



News Release

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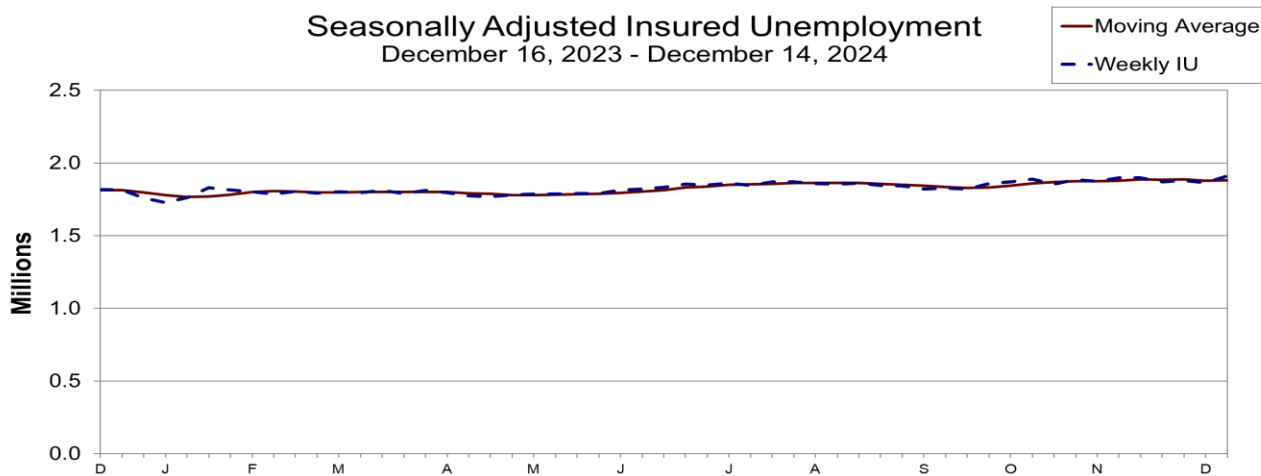
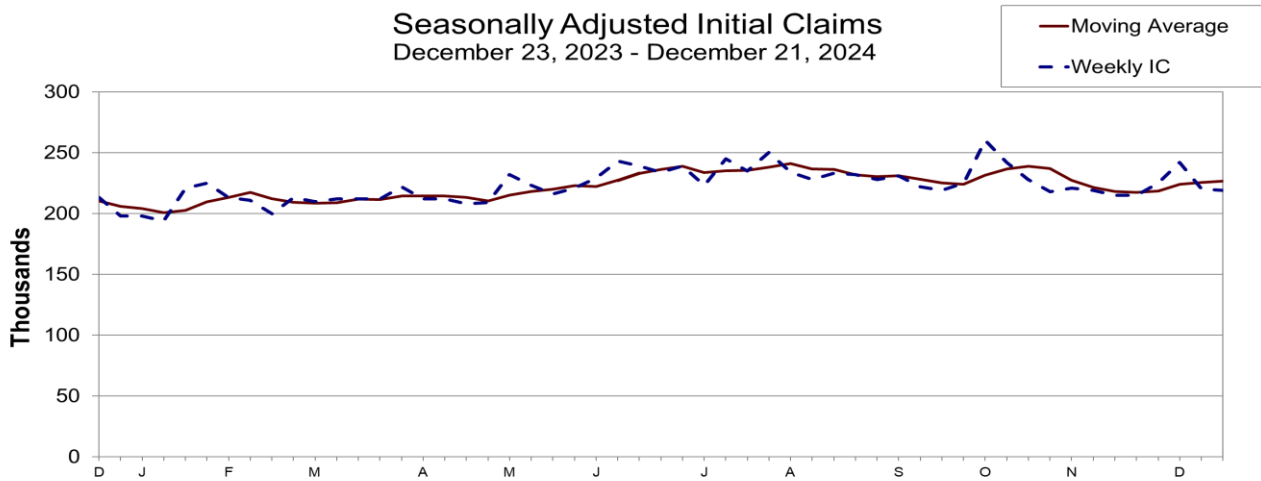
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8:30 A.M. (Eastern) Thursday, December 26, 2024

UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE WEEKLY CLAIMS

SEASONALLY ADJUSTED DATA

In the week ending December 21, the advance figure for seasonally adjusted **initial claims** was 219,000, a decrease of 1,000 from the previous week's unrevised level of 220,000. The 4-week moving average was 226,500, an increase of 1,000 from the previous week's unrevised average of 225,500.

