.00	1.7
October 30, 2021	280	-14	300.25	2,303	40	2,353.00	1.7
November 6, 2021	279	-1	290.75	2,172	-131	2,268.00	1.6
November 13, 2021	265	-14	279.50	2,100	-72	2,209.50	1.6
November 20, 2021	244	-21	267.00	1,976	-124	2,137.75	1.5
November 27, 2021	240	-4	257.00	2,098	122	2,086.50	1.6
December 4, 2021	228	-12	244.25	1,927	-171	2,025.25	1.4
December 11, 2021	228	0	235.00	1,904	-23	1,976.25	1.4
December 18, 2021	220	-8	229.00	1,793	-111	1,930.50	1.3
December 25, 2021	211	-9	221.75	1,805	12	1,857.25	1.3
January 1, 2022	224	13	220.75	1,778	-27	1,820.00	1.3
January 8, 2022	238	13	220.75	1,776	-27	1,788.00	1.3
January 15, 2022	238 240	2	223.25	1,787	-2	1,786.50	1.3
January 22, 2022	240	-18	228.23	1,787	-30	1,774.50	1.3
January 22, 2022 January 29, 2022	222	-18 -8	231.00 228.50	1,737	-30 -14	1,774.30	1.3
-							
February 5, 2022	191	-23	216.75	1,714	-29 81	1,750.25	1.2
February 12, 2022	209	18	209.00	1,633	-81	1,711.75	1.2
February 19, 2022	198	-11	203.00	1,623	-10	1,678.25	1.2
February 26, 2022	182	-16	195.00	1,664	41	1,658.50	1.2
March 5, 2022	198	16	196.75	1,594	-70	1,628.50	1.2
March 12, 2022	177	-21	188.75	1,542	-52	1,605.75	1.1
March 19, 2022	166	-11	180.75	1,506	-36	1,576.50	1.1
March 26, 2022	171	5	178.00	1,529	23	1,542.75	1.1
April 2, 2022	168	-3	170.50	1,474	-55	1,512.75	1.1
April 9, 2022	186	18	172.75	1,407	-67	1,479.00	1.0
April 16, 2022	185	-1	177.50	1,403	-4	1,453.25	1.0
April 23, 2022	181	-4	180.00	1,387	-16	1,417.75	1.0
April 30, 2022	202	21	188.50	1,343	-44	1,385.00	1.0
May 7, 2022	203	1	192.75	,- · <del>·</del>		,	

