



News Release

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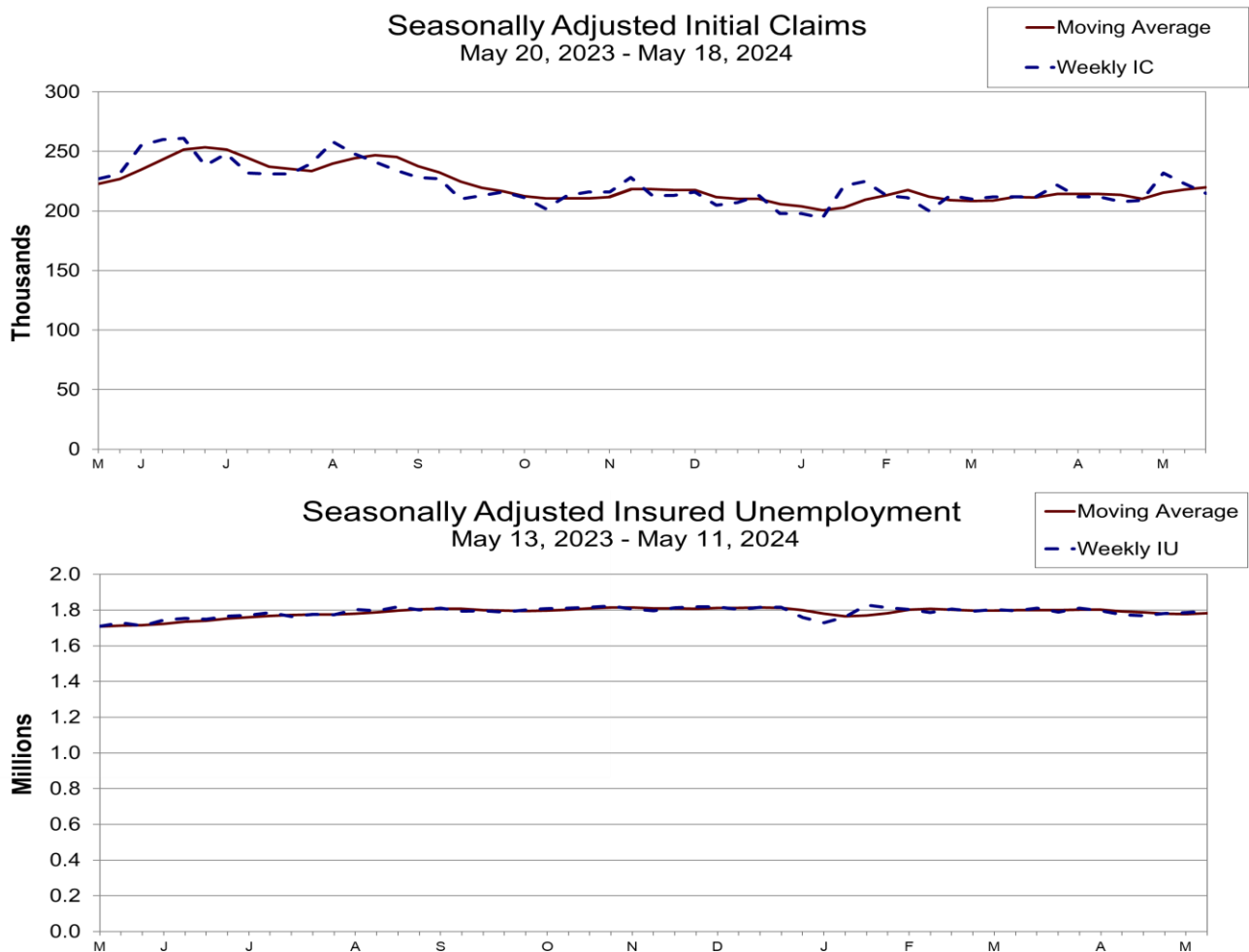
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8:30 A.M. (Eastern) Thursday, May 23, 2024

UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE WEEKLY CLAIMS

SEASONALLY ADJUSTED DATA

In the week ending May 18, the advance figure for seasonally adjusted **initial claims** was 215,000, a decrease of 8,000 from the previous week's revised level. The previous week's level was revised up by 1,000 from 222,000 to 223,000. The 4-week moving average was 219,750, an increase of 1,750 from the previous week's revised average. The previous week's average was revised up by 250 from 217,750 to 218,000.