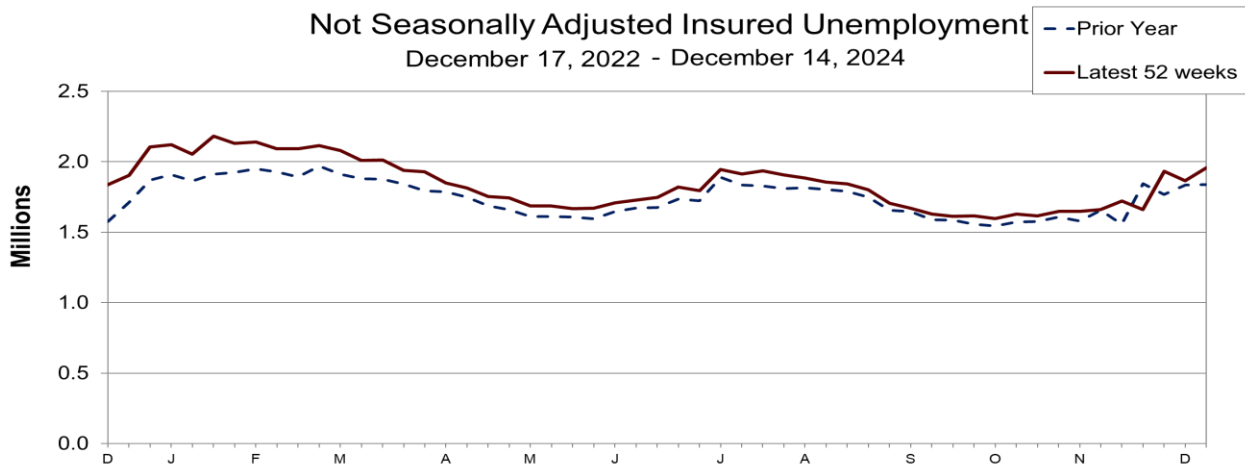
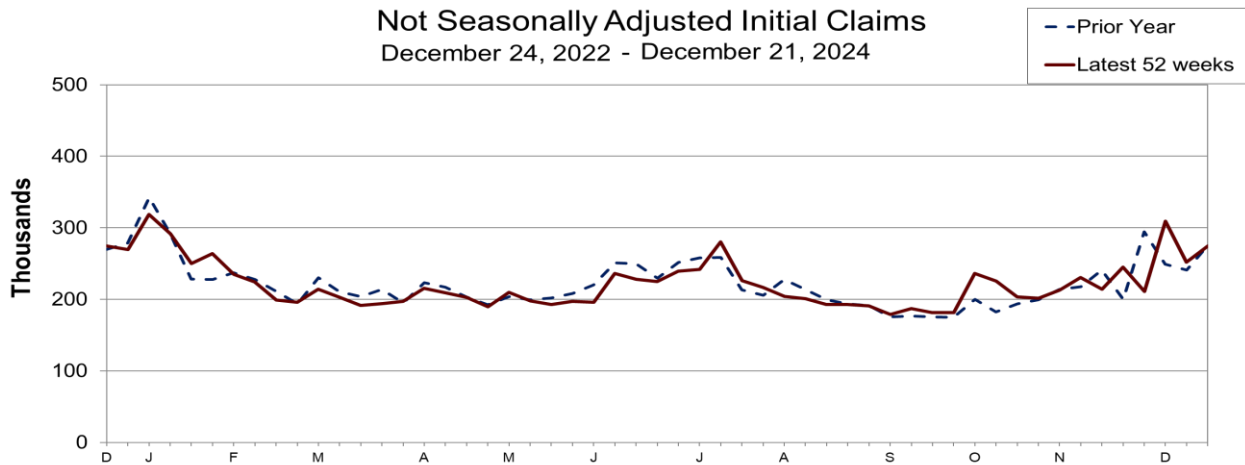
The advance seasonally adjusted **insured unemployment rate** was 1.3 percent for the week ending December 14, an increase of 0.1 percentage point from the previous week's unrevised rate. The advance number for seasonally adjusted **insured unemployment** during the week ending December 14 was 1,910,000, an increase of 46,000 from the previous week's revised level. This is the highest level for insured unemployment since November 13, 2021 when it was 1,974,000. The previous week's level was revised down by 10,000 from 1,874,000 to 1,864,000. The 4-week moving average was 1,881,000, an increase of 3,250 from the previous week's revised average. The previous week's average was revised down by 2,500 from 1,880,250 to 1,877,750.



