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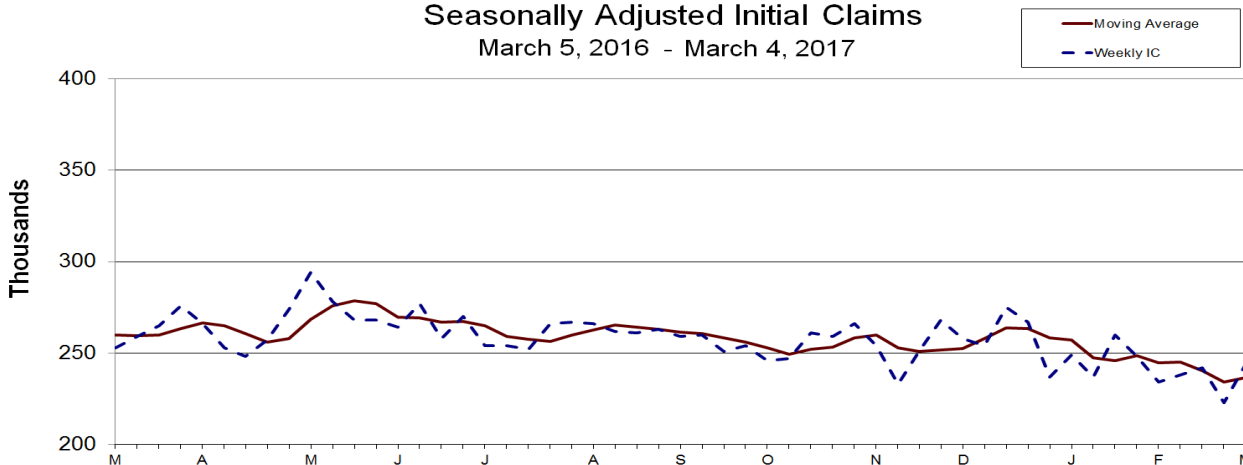
UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE WEEKLY CLAIMS

SEASONALLY ADJUSTED DATA

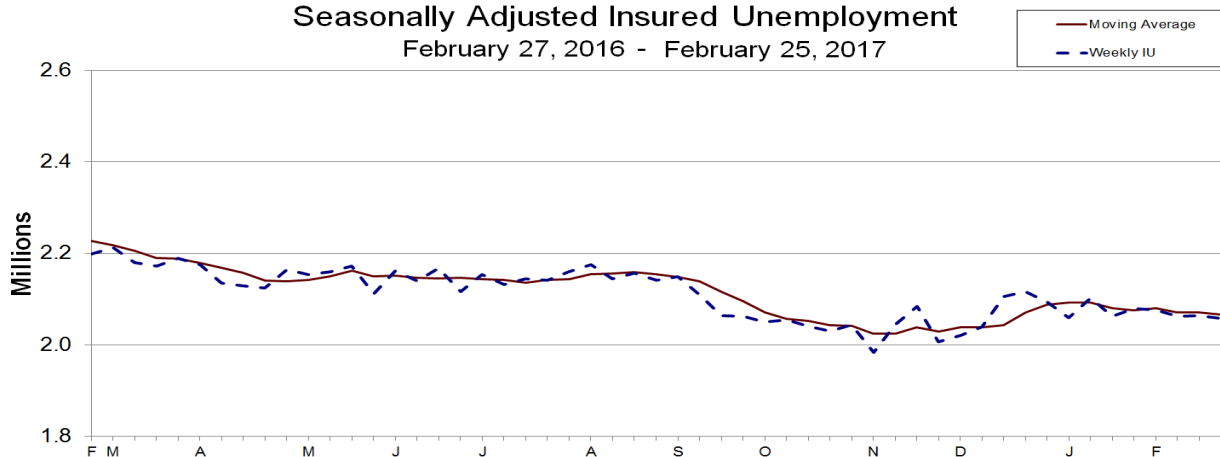
In the week ending March 4, the advance figure for seasonally adjusted **initial claims** was 243,000, an increase of 20,000 from the previous week's unrevised level of 223,000. The 4-week moving average was 236,500, an increase of 2,250 from the previous week's unrevised average of 234,250.