# INITIAL CLAIMS FILED DURING WEEK ENDED APRIL 30

INSURED UNEMPLOYMENT FOR WEEK ENDED APRIL 23

	APRIL 30								APH	RIL 23		
		CHANC	TE EDOM					CUAN	GE FROM			ALL PROGRAMS
		LAST	E FROM YEAR						YEAR			EXCLUDING
STATE NAME	STATE	WEEK		UCFE <sup>1</sup>	$UCX^{1}$	STAT	E (%) <sup>2</sup>	LAST WEEK		UCFE <sup>1</sup>	UCX <sup>1</sup>	RAILROAD RETIREMENT
Alabama	2,011	-11	-8,314	11	6	3,812		204	-14,287	33	19	3,864
Alaska	811	-43	-2,018	4	0	5,384		-13	-7,565	62	10	5,456
Arizona	3,494	-234	-3,773	4 0	0	16,07		-13 646	-38,565	75	10	16,165
Arkansas	1,301	-234	-1,353	0	0	6,31		-245	-13,735	38	23	6,379
California	40,624	-2,816	-30,136	101	86	343,8		100	-239,661	1,605	23 990	346,472
Colorado	2,280	-2,810	-30,130	3	11	545,8 17,49		-795	-259,001	1,005	990 119	17,718
Connecticut	2,280	-2,319	-1,704 -2,449	4	4	20,09		-1,675	-23,317	44	49	20,186
Delaware	2,409	-2,319		4 2	4			403	-33,920	10	49 0	3,549
	751	-300 133	-5,095 -800	2 8	0	3,539 4,359		403 190	-15,532	10 61	1	4,421
District of Columbia												
Florida	5,221	-19	-14,544	24	24	32,44		-546	-94,112	182	93 120	32,724
Georgia	4,439	-122	-20,990	34	21	27,33		-281	-112,265	251	138	27,719
Hawaii	1,104	-39	-1,690	3	8	6,113		-107	-11,329	54	85	6,252
Idaho	637	-121	-2,755	3	1	3,80		-200	-5,872	48	5	3,861
Illinois	11,692	3,140	-3,442	13	5	71,48		-10,390	-156,349	474	134	72,091
Indiana	5,779	-620	-2,802	7	6	20,45		-2,868	-43,883	85	21	20,565
Iowa	1,203	32	-1,942	3	2	8,430		-1,108	-19,334	26	8	8,464
Kansas	895	16	-1,495	0	2	3,880		18	-4,665	22	14	3,922
Kentucky	3,140	1,152	-9,011	2	0	7,24		-1,011	-14,082	70	51	7,362
Louisiana	1,645	41	-5,138	2	3	10,07		521	-41,943	57	15	10,147
Maine	539	-111	-852	1	1	5,57		-53	-8,146	19	15	5,609
Maryland	1,791	-357	-3,850	9	1	15,46		199	-24,168	208	60	15,736
Massachusetts	4,446	-3,029	-7,435	6	3	51,45		4,167	-60,410	113	102	51,674
Michigan	7,588	1,092	-23,768	5	5	38,69			-83,800	96	45	38,838
Minnesota	2,651	-61	-1,659	4	4	39,07		-4,042	-41,780	68	63	39,204
Mississippi	863	-116	-2,665	1	1	4,08		119	-23,309	73	11	4,165
Missouri	2,666	24	-5,639	1	3	13,02	9 0.5	1,170	-44,448	65	21	13,115
Montana	561	-228	-923	5	1	4,160		-857	-6,107	129	13	4,302
Nebraska	479	32	-930	0	0	2,542	2 0.3	-221	-5,879	7	6	2,555
Nevada	1,838	-160	-7,141	4	0	13,63	5 1.0	-57	-68,568	112	41	13,788
New Hampshire	750	469	251	2	0	1,949	0.3	20	-17,370	7	3	1,959
New Jersey	6,113	-2,466	-8,211	18	10	78,90	0 2.1	1,440	-34,191	288	219	79,407
New Mexico	734	20	-3,219	0	2	8,222	3 1.1	202	-19,226	131	30	8,384
New York	23,284	7,329	-8,239	22	14	142,64	6 1.7	5,863	-226,679	370	224	143,240
North Carolina	2,770	153	-4,281	3	0	13,00	7 0.3	10	-35,697	51	90	13,148
North Dakota	211	-111	-559	1	0	2,86	5 0.7	-598	-1,761	10	2	2,877
Ohio	6,276	-2,018	-12,421	4	5	36,23	3 0.7	-5,063	-78,976	58	112	36,403
Oklahoma	2,235	307	-8,742	6	6	10,85	3 0.7	-282	-26,749	53	39	10,945
Oregon	3,198	-534	-7,795	6	5	21,56	4 1.2	-235	-37,430	256	38	21,858
Pennsylvania	8,462	-714	-13,498	23	5	74,58	5 1.4	2,151	-140,055	235	103	74,923
Puerto Rico	1,212	-12	-1,565	8	2	13,16		483	-22,757	207	86	13,461
Rhode Island	808	-1,208	-6,956	1	0	7,96	) 1.8	1,579	-12,419	21	23	8,004
South Carolina	1,874	-513	-1,025	5	10	9,482		-28	-30,070	49	44	9,575
South Dakota	102	-38	-162	2	2	1,06	3 0.3	-243	-2,134	30	2	1,100
Tennessee	1,947	15	-6,308	2	6	11,18		-290	-41,053	37	30	11,250
Texas	12,977	-119	-17,248	51	77	91,90	8 0.8	-4,603	-157,460	677	809	93,394
Utah	1,413	-231	-2,316	12	3	5,534		-168	-8,036	57	17	5,608
Vermont	346	-316	-6,026	0	0	2,729		254	-9,866	2	0	2,731
Virgin Islands	27	-2	-182	0	0	212		-146	-1,104	2	0	214
Virginia	1,932	87	-10,299	1	2	7,253		1	-47,942	60	53	7,366
Washington	3,768	-283	-7,012	5	22	35,87		-1,404	-40,470	203	260	36,339
West Virginia	603	-52	-4,495	0	5	5,790		38	-11,419	67	23	5,880
Wisconsin	3,712	-47	-6,639	4	3	21,20		-1,834	-63,502	69	12	21,283
Wyoming	3,712	-47	-544	3	0	1,809		-1,834 -49	-03,502	32	3	1,844
Totals	198,357	-5,769	-311,804	439	378		45 1.0		-2,128			1,417,496
10000	170,557	-5,707	-511,004	737	510	1,+03,5	15 1.0	-50,010	2,331,290	7,105	-,300	1,717,790

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 APRIL 30, 2022

# STATES WITH AN INCREASE OF MORE THAN 1,000

State	Change	State Supplied Comment
NY	+7,329	Layoffs in the transportation and warehousing, educational services, and professional, scientific, and technical services industries.
IL	+3,140	Layoffs in the manufacturing, wholesale trade, retail trade, and administrative and support and waste management and remediation services industries.
KY MI	$^{+1,152}_{+1,092}$	No comment. Layoffs in the management of companies and enterprises industry.

# STATES WITH A DECREASE OF MORE THAN 1,000

State	Change	State Supplied Comment
MA	-3,029	No comment.
CA	-2,816	Fewer layoffs in the agriculture, forestry, fishing, and hunting industry.
NJ	-2,466	No comment.
CT	-2,319	No comment.
OH	-2,018	No comment.
RI	-1,208	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. For further questions on the seasonal adjustment methodology, please see the <u>official release page for the UI claims seasonal adjustment factors</u> or contact BLS directly through the Local Area Unemployment Statistics web contact form.

#### Weekly Claims Archives Weekly Claims Data

U.S. Department of Labor news materials are accessible at <u>http://www.dol.gov</u>. The Department's <u>Reasonable Accommodation</u> <u>Resource Center</u> 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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