UNADJUSTED DATA

The advance number of actual initial claims under state programs, unadjusted, totaled 274,734 in the week ending December 21, an increase of 22,663 (or 9.0 percent) from the previous week. The seasonal factors had expected an increase of 23,556 (or 9.3 percent) from the previous week. There were 274,840 initial claims in the comparable week in 2023.

The advance unadjusted insured unemployment rate was 1.3 percent during the week ending December 14, an increase of 0.1 percentage point from the prior week. The advance unadjusted level of insured unemployment in state programs totaled 1,959,164, an increase of 94,876 (or 5.1 percent) from the preceding week. The seasonal factors had expected an increase of 48,471 (or 2.6 percent) from the previous week. A year earlier the rate was 1.2 percent and the volume was 1,836,540.



The total number of continued weeks claimed for benefits in all programs for the week ending December 7 was 1,892,640, a decrease of 67,676 from the previous week. There were 1,863,719 weekly claims filed for benefits in all programs in the comparable week in 2023.

No state was triggered "on" the Extended Benefits program during the week ending December 7.

Initial claims for UI benefits filed by former Federal civilian employees totaled 547 in the week ending December 14, a decrease of 208 from the prior week. There were 375 initial claims filed by newly discharged veterans, a decrease of 125 from the preceding week.

There were 6,032 continued weeks claimed filed by former Federal civilian employees the week ending December 7, an increase of 48 from the previous week. Newly discharged veterans claiming benefits totaled 4,547, a decrease of 207 from the prior week.

The highest insured unemployment rates in the week ending December 7 were in New Jersey (2.4), California (2.2), Alaska (2.1), Minnesota (2.1), Washington (2.1), Rhode Island (2.0), Puerto Rico (1.9), Massachusetts (1.8), Illinois (1.7), Montana (1.7), Nevada (1.7), New York (1.7), and Pennsylvania (1.7).

The largest increases in initial claims for the week ending December 14 were in Nebraska (+392), Kentucky (+378), Colorado (+169), Rhode Island (+141), and Delaware (+98), while the largest decreases were in New York (-6,807), Texas (-5,405), California (-5,279), Pennsylvania (-4,724), and Georgia (-4,662).

UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE DATA FOR REGULAR STATE PROGRAMS

WEEK ENDING	December 21	December 14	Change	December 7	Prior Year¹
Initial Claims (SA)	219,000	220,000	-1,000	242,000	213,000
Initial Claims (NSA)	274,734	252,071	+22,663	309,459	274,840
4-Wk Moving Average (SA)	226,500	225,500	+1,000	224,250	210,250

WEEK ENDING	December 14	December 7	Change	November 30	Prior Year¹
Insured Unemployment (SA)	1,910,000	1,864,000	+46,000	1,879,000	1,817,000
Insured Unemployment (NSA)	1,959,164	1,864,288	+94,876	1,931,446	1,836,540
4-Wk Moving Average (SA)	1,881,000	1,877,750	+3,250	1,886,250	1,814,000
Insured Unemployment Rate (SA) ²	1.3%	1.2%	+0.1	1.2%	1.2%
Insured Unemployment Rate (NSA) ²	1.3%	1.2%	+0.1	1.3%	1.2%

INITIAL CLAIMS FILED IN FEDERAL PROGRAMS (UNADJUSTED)

WEEK ENDING	December 14	December 7	Change	Prior Year¹
Federal Employees (UCFE)	547	755	-208	514
Newly Discharged Veterans (UCX)	375	500	-125	355

CONTINUED WEEKS CLAIMED FILED FOR UI BENEFITS IN ALL PROGRAMS (UNADJUSTED)