The advance seasonally adjusted **insured unemployment rate** was 1.5 percent for the week ending February 25, unchanged from the previous week's unrevised rate. The advance number for seasonally adjusted **insured unemployment** during the week ending February 25 was 2,058,000, a decrease of 6,000 from the previous week's revised level. The previous week's level was revised down by 2,000 from 2,066,000 to 2,064,000. The 4-week moving average was 2,065,500, a decrease of 5,250 from the previous week's revised average. The previous week's average was revised down by 500 from 2,071,250 to 2,070,750.

Seasonally Adjusted Initial Claims
March 5, 2016 - March 4, 2017



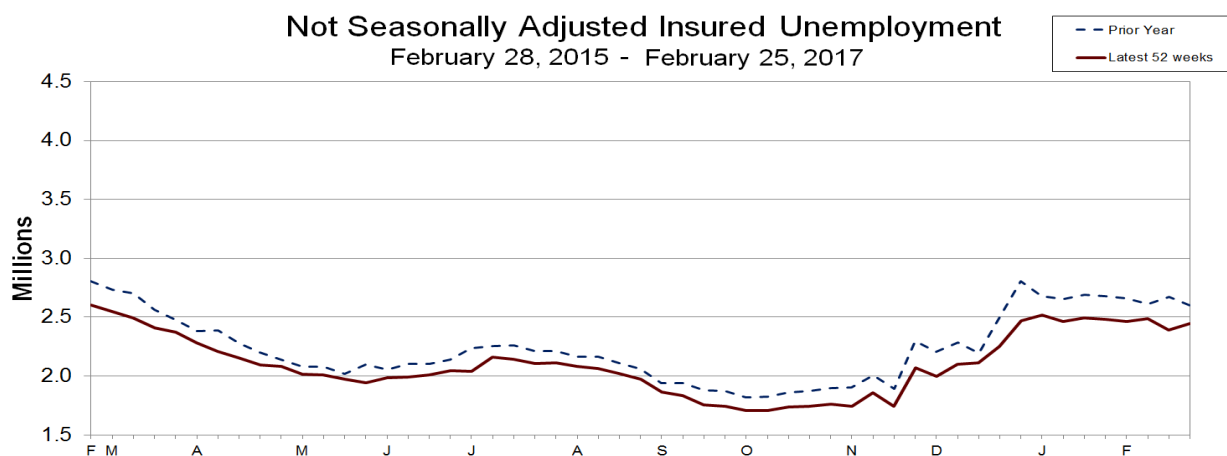
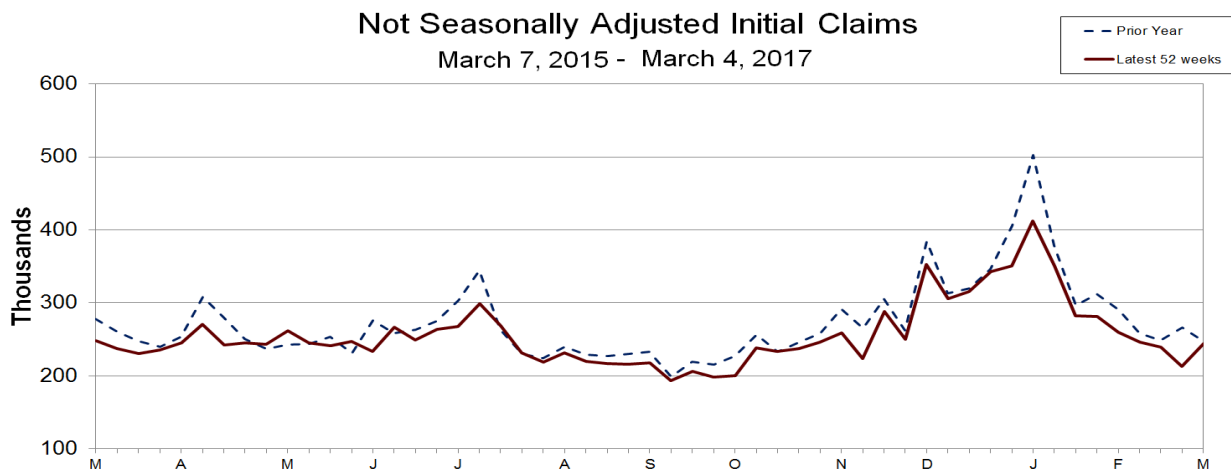
Seasonally Adjusted Insured Unemployment
February 27, 2016 - February 25, 2017