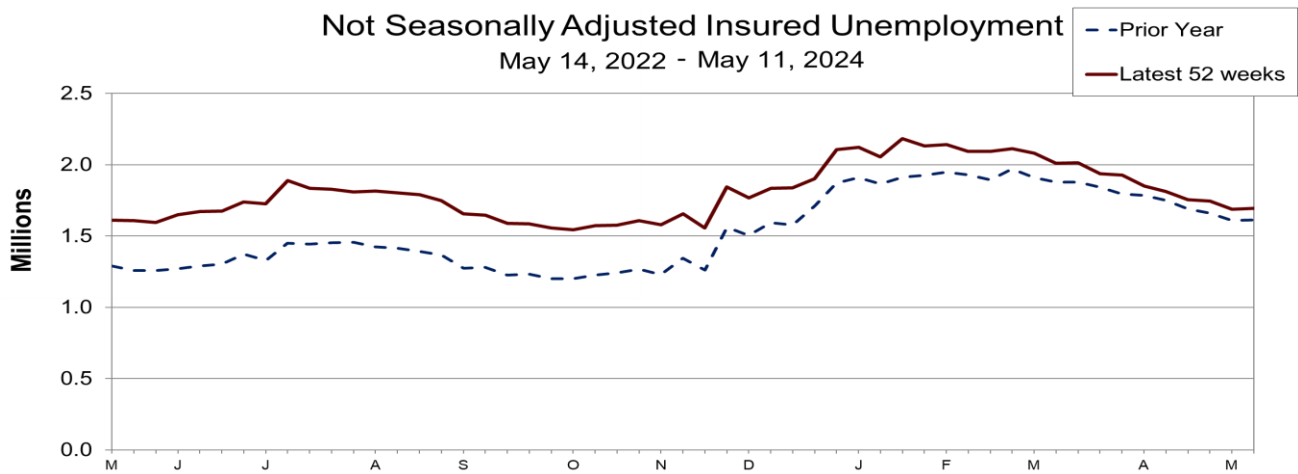
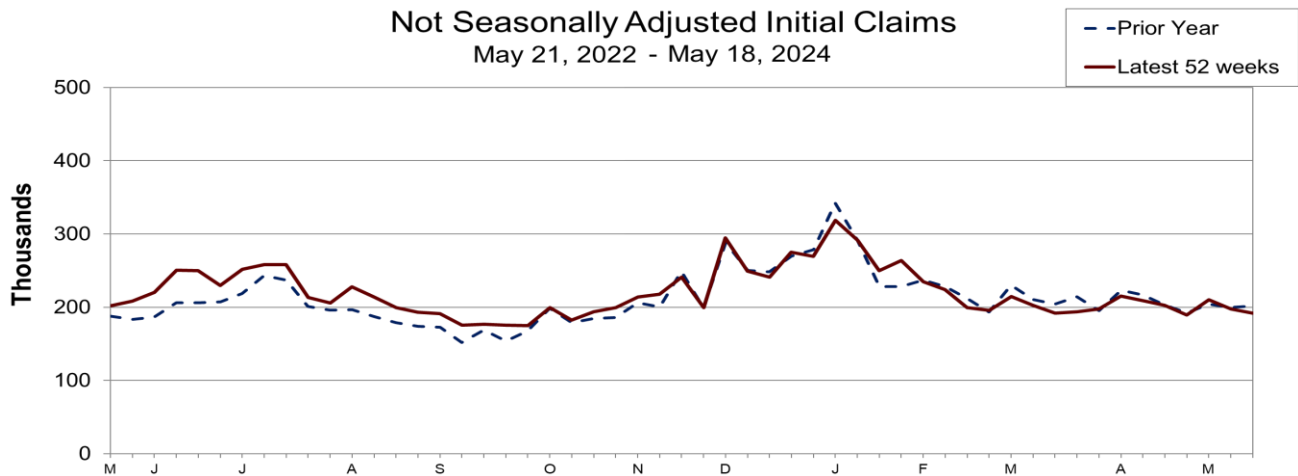
The advance seasonally adjusted **insured unemployment rate** was 1.2 percent for the week ending May 11, unchanged from the previous week's unrevised rate. The advance number for seasonally adjusted **insured unemployment** during the week ending May 11 was 1,794,000, an increase of 8,000 from the previous week's revised level. The previous week's level was revised down by 8,000 from 1,794,000 to 1,786,000. The 4-week moving average was 1,782,250, an increase of 5,000 from the previous week's revised average. The previous week's average was revised down by 2,000 from 1,779,250 to 1,777,250.



