



News Release

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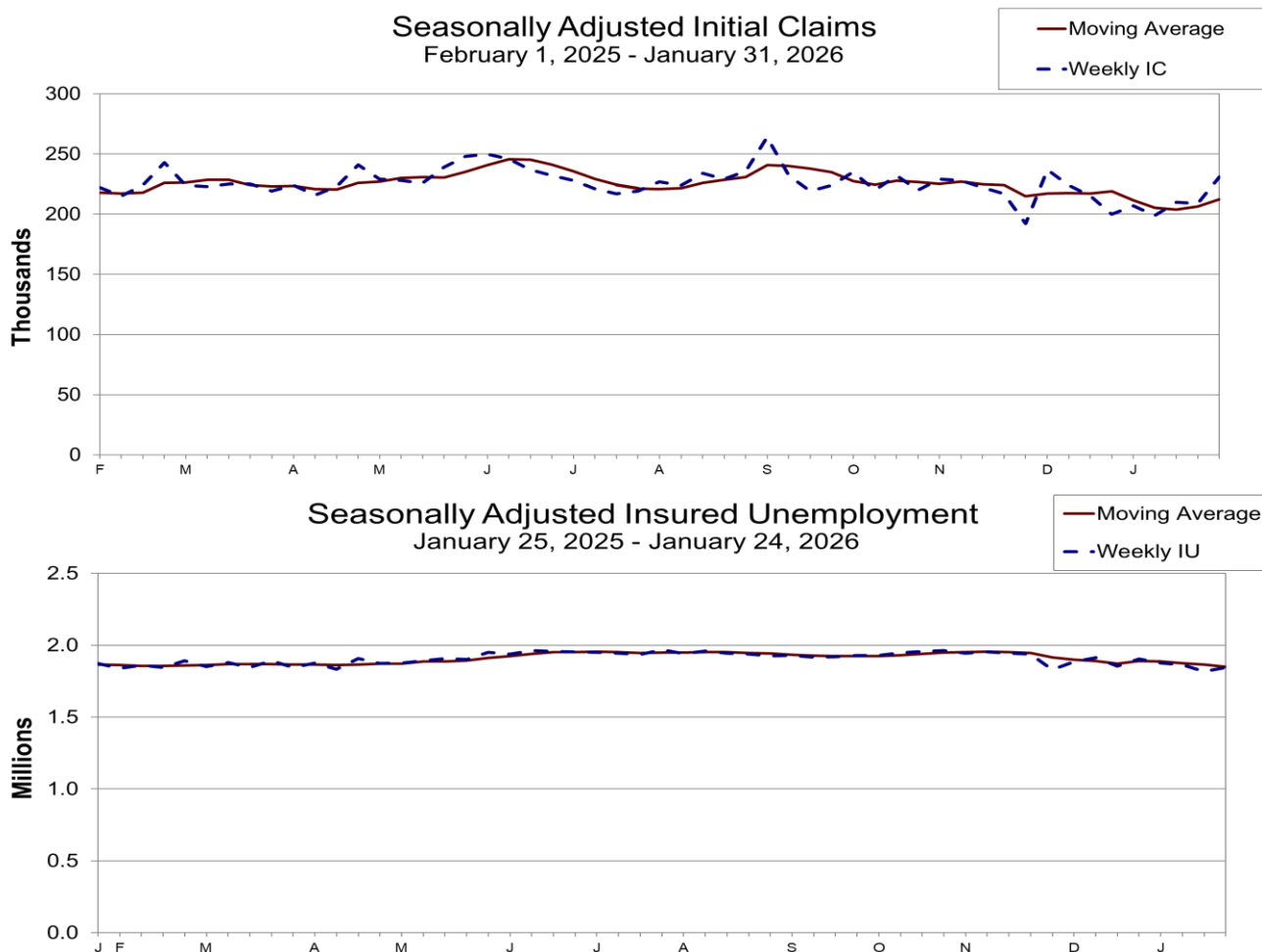
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8:30 A.M. (Eastern) Thursday, February 5, 2026

UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE WEEKLY CLAIMS

SEASONALLY ADJUSTED DATA

In the week ending January 31, the advance figure for seasonally adjusted **initial claims** was 231,000, an increase of 22,000 from the previous week's unrevised level of 209,000. The 4-week moving average was 212,250, an increase of 6,000 from the previous week's unrevised average of 206,250.