UNADJUSTED DATA

The advance number of actual initial claims under state programs, unadjusted, totaled 243,937 in the week ending March 4, an increase of 31,108 (or 14.6 percent) from the previous week. The seasonal factors had expected an increase of 10,708 (or 5.0 percent) from the previous week. There were 247,628 initial claims in the comparable week in 2016.

The advance unadjusted insured unemployment rate was 1.8 percent during the week ending February 25, an increase of 0.1 percentage point from the prior week. The advance unadjusted number for persons claiming UI benefits in state programs totaled 2,445,046, an increase of 52,574 (or 2.2 percent) from the preceding week. The seasonal factors had expected an increase of 59,863 (or 2.5 percent) from the previous week. A year earlier the rate was 1.9 percent and the volume was 2,600,820.



The total number of people claiming benefits in all programs for the week ending February 18 was 2,434,335, a decrease of 99,058 from the previous week. There were 2,719,852 persons claiming benefits in all programs in the comparable week in 2016.

No state was triggered "on" the Extended Benefits program during the week ending February 18.

Initial claims for UI benefits filed by former Federal civilian employees totaled 619 in the week ending February 25, a decrease of 109 from the prior week. There were 640 initial claims filed by newly discharged veterans, a decrease of 170 from the preceding week.

There were 14,012 former Federal civilian employees claiming UI benefits for the week ending February 18, an increase of 414 from the previous week. Newly discharged veterans claiming benefits totaled 11,649, a decrease of 148 from the prior week.

The highest insured unemployment rates in the week ending February 18 were in Alaska (4.4), New Jersey (3.1), Connecticut (2.9), Montana (2.9), Rhode Island (2.9), Massachusetts (2.7), Pennsylvania (2.7), Puerto Rico (2.7), Illinois (2.6), and California (2.5).

The largest increases in initial claims for the week ending February 25 were in Massachusetts (+3,006), Rhode Island (+981), Vermont (+212), Maine (+151), and Louisiana (+142), while the largest decreases were in California (-5,600), Michigan (-3,394), Pennsylvania (-2,762), Washington (-2,179), and New York (-1,980).

UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE DATA FOR REGULAR STATE PROGRAMS

WEEK ENDING	March 4	February 25	Change	February 18	<u>Prior Year</u> ¹
Initial Claims (SA)	243,000	223,000	+20,000	242,000	253,000
Initial Claims (NSA)	243,937	212,829	+31,108	239,322	247,628
4-Wk Moving Average (SA)	236,500	234,250	+2,250	240,500	259,750
WEEK ENDING	February 25	February 18	Change	February 11	<u>Prior Year</u> ¹
Insured Unemployment (SA)	2,058,000	2,064,000	-6,000	2,063,000	2,198,000
Insured Unemployment (NSA)	2,445,046	2,392,472	+52,574	2,489,682	2,600,820
4-Wk Moving Average (SA)	2,065,500	2,070,750	-5,250	2,070,500	2,227,750
<u>Insured Unemployment Rate (SA)</u> ²	1.5%	1.5%	0.0	1.5%	1.6%
<u>Insured Unemployment Rate (NSA)</u> ²	1.8%	1.7%	+0.1	1.8%	1.9%

INITIAL CLAIMS FILED IN FEDERAL PROGRAMS (UNADJUSTED)

WEEK ENDING	February 25	February 18	Change	<u>Prior Year</u> ¹
Federal Employees (UCFE)	619	728	-109	817
Newly Discharged Veterans (UCX)	640	810	-170	998

PERSONS CLAIMING UI BENEFITS IN ALL PROGRAMS (UNADJUSTED)