WEEK ENDING	December 7	November 30	Change	Prior Year¹
Regular State	1,857,684	1,923,629	-65,945	1,829,702
Federal Employees	6,032	5,984	+48	6,272
Newly Discharged Veterans	4,547	4,754	-207	4,383
Extended Benefits ³	100	126	-26	441
State Additional Benefits ⁴	2,466	2,593	-127	2,576
STC / Workshare ⁵	21,811	23,230	-1,419	20,345
TOTAL	1,892,640	1,960,316	-67,676	1,863,719

FOOTNOTES

SA - Seasonally Adjusted Data, NSA - Not Seasonally Adjusted Data Continued weeks claimed represent all weeks of benefits claimed during the week being reported, and do not represent weeks claimed by unique individuals.

1. Prior year is comparable to most recent data.
2. Most recent week used covered employment of 151,636,941 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 4-5 of this link: [Extensions and Special Programs PDF](#)
5. Information on STC/Worksharing can be found starting on page 4-11 of the following link: [Extensions and Special Programs PDF](#)

Advance State Claims - Not Seasonally Adjusted

STATE	Initial Claims Filed During Week Ended December 21			Insured Unemployment For Week Ended December 14		
	Advance	Prior Wk	Change	Advance	Prior Wk	Change
Alabama	2,331	2,187	144	7,939	8,825	-886
Alaska **	815	644	171	6,213	6,342	-129
Arizona	2,589	2,840	-251	20,971	21,999	-1,028
Arkansas	1,688	1,460	228	6,889	7,431	-542
California **	49,247	47,089	2,158	402,499	384,387	18,112
Colorado	3,461	3,640	-179	31,089	29,562	1,527
Connecticut	5,877	3,699	2,178	26,432	24,261	2,171
Delaware	319	398	-79	5,428	4,798	630
District of Columbia	854	588	266	7,138	7,066	72
Florida	4,497	6,049	-1,552	29,043	31,729	-2,686
Georgia	4,953	5,055	-102	28,479	28,744	-265
Hawaii	936	913	23	5,540	5,411	129
Idaho	2,377	2,064	313	7,810	7,489	321
Illinois	16,628	15,258	1,370	121,115	101,902	19,213
Indiana	3,746	3,846	-100	24,072	23,610	462
Iowa	5,627	3,915	1,712	15,501	14,253	1,248
Kansas	1,742	2,037	-295	11,352	8,885	2,467
Kentucky	5,475	3,320	2,155	11,072	9,781	1,291
Louisiana	1,594	1,878	-284	10,821	12,270	-1,449
Maine	1,050	1,022	28	6,753	6,437	316
Maryland	2,653	2,424	229	23,696	23,229	467
Massachusetts	10,578	8,870	1,708	66,530	64,078	2,452
Michigan	11,499	9,828	1,671	63,332	55,196	8,136
Minnesota	7,282	7,573	-291	68,138	60,112	8,026
Mississippi	1,197	1,167	30	5,924	6,575	-651
Missouri	5,212	3,267	1,945	17,715	18,427	-712
Montana	1,203	1,003	200	8,917	8,361	556
Nebraska	1,456	1,621	-165	6,197	5,543	654
Nevada *	2,609	2,803	-194	25,867	25,650	217
New Hampshire	455	489	-34	3,256	3,357	-101
New Jersey	14,732	10,760	3,972	103,273	99,269	4,004
New Mexico	841	804	37	10,715	10,508	207
New York	15,861	16,581	-720	162,174	159,226	2,948
North Carolina	3,493	3,589	-96	29,006	30,023	-1,017
North Dakota	1,008	989	19	4,955	3,963	992
Ohio	9,300	8,640	660	56,643	54,595	2,048
Oklahoma	1,468	1,265	203	9,226	9,550	-324
Oregon	5,995	4,641	1,354	33,962	30,672	3,290
Pennsylvania	15,790	14,885	905	101,553	101,301	252
Puerto Rico *	1,573	1,284	289	15,491	17,577	-2,086
Rhode Island	1,764	1,414	350	10,285	9,434	851
South Carolina	2,505	2,129	376	13,722	14,030	-308
South Dakota	399	475	-76	2,455	2,227	228
Tennessee	5,130	3,124	2,006	15,911	15,909	2
Texas	15,113	15,546	-433	155,400	143,229	12,171
Utah	1,885	2,119	-234	13,559	13,128	431
Vermont	607	501	106	2,990	2,547	443
Virgin Islands *	30	40	-10	271	294	-23
Virginia	2,224	2,417	-193	17,457	15,657	1,800
Washington	7,526	5,854	1,672	82,070	75,143	6,927
West Virginia	1,231	1,736	-505	9,272	9,086	186
Wisconsin	5,816	5,871	-55	30,476	29,143	1,333
Wyoming	493	460	33	2,570	2,067	503
US Total	274,734	252,071	22,663	1,959,164	1,864,288	94,876

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 OUI estimate.

