



# News Release

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**8:30 A.M. (Eastern) Thursday, April 24, 2014**

## UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE WEEKLY CLAIMS

### SEASONALLY ADJUSTED DATA

In the week ending April 19, the advance figure for seasonally adjusted **initial claims** was 329,000, an increase of 24,000 from the previous week's revised level. The previous week's level was revised up by 1,000 from 304,000 to 305,000. The 4-week moving average was 316,750, an increase of 4,750 from the previous week's unrevised average of 312,000.

There were no special factors impacting this week's initial claims.

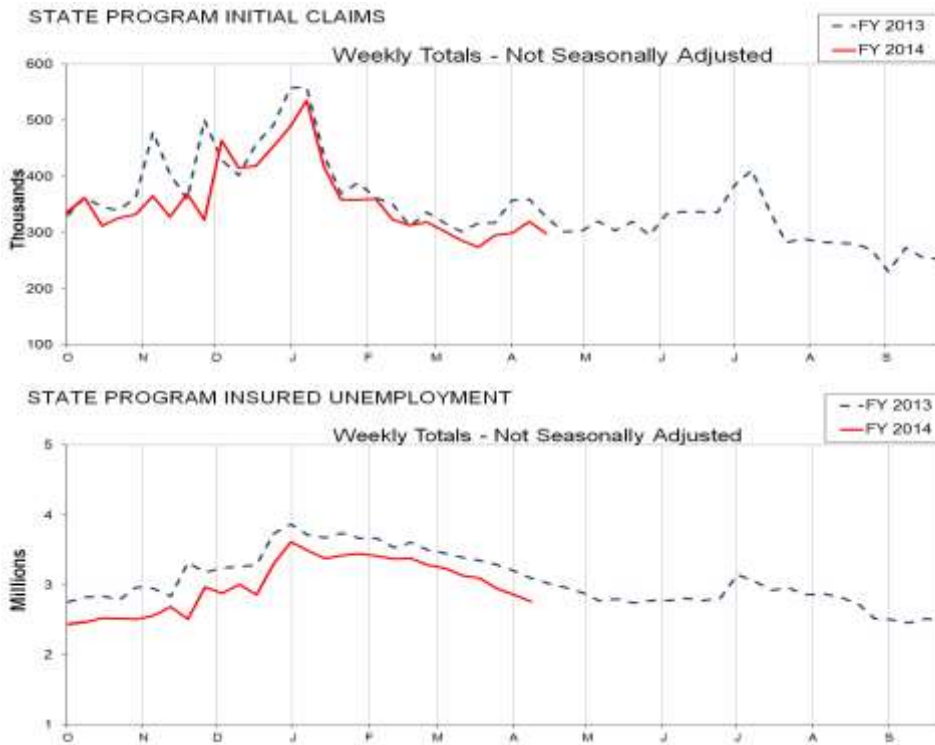
The advance seasonally adjusted **insured unemployment rate** was 2.0 percent for the week ending April 12, a decrease of 0.1 percent from the previous week's unrevised rate of 2.1 percent. The advance number for seasonally adjusted **insured unemployment** during the week ending April 12 was 2,680,000, a decrease of 61,000 from the previous week's revised level. This is the lowest level for insured unemployment since December 8, 2007 when it was 2,672,000. The previous week's level was revised up 2,000 from 2,739,000 to 2,741,000. The 4-week moving average was 2,752,250, a decrease of 33,500 from the previous week's revised average. This is the lowest level for this average since December 29, 2007 when it was 2,730,250. The previous week's average was revised up by 500 from 2,785,250 to 2,785,750.



## UNADJUSTED DATA

The advance number of actual initial claims under state programs, unadjusted, totaled 297,870 in the week ending April 19, a decrease of 20,923 (or -6.6 percent) from the previous week. The seasonal factors had expected a decrease of 42,668 (or -13.4 percent) from the previous week. There were 326,264 initial claims in the comparable week in 2013.