WEEK ENDING	February 18	February 11	Change	<u>Prior Year</u> ¹
Regular State	2,389,018	2,485,214	-96,196	2,665,026
Federal Employees	14,012	13,598	+414	13,755
Newly Discharged Veterans	11,649	11,797	-148	15,334
<u>Extended Benefits</u> ³	0	0	0	0
<u>State Additional Benefits</u> ⁴	7,588	7,667	-79	8,027
<u>STC / Workshare</u> ⁵	12,068	15,117	-3,049	17,710
<u>TOTAL</u>	2,434,335	2,533,393	-99,058	2,719,852

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 138,930,224 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 March 4			Insured Unemployment For Week Ended February 25		
	Advance	Prior Wk	Change	Advance	Prior Wk	Change
Alabama	1,972	1,915	57	17,746	18,782	-1,036
Alaska	1,298	1,015	283	13,045	13,838	-793
Arizona	3,666	3,397	269	22,123	25,299	-3,176
Arkansas	1,598	1,744	-146	14,360	15,192	-832
California	45,762	43,328	2,434	444,426	400,795	43,631
Colorado	2,179	2,037	142	30,493	28,631	1,862
Connecticut	3,618	3,160	458	50,971	48,445	2,526
Delaware	506	534	-28	7,502	7,256	246
District of Columbia	554	281	273	8,221	8,604	-383
Florida	6,106	6,323	-217	35,288	42,822	-7,534
Georgia	6,743	5,229	1,514	30,370	31,945	-1,575
Hawaii	1,279	1,131	148	8,583	7,701	882
Idaho	1,405	1,343	62	12,822	13,851	-1,029
Illinois	10,280	7,637	2,643	154,125	149,952	4,173
Indiana	2,573	2,449	124	30,521	31,810	-1,289
Iowa	2,389	2,075	314	34,235	33,040	1,195
Kansas	1,908	1,773	135	14,016	14,036	-20
Kentucky	2,575	2,442	133	23,851	23,850	1
Louisiana	1,809	2,273	-464	19,367	19,955	-588
Maine	912	828	84	10,578	10,406	172
Maryland	3,269	3,016	253	38,380	42,480	-4,100
Massachusetts	5,937	9,434	-3,497	94,609	92,191	2,418
Michigan	6,282	6,629	-347	93,160	92,066	1,094
Minnesota	4,003	3,317	686	69,015	64,800	4,215
Mississippi	936	1,044	-108	9,281	11,142	-1,861
Missouri	3,102	3,161	-59	30,366	33,854	-3,488
Montana	893	775	118	13,051	12,634	417
Nebraska	652	654	-2	7,739	8,033	-294
Nevada	2,630	2,326	304	23,115	24,458	-1,343
New Hampshire	1,014	644	370	5,245	5,633	-388
New Jersey	8,667	8,833	-166	123,746	119,887	3,859
New Mexico	862	933	-71	12,079	12,592	-513
New York	32,904	15,087	17,817	201,561	183,327	18,234
North Carolina	3,306	2,828	478	24,061	26,247	-2,186
North Dakota	632	422	210	10,796	8,805	1,991
Ohio	6,784	5,828	956	80,522	82,916	-2,394
Oklahoma	1,103	1,245	-142	15,812	17,061	-1,249
Oregon	4,573	4,163	410	33,844	33,274	570
Pennsylvania	15,557	13,436	2,121	158,234	151,746	6,488
Puerto Rico	1,936	1,553	383	20,914	23,747	-2,833
Rhode Island	903	2,206	-1,303	14,505	13,240	1,265
South Carolina	2,021	1,903	118	14,695	15,852	-1,157
South Dakota	215	177	38	3,722	3,742	-20
Tennessee	2,207	1,985	222	20,703	21,942	-1,239
Texas	13,936	12,293	1,643	151,333	152,877	-1,544
Utah	1,169	1,036	133	13,271	13,730	-459
Vermont	770	783	-13	6,940	6,228	712
Virgin Islands	32	15	17	444	520	-76
Virginia	3,573	2,984	589	30,168	29,261	907
Washington	6,528	5,534	994	65,025	65,530	-505
West Virginia	862	897	-35	15,773	15,753	20
Wisconsin	6,984	6,359	625	54,296	54,586	-290
Wyoming	563	415	148	5,998	6,108	-110
US Total	243,937	212,829	31,108	2,445,046	2,392,472	52,574