UNADJUSTED DATA

The advance number of actual initial claims under state programs, unadjusted, totaled 192,017 in the week ending May 18, a decrease of 5,663 (or -2.9 percent) from the previous week. The seasonal factors had expected an increase of 1,114 (or 0.6 percent) from the previous week. There were 201,921 initial claims in the comparable week in 2023.

The advance unadjusted insured unemployment rate was 1.1 percent during the week ending May 11, unchanged from the prior week. The advance unadjusted level of insured unemployment in state programs totaled 1,693,844, an increase of 7,683 (or 0.5 percent) from the preceding week. The seasonal factors had expected no change in the unadjusted data from the previous week. A year earlier the rate was 1.1 percent and the volume was 1,610,901.



The total number of continued weeks claimed for benefits in all programs for the week ending May 4 was 1,710,931, a decrease of 57,482 from the previous week. There were 1,637,970 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 May 4.

Initial claims for UI benefits filed by former Federal civilian employees totaled 386 in the week ending May 11, an increase of 1 from the prior week. There were 405 initial claims filed by newly discharged veterans, an increase of 17 from the preceding week.

There were 4,737 continued weeks claimed filed by former Federal civilian employees the week ending May 4, a decrease of 27 from the previous week. Newly discharged veterans claiming benefits totaled 4,260, a decrease of 79 from the prior week.

The highest insured unemployment rates in the week ending May 4 were in New Jersey (2.3), California (2.2), Rhode Island (1.7), Massachusetts (1.6), Nevada (1.6), New York (1.6), Washington (1.6), Alaska (1.5), Illinois (1.5), Minnesota (1.5), and Puerto Rico (1.5).

The largest increases in initial claims for the week ending May 11 were in Florida (+1,331), Pennsylvania (+924), Minnesota (+542), Louisiana (+537), and Massachusetts (+363), while the largest decreases were in New York (-9,543), Illinois (-2,567), California (-1,189), Indiana (-1,079), and Michigan (-513).

UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE DATA FOR REGULAR STATE PROGRAMS

WEEK ENDING	May 18	May 11	Change	May 4	Prior Year¹
Initial Claims (SA)	215,000	223,000	-8,000	232,000	227,000
Initial Claims (NSA)	192,017	197,680	-5,663	210,050	201,921
4-Wk Moving Average (SA)	219,750	218,000	+1,750	215,250	222,750

WEEK ENDING	May 11	May 4	Change	April 27	Prior Year¹
Insured Unemployment (SA)	1,794,000	1,786,000	+8,000	1,781,000	1,710,000
Insured Unemployment (NSA)	1,693,844	1,686,161	+7,683	1,743,442	1,610,901
4-Wk Moving Average (SA)	1,782,250	1,777,250	+5,000	1,780,000	1,707,750
Insured Unemployment Rate (SA) ²	1.2%	1.2%	0.0	1.2%	1.2%
Insured Unemployment Rate (NSA) ²	1.1%	1.1%	0.0	1.2%	1.1%

INITIAL CLAIMS FILED IN FEDERAL PROGRAMS (UNADJUSTED)

WEEK ENDING	May 11	May 4	Change	Prior Year¹
Federal Employees (UCFE)	386	385	+1	317
Newly Discharged Veterans (UCX)	405	388	+17	324

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

WEEK ENDING	May 4	April 27	Change	Prior Year¹
Regular State	1,681,396	1,738,632	-57,236	1,606,695
Federal Employees	4,737	4,764	-27	4,694
Newly Discharged Veterans	4,260	4,339	-79	4,096
Extended Benefits ³	287	421	-134	1,291
State Additional Benefits ⁴	2,973	2,683	+290	2,059
STC / Workshare ⁵	17,278	17,574	-296	19,135
TOTAL	1,710,931	1,768,413	-57,482	1,637,970