The advance unadjusted insured unemployment rate was 2.1 percent during the week ending April 12, a decrease of 0.1 percentage point from the prior week. The advance unadjusted number for persons claiming UI benefits in state programs totaled 2,763,333, a decrease of 89,938 (or -3.2 percent) from the preceding week. The seasonal factors had expected a decrease of 27,409 (or -1.0 percent) from the previous week. A year earlier the rate was 2.4 percent and the volume was 3,096,325.



The total number of people claiming benefits in all programs for the week ending April 5 was 2,922,187, a decrease of 85,245 from the previous week. There were 5,065,908 persons claiming benefits in all programs in the comparable week in 2013.

No state was triggered "on" the Extended Benefits program during the week ending April 5.

Initial claims for UI benefits filed by former Federal civilian employees totaled 1,238 in the week ending April 12, an increase of 239 from the prior week. There were 1,676 initial claims filed by newly discharged veterans, a decrease of 141 from the preceding week.

There were 16,020 former Federal civilian employees claiming UI benefits for the week ending April 5, a decrease of 563 from the previous week. Newly discharged veterans claiming benefits totaled 26,067, a decrease of 317 from the prior week.

The highest insured unemployment rates in the week ending April 5 were in Alaska (4.9), New Jersey (3.6), Connecticut (3.3), Illinois (3.3), Pennsylvania (3.2), Puerto Rico (3.2), California (3.1), Rhode Island (3.1), Massachusetts (3.0), Maine (2.8), Nevada (2.8), and Wisconsin (2.8).

The largest increases in initial claims for the week ending April 12 were in California (+9,213), Michigan (+2,900), Pennsylvania (+2,618), Texas (+1,792), and Indiana (+1,723), while the largest decreases were in Oregon (-2,244), Georgia (-1,602), Ohio (-1,007), Massachusetts (-615), and Illinois (-571).

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UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE DATA FOR REGULAR STATE PROGRAMS

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<b>WEEK ENDING</b>	<b>Advance April 19</b>	<b>April 12</b>	<b>Change</b>	<b>April 5</b>	<b><u>Prior Year</u><sup>1</sup></b>
Initial Claims (SA)	329,000	305,000	+24,000	301,000	343,000
Initial Claims (NSA)	297,870	318,793	-20,923	299,162	326,264
4-Wk Moving Average (SA)	316,750	312,000	+4,750	316,500	354,750
<b>WEEK ENDING</b>	<b>Advance April 12</b>	<b>April 5</b>	<b>Change</b>	<b>March 29</b>	<b><u>Prior Year</u><sup>1</sup></b>
Insured Unemployment (SA)	2,680,000	2,741,000	-61,000	2,750,000	3,012,000
Insured Unemployment (NSA)	2,763,333	2,853,271	-89,938	2,942,180	3,096,325
4-Wk Moving Average (SA)	2,752,250	2,785,750	-33,500	2,817,750	3,062,750
<u>Insured Unemployment Rate (SA)</u> <sup>2</sup>	2.0%	2.1%	-0.1	2.1%	2.3%
<u>Insured Unemployment Rate (NSA)</u> <sup>2</sup>	2.1%	2.2%	-0.1	2.2%	2.4%

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INITIAL CLAIMS FILED IN FEDERAL PROGRAMS (UNADJUSTED)

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<b>WEEK ENDING</b>	<b>April 12</b>	<b>April 5</b>	<b>Change</b>	<b><u>Prior Year</u><sup>1</sup></b>
Federal Employees (UCFE)	1,238	999	+239	1,665
Newly Discharged Veterans (UCX)	1,676	1,817	-141	2,189

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PERSONS CLAIMING UI BENEFITS IN ALL PROGRAMS (UNADJUSTED)