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 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	Initial Claims	Change from		Insured Unemployment	Change from		IUR
		Prior Week	4-Week Average		Prior Week	4-Week Average	
February 27, 2016	262	-2	261.25	2,198	-33	2,227.75	1.6
March 5, 2016	253	-9	259.75	2,212	14	2,218.50	1.6
March 12, 2016	259	6	259.50	2,180	-32	2,205.25	1.6
March 19, 2016	265	6	259.75	2,172	-8	2,190.50	1.6
March 26, 2016	276	11	263.25	2,189	17	2,188.25	1.6
April 2, 2016	266	-10	266.50	2,176	-13	2,179.25	1.6
April 9, 2016	253	-13	265.00	2,135	-41	2,168.00	1.6
April 16, 2016	248	-5	260.75	2,129	-6	2,157.25	1.6
April 23, 2016	257	9	256.00	2,124	-5	2,141.00	1.6
April 30, 2016	274	17	258.00	2,165	41	2,138.25	1.6
May 7, 2016	294	20	268.25	2,153	-12	2,142.75	1.6
May 14, 2016	278	-16	275.75	2,160	7	2,150.50	1.6
May 21, 2016	268	-10	278.50	2,172	12	2,162.50	1.6
May 28, 2016	268	0	277.00	2,112	-60	2,149.25	1.5
June 4, 2016	264	-4	269.50	2,162	50	2,151.50	1.6
June 11, 2016	277	13	269.25	2,139	-23	2,146.25	1.6
June 18, 2016	258	-19	266.75	2,167	28	2,145.00	1.6
June 25, 2016	270	12	267.25	2,117	-50	2,146.25	1.5
July 2, 2016	254	-16	264.75	2,153	36	2,144.00	1.6
July 9, 2016	254	0	259.00	2,132	-21	2,142.25	1.5
July 16, 2016	252	-2	257.50	2,144	12	2,136.50	1.6
July 23, 2016	266	14	256.50	2,141	-3	2,142.50	1.6
July 30, 2016	267	1	259.75	2,160	19	2,144.25	1.6
August 6, 2016	266	-1	262.75	2,175	15	2,155.00	1.6
August 13, 2016	262	-4	265.25	2,145	-30	2,155.25	1.6
August 20, 2016	261	-1	264.00	2,157	12	2,159.25	1.6
August 27, 2016	263	2	263.00	2,142	-15	2,154.75	1.6
September 3, 2016	259	-4	261.25	2,149	7	2,148.25	1.6
September 10, 2016	260	1	260.75	2,108	-41	2,139.00	1.5
September 17, 2016	251	-9	258.25	2,064	-44	2,115.75	1.5
September 24, 2016	254	3	256.00	2,062	-2	2,095.75	1.5
October 1, 2016	246	-8	252.75	2,050	-12	2,071.00	1.5
October 8, 2016	247	1	249.50	2,054	4	2,057.50	1.5
October 15, 2016	261	14	252.00	2,040	-14	2,051.50	1.5
October 22, 2016	259	-2	253.25	2,030	-10	2,043.50	1.5
October 29, 2016	266	7	258.25	2,043	13	2,041.75	1.5
November 5, 2016	254	-12	260.00	1,983	-60	2,024.00	1.4
November 12, 2016	233	-21	253.00	2,043	60	2,024.75	1.5
November 19, 2016	251	18	251.00	2,084	41	2,038.25	1.5
November 26, 2016	268	17	251.50	2,007	-77	2,029.25	1.5
December 3, 2016	258	-10	252.50	2,021	14	2,038.75	1.5
December 10, 2016	254	-4	257.75	2,039	18	2,037.75	1.5
December 17, 2016	275	21	263.75	2,105	66	2,043.00	1.5
December 24, 2016	267	-8	263.50	2,116	11	2,070.25	1.5
December 31, 2016	237	-30	258.25	2,093	-23	2,088.25	1.5
January 7, 2017	249	12	257.00	2,059	-34	2,093.25	1.5
January 14, 2017	237	-12	247.50	2,103	44	2,092.75	1.5
January 21, 2017	260	23	245.75	2,063	-40	2,079.50	1.5
January 28, 2017	248	-12	248.50	2,079	16	2,076.00	1.5
February 4, 2017	234	-14	244.75	2,077	-2	2,080.50	1.5
February 11, 2017	238	4	245.00	2,063	-14	2,070.50	1.5
February 18, 2017	242	4	240.50	2,064	1	2,070.75	1.5
February 25, 2017	223	-19	234.25	2,058	-6	2,065.50	1.5
March 4, 2017	243	20	236.50				