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 150,520,106 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 May 18			Insured Unemployment For Week Ended May 11		
	Advance	Prior Wk	Change	Advance	Prior Wk	Change
Alabama	2,281	2,598	-317	8,371	8,783	-412
Alaska	669	629	40	4,577	4,721	-144
Arizona	3,776	4,288	-512	26,045	27,014	-969
Arkansas	1,225	1,270	-45	7,272	7,549	-277
California	40,414	42,350	-1,936	394,530	388,073	6,457
Colorado	2,764	2,843	-79	27,908	27,081	827
Connecticut	2,884	2,640	244	22,308	21,596	712
Delaware	158	269	-111	3,849	4,535	-686
District of Columbia	619	512	107	5,525	5,399	126
Florida	6,436	7,224	-788	31,860	34,567	-2,707
Georgia	4,230	4,947	-717	28,180	28,785	-605
Hawaii	1,064	1,003	61	6,309	6,032	277
Idaho	769	859	-90	5,177	5,636	-459
Illinois	8,225	7,940	285	98,485	91,589	6,896
Indiana	2,546	3,632	-1,086	20,005	22,119	-2,114
Iowa	1,850	1,525	325	7,213	7,733	-520
Kansas	1,294	1,208	86	4,886	4,687	199
Kentucky	1,520	1,582	-62	7,958	7,729	229
Louisiana	1,750	1,897	-147	10,141	11,119	-978
Maine	482	482	0	5,390	5,502	-112
Maryland	2,082	2,395	-313	23,273	22,955	318
Massachusetts	4,595	4,981	-386	57,273	59,066	-1,793
Michigan	5,761	5,016	745	40,503	41,460	-957
Minnesota	3,291	3,723	-432	40,902	42,694	-1,792
Mississippi	1,295	1,225	70	5,542	5,935	-393
Missouri	2,893	2,619	274	15,690	15,655	35
Montana	436	485	-49	4,989	4,964	25
Nebraska	733	679	54	4,089	4,233	-144
Nevada	2,416	2,385	31	22,340	22,903	-563
New Hampshire	297	397	-100	2,930	3,225	-295
New Jersey	8,444	8,258	186	95,947	96,910	-963
New Mexico	733	751	-18	9,664	9,084	580
New York	13,253	13,753	-500	146,876	151,017	-4,141
North Carolina	3,279	3,351	-72	18,914	19,515	-601
North Dakota	282	280	2	1,932	1,920	12
Ohio	5,116	5,694	-578	37,427	38,495	-1,068
Oklahoma	1,554	1,301	253	9,237	9,459	-222
Oregon	3,572	3,665	-93	27,242	25,414	1,828
Pennsylvania	10,278	10,312	-34	83,329	83,359	-30
Puerto Rico	985	1,053	-68	11,902	13,465	-1,563
Rhode Island	675	614	61	7,858	8,020	-162
South Carolina	1,885	2,016	-131	13,192	13,131	61
South Dakota	132	192	-60	1,188	1,236	-48
Tennessee	3,114	3,108	6	19,409	18,830	579
Texas	16,439	15,717	722	143,137	134,981	8,156
Utah	1,415	1,481	-66	11,271	11,343	-72
Vermont	275	345	-70	2,412	2,304	108
Virgin Islands	10	19	-9	242	290	-48
Virginia	2,246	2,386	-140	17,033	15,847	1,186
Washington	5,105	5,321	-216	59,462	57,310	2,152
West Virginia	741	772	-31	8,299	7,296	1,003
Wisconsin	3,471	3,349	122	22,416	21,837	579
Wyoming	258	339	-81	1,935	1,759	176
US Total	192,017	197,680	-5,663	1,693,844	1,686,161	7,683

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)