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<b>WEEK ENDING</b>	<b>April 5</b>	<b>March 29</b>	<b>Change</b>	<b><u>Prior Year</u><sup>1</sup></b>
Regular State	2,846,887	2,937,320	-90,433	3,188,702
Federal Employees	16,020	16,583	-563	18,613
Newly Discharged Veterans	26,067	26,384	-317	37,247
<u>Extended Benefits</u> <sup>3</sup>	258	105	+153	338
<u>State Additional Benefits</u> <sup>4</sup>	10,548	9,866	+682	5,596
<u>STC / Workshare</u> <sup>5</sup>	22,407	17,174	+5,233	25,096
<u>TOTAL</u> <sup>6</sup>	2,922,187	3,007,432	-85,245	5,065,908

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 131,532,656 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](#)
6. Prior Year Total includes Emergency Unemployment Compensation (EUC08) claimants.

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**UNADJUSTED INITIAL CLAIMS FOR WEEK ENDED APRIL 12, 2014**

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**STATES WITH A DECREASE OF MORE THAN 1,000**

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<b>State</b>	<b>Change</b>	<b>State Supplied Comment</b>
OR	-2,244	No comment.
GA	-1,602	Fewer layoffs in the manufacturing industry.
OH	-1,007	No comment.

**STATES WITH AN INCREASE OF MORE THAN 1,000**

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<b>State</b>	<b>Change</b>	<b>State Supplied Comment</b>
CA	+9,213	Layoffs in the service industry.
MI	+2,900	No comment.
PA	+2,618	Layoffs in the administrative and support service, and construction industries.
TX	+1,792	Layoffs in the manufacturing, information, health care and social services, retail industries.
IN	+1,723	No comment.
AZ	+1,415	No comment.

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## Seasonally Adjusted US Weekly Claims (in thousands)

Week Ending	Change from			Insured Unemployment	Change from		IUR
	Initial Claims	Prior Week	4-Week Average		Prior Week	4-Week Average	
April 13, 2013	353	5	357.50	3012	-64	3062.75	2.3
April 20, 2013	343	-10	354.75	3024	12	3050.25	2.3
April 27, 2013	332	-11	344.00	3011	-13	3030.75	2.3
May 4, 2013	332	0	340.00	3017	6	3016.00	2.3
May 11, 2013	355	23	340.50	2943	-74	2998.75	2.3
May 18, 2013	344	-11	340.75	2994	51	2991.25	2.3
May 25, 2013	350	6	345.25	2979	-15	2983.25	2.3
June 1, 2013	347	-3	349.00	2980	1	2974.00	2.3