Initial Claims Filed During Week Ended February
25

Insured Unemployment For Week Ended February 18
INSURED UNEMPLOYMENT

STATE	STATE	INITIAL CLAIMS CHANGE FROM					STATE	%	CHANGE FROM				ALL PROGRAMS EXCLUDING RAILROAD RETIREMENT
		LAST WEEK	YEAR AGO	UCFE ¹	UCX ¹	LAST WEEK			YEAR AGO	UCFE ¹	UCX ¹		
Alabama	1915	-648	-717	5	9	18782	1.0	-1073	-3368	76	125	18983	
Alaska	1015	-145	-136	3	1	13838	4.4	-115	-668	243	26	14107	
Arizona	3397	-321	-244	6	0	25299	1.0	-662	-1751	215	80	25594	
Arkansas	1744	109	-477	3	2	15192	1.3	-771	-5231	74	95	15361	
California	43328	-5600	-3102	131	136	400795	2.5	-30406	-34508	3049	2463	406307	
Colorado	2037	-93	-628	12	26	28631	1.2	-2027	-4627	350	435	29416	
Connecticut	3160	-530	-823	9	7	48445	2.9	-165	-2708	80	119	48644	
Delaware	534	-138	-94	2	4	7256	1.7	-50	-843	11	24	7291	
District of Columbia	281	-32	-8	27	0	8604	1.6	-146	239	1118	8	9730	
Florida	6323	-558	-600	17	45	42822	0.5	-757	-6312	179	219	43220	
Georgia	5229	-1242	-1316	28	42	31945	0.8	-1605	-3220	172	311	32428	
Hawaii	1131	-195	43	1	10	7701	1.3	-366	1326	87	117	7905	
Idaho	1343	-5	6	15	4	13851	2.1	-864	321	329	36	14216	
Illinois	7637	-1334	-2404	4	10	149952	2.6	-7708	-13042	431	335	150718	
Indiana	2449	-304	-1013	7	6	31810	1.1	-897	-4138	89	60	31959	
Iowa	2075	-51	-84	4	5	33040	2.2	-1547	-1634	61	57	33158	
Kansas	1773	-196	-143	1	6	14036	1.0	-512	-4060	53	61	14150	
Kentucky	2442	-310	-678	3	4	23850	1.3	-1723	-4165	142	240	24232	
Louisiana	2273	142	-519	0	2	19955	1.1	-624	-3000	45	47	20047	
Maine	828	151	-265	1	0	10406	1.8	5	-2543	47	21	10474	
Maryland	3016	-549	-890	22	9	42480	1.7	-1117	-4907	403	193	43076	
Massachusetts	9434	3006	3152	11	15	92191	2.7	422	-8396	226	210	92627	
Michigan	6629	-3394	200	10	11	92066	2.2	-5619	-7663	280	190	92536	
Minnesota	3317	-348	-484	5	5	64800	2.3	-1391	-4215	147	81	65028	
Mississippi	1044	-134	-382	8	0	11142	1.0	-406	-1674	117	44	11303	
Missouri	3161	-1571	-790	6	2	33854	1.3	-19	-4569	109	65	34028	
Montana	775	-96	-203	13	2	12634	2.9	-1124	-1158	581	37	13252	
Nebraska	654	8	-190	2	0	8033	0.8	-449	-504	31	13	8077	
Nevada	2326	-297	-292	2	2	24458	2.0	-1270	-2663	241	98	24797	
New Hampshire	644	68	-779	2	2	5633	0.9	-116	-1145	9	8	5650	
New Jersey	8833	-1224	-226	12	11	119887	3.1	-3164	-8450	265	341	120493	
New Mexico	933	-3	-140	1	3	12592	1.6	-186	-2193	303	67	12962	
New York	15087	-1980	-19573	25	26	183327	2.0	-4316	-32957	337	555	184219	
North Carolina	2828	-300	-794	10	12	26247	0.6	-850	-4478	134	261	26642	
North Dakota	422	-31	-297	0	1	8805	2.1	-369	-1543	16	7	8828	
Ohio	5828	-1254	-1628	6	27	82916	1.6	-3194	-8671	112	351	83379	
Oklahoma	1245	-190	-1038	13	5	17061	1.1	-676	-6202	81	135	17277	
Oregon	4163	-163	-355	29	15	33274	1.9	-1565	-1659	665	150	34089	
Pennsylvania	13436	-2762	-4430	66	30	151746	2.7	-10234	-22471	606	476	152828	
Puerto Rico	1553	-12	-228	1	2	23747	2.7	-391	-389	52	123	23922	
Rhode Island	2206	981	899	2	2	13240	2.9	121	-1998	31	45	13316	
South Carolina	1903	-167	-532	1	15	15852	0.8	-622	-1564	56	119	16027	
South Dakota	177	-59	-39	1	0	3742	0.9	-145	186	49	3	3794	
Tennessee	1985	-435	-1888	8	2	21942	0.8	-761	-7207	406	51	22399	
Texas	12293	-1548	-4643	41	80	152877	1.3	-415	-26708	526	2046	155449	
Utah	1036	-18	-261	9	4	13730	1.0	-587	-1031	252	29	14011	
Vermont	783	212	-174	2	0	6228	2.1	-39	-752	15	9	6252	
Virgin Islands	15	0	-18	1	0	520	1.4	68	-72	6	4	530	
Virginia	2984	-13	-498	17	12	29261	0.8	-813	-6218	404	400	30065	
Washington	5534	-2179	-1203	8	14	65530	2.1	-2903	4379	330	550	66410	
West Virginia	897	-138	-570	1	3	15753	2.4	-1031	-8034	55	47	15855	
Wisconsin	6359	-680	-1200	5	5	54586	2.0	-1758	-6664	139	44	54769	
Wyoming	415	77	-277	0	4	6108	2.3	-278	-2404	177	18	6303	
Totals	212829	-26493	-52973	619	640	2392472	1.7	-97210	-277926	14012	11649	2418133	