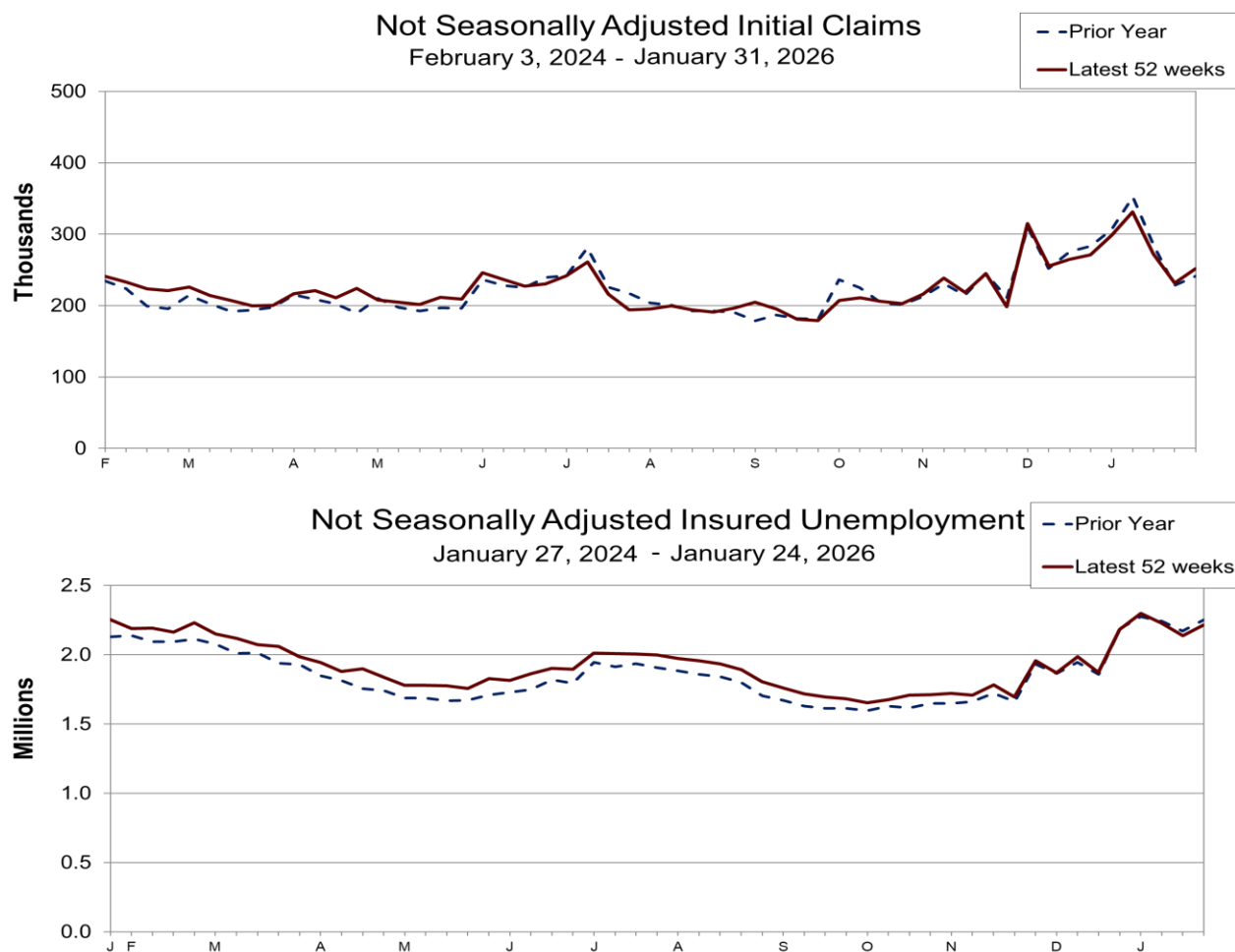
The advance seasonally adjusted **insured unemployment rate** was 1.2 percent for the week ending January 24, unchanged from the previous week's unrevised rate. The advance number for seasonally adjusted **insured unemployment** during the week ending January 24 was 1,844,000, an increase of 25,000 from the previous week's revised level. The previous week's level was revised down by 8,000 from 1,827,000 to 1,819,000. The 4-week moving average was 1,850,750, a decrease of 14,750 from the previous week's revised average. This is the lowest level for this average since October 5, 2024 when it was 1,845,750. The previous week's average was revised down by 2,000 from 1,867,500 to 1,865,500.