**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	
December 16, 2023	207	2	210.25	1,817	14	1,814.00	1.2
December 23, 2023	213	6	210.25	1,815	-2	1,813.25	1.2
December 30, 2023	198	-15	205.75	1,759	-56	1,798.50	1.2
January 6, 2024	198	0	204.00	1,728	-31	1,779.75	1.2
January 13, 2024	194	-4	200.75	1,761	33	1,765.75	1.2
January 20, 2024	221	27	202.75	1,829	68	1,769.25	1.2
January 27, 2024	225	4	209.50	1,813	-16	1,782.75	1.2
February 3, 2024	213	-12	213.25	1,803	-10	1,801.50	1.2
February 10, 2024	211	-2	217.50	1,787	-16	1,808.00	1.2
February 17, 2024	200	-11	212.25	1,805	18	1,802.00	1.2
February 24, 2024	213	13	209.25	1,794	-11	1,797.25	1.2
March 2, 2024	210	-3	208.50	1,803	9	1,797.25	1.2
March 9, 2024	212	2	208.75	1,795	-8	1,799.25	1.2
March 16, 2024	212	0	211.75	1,810	15	1,800.50	1.2
March 23, 2024	212	0	211.50	1,789	-21	1,799.25	1.2
March 30, 2024	222	10	214.50	1,810	21	1,801.00	1.2
April 6, 2024	212	-10	214.50	1,797	-13	1,801.50	1.2
April 13, 2024	212	0	214.50	1,774	-23	1,792.50	1.2
April 20, 2024	208	-4	213.50	1,768	-6	1,787.25	1.2
April 27, 2024	209	1	210.25	1,781	13	1,780.00	1.2
May 4, 2024	232	23	215.25	1,786	5	1,777.25	1.2
May 11, 2024	223	-9	218.00	1,787	1	1,780.50	1.2
May 18, 2024	216	-7	220.00	1,790	3	1,786.00	1.2
May 25, 2024	221	5	223.00	1,791	1	1,788.50	1.2
June 1, 2024	229	8	222.25	1,813	22	1,795.25	1.2
June 8, 2024	243	14	227.25	1,821	8	1,803.75	1.2
June 15, 2024	239	-4	233.00	1,832	11	1,814.25	1.2
June 22, 2024	234	-5	236.25	1,856	24	1,830.50	1.2
June 29, 2024	239	5	238.75	1,847	-9	1,839.00	1.2
July 6, 2024	223	-16	233.75	1,860	13	1,848.75	1.2
July 13, 2024	245	22	235.25	1,844	-16	1,851.75	1.2
July 20, 2024	235	-10	235.50	1,869	25	1,855.00	1.2
July 27, 2024	250	15	238.25	1,871	2	1,861.00	1.2
August 3, 2024	234	-16	241.00	1,859	-12	1,860.75	1.2
August 10, 2024	228	-6	236.75	1,855	-4	1,863.50	1.2
August 17, 2024	233	5	236.25	1,860	5	1,861.25	1.2
August 24, 2024	232	-1	231.75	1,845	-15	1,854.75	1.2
August 31, 2024	228	-4	230.25	1,843	-2	1,850.75	1.2
September 7, 2024	231	3	231.00	1,821	-22	1,842.25	1.2
September 14, 2024	222	-9	228.25	1,827	6	1,834.00	1.2
September 21, 2024	219	-3	225.00	1,819	-8	1,827.50	1.2
September 28, 2024	225	6	224.25	1,858	39	1,831.25	1.2
October 5, 2024	260	35	231.50	1,869	11	1,843.25	1.2
October 12, 2024	242	-18	236.50	1,888	19	1,858.50	1.2
October 19, 2024	228	-14	238.75	1,853	-35	1,867.00	1.2
October 26, 2024	218	-10	237.00	1,884	31	1,873.50	1.2
November 2, 2024	221	3	227.25	1,872	-12	1,874.25	1.2
November 9, 2024	219	-2	221.50	1,898	26	1,876.75	1.3
November 16, 2024	215	-4	218.25	1,897	-1	1,887.75	1.3
November 23, 2024	215	0	217.50	1,871	-26	1,884.50	1.2
November 30, 2024	225	10	218.50	1,879	8	1,886.25	1.2
December 7, 2024	242	17	224.25	1,864	-15	1,877.75	1.2
December 14, 2024	220	-22	225.50	1,910	46	1,881.00	1.3
December 21, 2024	219	-1	226.50				