June 8, 2013	337	-10	344.50	2975	-5	2982.00	2.3
June 15, 2013	352	15	346.50	2977	2	2977.75	2.3
June 22, 2013	345	-7	345.25	2959	-18	2972.75	2.3
June 29, 2013	344	-1	344.50	3003	44	2978.50	2.3
July 6, 2013	353	9	348.50	3079	76	3004.50	2.4
July 13, 2013	339	-14	345.25	2991	-88	3008.00	2.3
July 20, 2013	343	4	344.75	2950	-41	3005.75	2.3
July 27, 2013	333	-10	342.00	3001	51	3005.25	2.3
August 3, 2013	335	2	337.50	2963	-38	2976.25	2.3
August 10, 2013	329	-6	335.00	2981	18	2973.75	2.3
August 17, 2013	338	9	333.75	2981	0	2981.50	2.3
August 24, 2013	336	-2	334.50	2928	-53	2963.25	2.3
August 31, 2013	328	-8	332.75	2845	-83	2933.75	2.2
September 7, 2013	307	-21	327.25	2812	-33	2891.50	2.2
September 14, 2013	318	11	322.25	2847	35	2858.00	2.2
September 21, 2013	316	-2	317.25	2916	69	2855.00	2.2
September 28, 2013	318	2	314.75	2910	-6	2871.25	2.2
October 5, 2013	362	44	328.50	2888	-22	2890.25	2.2
October 12, 2013	355	-7	337.75	2881	-7	2898.75	2.2
October 19, 2013	347	-8	345.50	2896	15	2893.75	2.2
October 26, 2013	346	-1	352.50	2890	-6	2888.75	2.2
November 2, 2013	341	-5	347.25	2843	-47	2877.50	2.2
November 9, 2013	342	1	344.00	2889	46	2879.50	2.2
November 16, 2013	332	-10	340.25	2813	-76	2858.75	2.2
November 23, 2013	324	-8	334.75	2804	-9	2837.25	2.2
November 30, 2013	317	-7	328.75	2837	33	2835.75	2.2
December 7, 2013	358	41	332.75	2887	50	2835.25	2.2
December 14, 2013	368	10	341.75	2925	38	2863.25	2.2
December 21, 2013	339	-29	345.50	2840	-85	2872.25	2.2
December 28, 2013	344	5	352.25	2863	23	2878.75	2.2
January 4, 2014	333	-11	346.00	2945	82	2893.25	2.2
January 11, 2014	329	-4	336.25	2951	6	2899.75	2.3
January 18, 2014	334	5	335.00	2903	-48	2915.50	2.2
January 25, 2014	345	11	335.25	2915	12	2928.50	2.2
February 1, 2014	328	-17	334.00	2918	3	2921.75	2.2
February 8, 2014	343	15	337.50	2936	18	2918.00	2.2
February 15, 2014	330	-13	336.50	2941	5	2927.50	2.2
February 22, 2014	351	21	338.00	2890	-51	2921.25	2.2
March 1, 2014	325	-26	337.25	2850	-40	2904.25	2.2
March 8, 2014	319	-6	331.25	2869	19	2887.50	2.2
March 15, 2014	323	4	329.50	2814	-55	2855.75	2.1
March 22, 2014	310	-13	319.25	2838	24	2842.75	2.2
March 29, 2014	332	22	321.00	2750	-88	2817.75	2.1
April 5, 2014	301	-31	316.50	2741	-9	2788.75	2.1
April 12, 2014	305	4	312.00	2680	-61	2752.25	2.0
April 19, 2014	329	24	316.75				