Week Ending	Initial Claims	Change from		Insured Unemployment	Change from		IUR
		Prior Week	4-Week Average		Prior Week	4-Week Average	
May 13, 2023	225	0	218.25	1,710	0	1,707.75	1.2
May 20, 2023	227	2	222.75	1,729	19	1,713.75	1.2
May 27, 2023	231	4	227.00	1,712	-17	1,715.25	1.2
June 3, 2023	255	24	234.50	1,744	32	1,723.75	1.2
June 10, 2023	260	5	243.25	1,753	9	1,734.50	1.2
June 17, 2023	261	1	251.75	1,750	-3	1,739.75	1.2
June 24, 2023	238	-23	253.50	1,767	17	1,753.50	1.2
July 1, 2023	248	10	251.75	1,770	3	1,760.00	1.2
July 8, 2023	232	-16	244.75	1,786	16	1,768.25	1.2
July 15, 2023	231	-1	237.25	1,765	-21	1,772.00	1.2
July 22, 2023	231	0	235.50	1,776	11	1,774.25	1.2
July 29, 2023	240	9	233.50	1,773	-3	1,775.00	1.2
August 5, 2023	258	18	240.00	1,803	30	1,779.25	1.2
August 12, 2023	248	-10	244.25	1,797	-6	1,787.25	1.2
August 19, 2023	241	-7	246.75	1,819	22	1,798.00	1.2
August 26, 2023	234	-7	245.25	1,802	-17	1,805.25	1.2
September 2, 2023	228	-6	237.75	1,810	8	1,807.00	1.2
September 9, 2023	227	-1	232.50	1,793	-17	1,806.00	1.2
September 16, 2023	210	-17	224.75	1,795	2	1,800.00	1.2
September 23, 2023	213	3	219.50	1,789	-6	1,796.75	1.2
September 30, 2023	216	3	216.50	1,800	11	1,794.25	1.2
October 7, 2023	211	-5	212.50	1,808	8	1,798.00	1.2
October 14, 2023	202	-9	210.50	1,810	2	1,801.75	1.2
October 21, 2023	213	11	210.50	1,816	6	1,808.50	1.2
October 28, 2023	216	3	210.50	1,823	7	1,814.25	1.2
November 4, 2023	216	0	211.75	1,807	-16	1,814.00	1.2
November 11, 2023	228	12	218.25	1,795	-12	1,810.25	1.2
November 18, 2023	213	-15	218.25	1,813	18	1,809.50	1.2
November 25, 2023	213	0	217.50	1,818	5	1,808.25	1.2
December 2, 2023	216	3	217.50	1,818	0	1,811.00	1.2
December 9, 2023	205	-11	211.75	1,803	-15	1,813.00	1.2
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	1,794	8	1,782.25	1.2
May 18, 2024	215	-8	219.75				