INITIAL CLAIMS FILED DURING WEEK ENDED
DECEMBER 14

INSURED UNEMPLOYMENT FOR WEEK ENDED
DECEMBER 7

STATE NAME	STATE	CHANGE FROM				STATE (%) ²	CHANGE FROM				TOTAL INSURED UNEMPLOYMENT	
		LAST WEEK	YEAR AGO	UCFE ¹	UCX ¹		LAST WEEK	YEAR AGO	UCFE ¹	UCX ¹		
Alabama	2,187	-270	-87	0	3	8,825	0.4	-442	-551	20	27	8,872
Alaska	644	-87	-154	5	1	6,342	2.1	2	-413	80	2	6,424
Arizona	2,840	-255	-424	4	4	21,999	0.7	-868	338	93	42	22,134
Arkansas	1,460	-204	-33	0	0	7,431	0.6	-387	-2,899	41	11	7,483
California	47,089	-5,279	3,585	153	96	384,387	2.2	-24,891	-2,544	860	1,218	386,465
Colorado	3,640	169	1,522	8	2	29,562	1.0	777	166	153	180	29,895
Connecticut	3,699	-90	-160	0	1	24,261	1.5	313	732	44	14	24,319
Delaware	398	98	-22	3	3	4,798	1.0	-619	-141	5	4	4,807
District of Columbia	588	-88	130	11	1	7,066	1.2	-5	1,016	122	4	7,192
Florida	6,049	-250	336	9	28	31,729	0.3	-5,368	-6,683	92	72	31,893
Georgia	5,055	-4,662	-186	16	17	28,744	0.6	-5,932	-1,631	90	58	28,892
Hawaii	913	-369	-225	1	6	5,411	0.9	-936	-4,176	50	51	5,512
Idaho	2,064	-97	-44	26	0	7,489	0.9	165	-245	175	5	7,669
Illinois	15,258	-3,519	1,740	9	0	101,902	1.7	-1,487	-1,143	252	121	102,275
Indiana	3,846	-1,473	80	2	4	23,610	0.8	-614	1,128	25	24	23,659
Iowa	3,915	-1,735	-637	4	4	14,253	0.9	875	2,707	14	6	14,273
Kansas	2,037	40	588	0	0	8,885	0.6	956	2,967	21	17	8,923
Kentucky	3,320	378	1,300	3	0	9,781	0.5	-654	1,398	30	47	9,858
Louisiana	1,878	-197	21	2	0	12,270	0.7	56	-941	23	9	12,302
Maine	1,022	-212	53	1	1	6,437	1.0	378	455	23	6	6,466
Maryland	2,424	-519	-88	15	4	23,229	0.9	47	717	119	71	23,419
Massachusetts	8,870	-555	564	7	8	64,078	1.8	1,799	-2,919	64	73	64,215
Michigan	9,828	-2,120	-835	8	3	55,196	1.3	-3,219	529	114	39	55,349
Minnesota	7,573	-3,084	796	6	4	60,112	2.1	-376	4,485	75	51	60,238
Mississippi	1,167	-290	-81	0	1	6,575	0.6	-212	-159	13	13	6,601
Missouri	3,267	-983	-83	7	6	18,427	0.7	-380	1,053	68	19	18,514
Montana	1,003	-353	23	32	1	8,361	1.7	-126	-1,295	384	5	8,750
Nebraska	1,621	392	616	0	0	5,543	0.6	76	404	15	6	5,564
Nevada	2,803	-133	-289	4	1	25,650	1.7	-1,366	2,424	98	54	25,802
New Hampshire	489	-17	-39	0	0	3,357	0.5	98	188	3	2	3,362
New Jersey	10,760	-1,772	311	10	7	99,269	2.4	-3,385	3,138	276	176	99,721
New Mexico	804	-51	-44	7	3	10,508	1.3	-387	778	161	23	10,692
New York	16,581	-6,807	905	20	8	159,226	1.7	-3,350	-2,373	251	172	159,649
North Carolina	3,589	-431	846	3	0	30,023	0.6	-1,539	10,928	67	112	30,202
North Dakota	989	-86	178	1	1	3,963	1.0	-788	1,013	8	3	3,974
Ohio	8,640	-1,938	-977	11	14	54,595	1.0	3,192	6,751	84	85	54,764
Oklahoma	1,265	-18	-1,091	5	8	9,550	0.6	-501	-59	24	31	9,605
Oregon	4,641	-1,766	-150	13	2	30,672	1.6	-1,856	-2,861	440	29	31,141
Pennsylvania	14,885	-4,724	1,354	9	5	101,301	1.7	1,570	558	217	137	101,655
Puerto Rico	1,284	-28	14	4	4	17,577	1.9	555	345	67	51	17,695
Rhode Island	1,414	141	77	0	0	9,434	2.0	292	924	31	20	9,485
South Carolina	2,129	-981	-44	1	3	14,030	0.6	-1,209	215	25	43	14,098
South Dakota	475	-143	48	3	0	2,227	0.5	329	458	27	1	2,255
Tennessee	3,124	-1,165	-42	0	5	15,909	0.5	511	-265	25	45	15,979
Texas	15,546	-5,405	354	42	87	143,229	1.1	-15,027	-1,525	343	848	144,420
Utah	2,119	-329	719	34	2	13,128	0.8	445	1,742	166	17	13,311
Vermont	501	-112	192	0	0	2,547	0.8	-134	-60	1	0	2,548
Virgin Islands	40	8	10	0	0	294	0.8	8	54	4	0	298
Virginia	2,417	-347	700	2	2	15,657	0.4	339	3,399	93	77	15,827
Washington	5,854	-2,443	-948	23	20	75,143	2.1	-2,245	8,893	433	385	75,961
West Virginia	1,736	-61	393	2	2	9,086	1.4	131	994	34	20	9,140
Wisconsin	5,871	-3,088	266	6	2	29,143	1.0	-1,605	696	44	20	29,207
Wyoming	460	-78	-7	15	1	2,067	0.7	-164	151	45	1	2,113
Totals	252,071	-57,388	11,031	547	375	1,864,288	1.2	-67,158	28,861	6,032	4,547	1,874,867