Initial Claims Filed During Week Ended April 12							Insured Unemployment For Week Ended April 5					
INITIAL CLAIMS							INSURED UNEMPLOYMENT					
CHANGE FROM							CHANGE FROM					
STATE	STATE	LAST WEEK	YEAR AGO	UCFE ↓	UCX ↓	STATE	(%) ↓	LAST WEEK	YEAR AGO	UCFE ↓	UCX <sup>1</sup> ↓	ALL PROGRAMS EXCLUDING RAILROAD RETIREMENT
Alabama	3559	-382	-928	23	26	27061	1.5	-1785	-3263	140	286	27487
Alaska	1805	524	-1356	12	6	15483	4.9	91	-375	218	111	15812
Arizona	7736	1415	514	7	12	36383	1.5	1165	-288	271	276	36930
Arkansas	2708	-470	-710	15	14	22663	2.0	-1964	-4978	128	220	23011
California	65292	9213	-2228	225	311	469187	3.1	-13648	-25235	3135	4342	476672
Colorado	3270	46	-584	17	50	39020	1.7	-4504	-1555	418	985	40423
Connecticut	3987	278	-407	11	16	53151	3.3	-2967	-1910	92	247	53490
Delaware	812	133	-176	2	1	8335	2.1	-1991	-1191	40	56	8432
District of Columbia	411	34	-406	4	1	10463	2.0	-224	-301	393	27	10885
Florida	15382	64	118	147	97	90784	1.2	-5765	-16471	334	805	91923
Georgia	7405	-1602	-3290	50	74	46528	1.2	-922	-22885	333	920	47781
Hawaii	1789	-51	-227	8	26	10095	1.7	-105	-1105	106	259	10460
Idaho	1505	-78	-349	7	6	12496	2.0	-955	-2875	195	94	12785
Illinois	12077	-571	-1229	20	37	182108	3.3	6459	-5023	560	784	183452
Indiana	5745	1723	-2277	23	25	43180	1.5	-1840	-6561	271	349	43805
Iowa	2420	45	-196	5	9	26344	1.8	-4206	-4282	87	154	26585
Kansas	2596	305	-117	27	7	19750	1.5	-688	-5436	194	276	20220
Kentucky	3489	-6	-585	18	16	31468	1.8	3379	-4448	241	600	32309
Louisiana	2461	360	-159	8	22	19131	1.0	-199	-3630	99	104	19334
Maine	1480	-15	-238	1	2	16015	2.8	-559	-1347	55	69	16139
Maryland	4744	608	-642	32	14	53991	2.3	-2525	-7895	543	450	54984
Massachusetts	5666	-615	384	12	35	96891	3.0	-4108	-2272	278	486	97655
Michigan	15411	2900	8838	17	39	111211	2.8	-1528	2229	289	488	111988
Minnesota	4178	-349	-158	4	11	66748	2.5	-930	-2238	158	304	67210
Mississippi	2374	467	-554	31	7	16927	1.6	-368	-6026	175	148	17250
Missouri	5929	729	-551	17	4	40664	1.6	-1879	-8848	226	234	41124
Montana	1196	189	-252	15	7	11142	2.6	-1482	-1739	392	103	11637
Nebraska	981	-104	-565	4	4	8856	1.0	-815	-2182	29	33	8918
Nevada	3500	367	-304	10	13	31687	2.8	530	-208	248	235	32170
New Hampshire	875	-104	-131	0	5	9141	1.5	-394	-998	9	18	9168
New Jersey	8678	442	-1184	18	25	133716	3.6	7390	-4688	326	565	134841
New Mexico	1476	225	-74	10	7	16088	2.1	-823	-115	204	200	16492
New York	18469	461	-7897	57	73	215843	2.5	-9687	-40981	866	1368	218077
North Carolina	5537	375	-6529	17	46	57805	1.5	-2382	-35696	272	923	59000
North Dakota	421	121	-73	10	3	4542	1.1	-204	-903	19	9	4570
Ohio	8009	-1007	-2225	16	49	91021	1.8	-2384	-13198	238	730	91989
Oklahoma	1666	51	-377	8	18	16770	1.1	10	-3424	83	195	17048
Oregon	5238	-2244	-460	32	35	42570	2.6	-3474	-8615	693	375	43638
Pennsylvania	21794	2618	-327	102	88	174874	3.2	-16051	-20549	803	1308	176985
Puerto Rico	2584	632	-910	5	14	29152	3.2	-416	-11272	106	313	29571
Rhode Island	1044	57	-68	9	8	13805	3.1	-1164	-467	61	79	13945
South Carolina	3335	334	-2031	6	28	18127	1.0	-4479	-12892	84	197	18408
South Dakota	260	12	-46	1	0	2995	0.8	-191	-252	45	8	3048
Tennessee	3841	-7	-1186	14	20	31781	1.2	-1039	-10323	174	285	32240
Texas	17931	1792	-2380	56	182	149872	1.4	-2421	-2667	754	3300	153934
Utah	1744	269	-555	13	11	14016	1.2	-738	-2496	213	111	14340
Vermont	904	73	-164	1	1	7196	2.4	-32	-477	20	22	7238
Virgin Islands	53	21	-2	0	4	910	2.4	38	-94	8	2	920
Virginia	4165	-131	-864	22	35	38772	1.1	-1482	-6541	382	879	40033
Washington	9055	366	-1023	41	107	68410	2.4	1944	-5139	601	1376	70387
West Virginia	1360	255	-389	5	5	17202	2.5	-28	-105	102	115	17419
Wisconsin	9684	-345	-2705	14	16	76387	2.8	-5898	-16951	162	201	76750
Wyoming	762	208	-388	9	4	4514	1.7	-671	-1223	147	43	4704
Totals	318793	19631	-40622	1238	1676	2853271	2.2	-88909	-342404	16020	26067	2895616

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.

## 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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