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.

UNADJUSTED INITIAL CLAIMS FOR WEEK ENDED FEBRUARY 25, 2017

STATES WITH AN INCREASE OF MORE THAN 1,000

State	Change	State Supplied Comment
MA	+3,006	Layoffs in the transportation and warehousing and accommodation and food service industries.

STATES WITH A DECREASE OF MORE THAN 1,000

State	Change	State Supplied Comment
CA	-5,600	Fewer layoffs in the service industry.
MI	-3,394	No comment.
PA	-2,762	Fewer layoffs in the construction and administrative, support, waste management and remediation service industries.
WA	-2,179	No comment.
NY	-1,980	Fewer layoffs in the construction, accommodation and food service, and retail trade industries.
MO	-1,571	Fewer layoffs in the manufacturing, construction, and administrative, support, waste management and remediation service industries.
TX	-1,548	Fewer layoffs in the manufacturing, health care and social assistance, and retail trade industries.
IL	-1,334	Fewer layoffs in the construction and administrative, support, waste management and remediation service, wholesale trade, and retail trade industries.
OH	-1,254	No comment.
GA	-1,242	Fewer layoffs in the manufacturing, administrative, support, waste management and remediation service, and trade industries.
NJ	-1,224	Fewer layoffs in the construction, trade, manufacturing, and health care and social assistance industries.

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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