STATE NAME	INITIAL CLAIMS FILED DURING WEEK ENDED MAY 11					INSURED UNEMPLOYMENT FOR WEEK ENDED MAY 4						
	STATE	CHANGE FROM		UCFE ¹	UCX ¹	STATE	(%) ²	CHANGE FROM		UCFE ¹	UCX ¹	TOTAL INSURED UNEMPLOYMENT
		LAST WEEK	YEAR AGO					LAST WEEK	YEAR AGO			
Alabama	2,598	212	53	5	5	8,783	0.4	25	115	22	20	8,825
Alaska	629	-45	5	2	1	4,721	1.5	-186	46	39	5	4,765
Arizona	4,288	-391	306	4	3	27,014	0.9	801	1,626	61	43	27,118
Arkansas	1,270	73	-499	2	0	7,549	0.6	-1,052	497	25	8	7,582
California	42,350	-1,189	-2,473	114	112	388,073	2.2	-14,251	-6,773	888	1,120	390,081
Colorado	2,843	-145	867	0	16	27,081	1.0	-480	7,683	89	146	27,316
Connecticut	2,640	144	-804	2	0	21,596	1.3	-3,001	2,252	27	24	21,647
Delaware	269	24	32	2	3	4,535	1.0	-387	995	8	4	4,547
District of Columbia	512	-48	21	5	0	5,399	1.0	76	971	121	3	5,523
Florida	7,224	1,331	1,355	19	19	34,567	0.4	-401	-2,513	71	86	34,724
Georgia	4,947	-50	-335	29	12	28,785	0.6	-319	-5,650	189	91	29,065
Hawaii	1,003	-55	41	1	7	6,032	1.0	-68	421	45	76	6,153
Idaho	859	-80	-7	1	1	5,636	0.7	-108	294	21	12	5,669
Illinois	7,940	-2,567	-1,330	5	6	91,589	1.5	-6,407	8,226	276	102	91,967
Indiana	3,632	-1,079	717	4	5	22,119	0.7	2,324	2,362	33	24	22,176
Iowa	1,525	-299	59	2	0	7,733	0.5	-1,560	975	18	2	7,753
Kansas	1,208	35	208	0	0	4,687	0.3	-23	-452	26	20	4,733
Kentucky	1,582	84	93	0	0	7,729	0.4	-317	681	14	29	7,772
Louisiana	1,897	537	-182	2	4	11,119	0.6	1,027	-132	33	18	11,170
Maine	482	-18	19	0	0	5,502	0.9	-520	-129	6	3	5,511
Maryland	2,395	-34	420	14	3	22,955	0.9	102	4,213	121	44	23,120
Massachusetts	4,981	363	1,151	3	5	59,066	1.6	-4,131	-13,384	81	43	59,190
Michigan	5,016	-513	-741	1	3	41,460	1.0	-3,519	2,237	48	28	41,536
Minnesota	3,723	542	825	5	2	42,694	1.5	-1,005	7,507	71	35	42,800
Mississippi	1,225	256	-49	4	1	5,935	0.5	41	433	21	10	5,966
Missouri	2,619	188	-170	2	3	15,655	0.6	-728	276	47	18	15,720
Montana	485	-17	-62	2	1	4,964	1.0	-184	858	69	4	5,037
Nebraska	679	78	62	0	3	4,233	0.4	53	1,019	11	10	4,254
Nevada	2,385	-272	307	1	2	22,903	1.6	-552	5,203	53	55	23,011
New Hampshire	397	-62	20	0	0	3,225	0.5	-615	745	2	0	3,227
New Jersey	8,258	-151	861	12	14	96,910	2.3	-1,632	9,369	212	154	97,276
New Mexico	751	45	72	2	7	9,084	1.1	-279	48	59	31	9,174
New York	13,753	-9,543	-694	16	14	151,017	1.6	-11,260	5,811	296	195	151,508
North Carolina	3,351	-73	-243	4	1	19,515	0.4	131	1,010	43	104	19,662
North Dakota	280	-22	51	1	0	1,920	0.5	-73	380	11	4	1,935
Ohio	5,694	-25	-2,226	9	10	38,495	0.7	-462	-1,562	74	64	38,633
Oklahoma	1,301	-111	-125	6	9	9,459	0.6	-16	-645	30	35	9,524
Oregon	3,665	5	-451	3	3	25,414	1.3	-222	-4,781	117	28	25,559
Pennsylvania	10,312	924	985	16	5	83,359	1.4	-140	10,802	224	138	83,721
Puerto Rico	1,053	-96	23	9	1	13,465	1.5	612	43	169	45	13,679
Rhode Island	614	-78	-189	6	5	8,020	1.7	-426	978	40	30	8,090
South Carolina	2,016	60	-17	5	0	13,131	0.6	-92	979	38	52	13,221
South Dakota	192	43	41	0	0	1,236	0.3	-73	403	18	1	1,255
Tennessee	3,108	-189	-57	2	8	18,830	0.6	939	5,600	41	50	18,921
Texas	15,717	77	-376	39	82	134,981	1.0	-7,436	12,330	474	779	136,234
Utah	1,481	-157	-7	13	6	11,343	0.7	82	1,397	42	15	11,400
Vermont	345	-95	111	0	0	2,304	0.8	-265	-163	1	1	2,306
Virgin Islands	19	1	-16	1	0	290	0.8	128	92	0	2	292
Virginia	2,386	-111	-235	6	11	15,847	0.4	301	3,123	78	88	16,013
Washington	5,321	138	344	0	8	57,310	1.6	-374	6,277	165	317	57,792
West Virginia	772	9	26	2	2	7,296	1.1	-222	1,000	25	22	7,343
Wisconsin	3,349	-79	150	3	2	21,837	0.8	-1,007	2,533	31	11	21,879
Wyoming	339	55	89	0	0	1,759	0.7	-130	12	13	11	1,783
Totals	197,680	-12,370	-1,974	386	405	1,686,161	1.1	-57,281	75,638	4,737	4,260	1,695,158

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 MAY 11, 2024

STATES WITH AN INCREASE OF MORE THAN 1,000

State	Change	State Supplied Comment
FL	+1,331	Layoffs in manufacturing, retail trade, and services industries.

STATES WITH A DECREASE OF MORE THAN 1,000

State	Change	State Supplied Comment
NY	-9,543	Fewer layoffs in transportation and warehousing, in accommodation and food services, and in educational services industries.
IL	-2,567	Fewer layoffs in construction, manufacturing, wholesale trade, and retail trade industries.
CA	-1,189	No comment.
IN	-1,079	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](#)

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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