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 DECEMBER 14, 2024

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
NY	-6,807	Fewer layoffs in transportation and warehousing, accommodations and food services, and construction industries.
TX	-5,405	No comment.
CA	-5,279	No comment.
PA	-4,724	Fewer layoffs in transportation and warehousing, administrative and support and waste management and remediation services, and construction industries.
GA	-4,662	Fewer layoffs in manufacturing; administrative and support and waste management and remediation services; health care and social assistance; and professional, scientific, and technical services industries.
IL	-3,519	No comment.
WI	-3,088	Fewer layoffs in construction and manufacturing industries.
MN	-3,084	Fewer layoffs in construction industry.
WA	-2,443	No comment.
MI	-2,120	Fewer layoffs across all industries.
OH	-1,938	Fewer layoffs in manufacturing industry.
NJ	-1,772	No comment.
OR	-1,766	No comment.
IA	-1,735	Fewer layoffs in manufacturing industry.
IN	-1,473	No comment.
TN	-1,165	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. On a weekly basis, continued claims are also referred to as insured unemployment, as continued claims reflect a good approximation of the current number of insured unemployed workers filing for UI benefits. The count of U.S. continued weeks claimed is also a good indicator of labor market conditions. 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 [official release page for the UI claims seasonal adjustment factors](#) or contact BLS directly through the [Local Area Unemployment Statistics web contact form](#).

[Weekly Claims Archives](#)
[Weekly Claims Data](#)

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