UNADJUSTED DATA

The advance number of actual initial claims under state programs, unadjusted, totaled 251,651 in the week ending January 31, an increase of 20,018 (or 8.6 percent) from the previous week. The seasonal factors had expected a decrease of 3,766 (or -1.6 percent) from the previous week. There were 241,101 initial claims in the comparable week in 2025.

The advance unadjusted insured unemployment rate was 1.4 percent during the week ending January 24, unchanged from the prior week. The advance unadjusted level of insured unemployment in state programs totaled 2,214,483, an increase of 77,732 (or 3.6 percent) from the preceding week. The seasonal factors had expected an increase of 47,281 (or 2.2 percent) from the previous week. A year earlier the rate was 1.5 percent and the volume was 2,252,149.



The total number of continued weeks claimed for benefits in all programs for the week ending January 17 was 2,171,479, a decrease of 94,314 from the previous week. There were 2,196,804 weekly claims filed for benefits in all programs in the comparable week in 2025.

No state was triggered "on" the Extended Benefits program during the week ending January 17.

Initial claims for UI benefits filed by former Federal civilian employees totaled 568 in the week ending January 24, a decrease of 230 from the prior week. There were 337 initial claims filed by newly discharged veterans, a decrease of 65 from the preceding week.

There were 12,565 continued weeks claimed filed by former Federal civilian employees the week ending January 17, a decrease of 795 from the previous week. Newly discharged veterans claiming benefits totaled 4,321, a decrease of 359 from the prior week.

The highest insured unemployment rates in the week ending January 17 were in New Jersey (2.8), Rhode Island (2.8), Massachusetts (2.7), Minnesota (2.5), Washington (2.5), Michigan (2.2), Montana (2.2), California (2.1), Illinois (2.1), and Puerto Rico (2.1).

The largest increases in initial claims for the week ending January 24 were in Nebraska (+2,074), New York (+1,739), Oklahoma (+938), Virginia (+768), and Iowa (+522), while the largest decreases were in California (-12,531), Michigan (-8,197), Kentucky (-3,879), Texas (-2,187), and South Carolina (-2,095).

UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE DATA FOR REGULAR STATE PROGRAMS

WEEK ENDING	January 31	January 24	Change	January 17	Prior Year ¹
Initial Claims (SA)	231,000	209,000	+22,000	210,000	222,000
Initial Claims (NSA)	251,651	231,633	+20,018	272,436	241,101
4-Wk Moving Average (SA)	212,250	206,250	+6,000	204,000	217,750

WEEK ENDING	January 24	January 17	Change	January 10	Prior Year ¹
Insured Unemployment (SA)	1,844,000	1,819,000	+25,000	1,865,000	1,874,000
Insured Unemployment (NSA)	2,214,483	2,136,751	+77,732	2,228,751	2,252,149
4-Wk Moving Average (SA)	1,850,750	1,865,500	-14,750	1,874,750	1,865,250
Insured Unemployment Rate (SA) ²	1.2%	1.2%	0.0	1.2%	1.2%
Insured Unemployment Rate (NSA) ²	1.4%	1.4%	0.0	1.5%	1.5%

INITIAL CLAIMS FILED IN FEDERAL PROGRAMS (UNADJUSTED)

WEEK ENDING	January 24	January 17	Change	Prior Year ¹
Federal Employees (UCFE)	568	798	-230	494
Newly Discharged Veterans (UCX)	337	402	-65	386

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

WEEK ENDING	January 17	January 10	Change	Prior Year ¹
Regular State	2,130,106	2,221,827	-91,721	2,164,013
Federal Employees	12,565	13,360	-795	6,666
Newly Discharged Veterans	4,321	4,680	-359	4,365
Extended Benefits ³	58	45	+13	101
State Additional Benefits ⁴	3,096	3,336	-240	2,540
STC / Workshare ⁵	21,333	22,545	-1,212	19,119
TOTAL	2,171,479	2,265,793	-94,314	2,196,804

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 153,398,888 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 January 31			Insured Unemployment For Week Ended January 24		
	Advance	Prior Wk	Change	Advance	Prior Wk	Change
Alabama	2,159	1,956	203	8,263	9,415	-1,152
Alaska	676	578	98	5,803	6,076	-273
Arizona	2,365	2,531	-166	15,936	17,754	-1,818
Arkansas	1,575	1,069	506	4,252	5,942	-1,690
California	44,275	43,200	1,075	417,368	373,377	43,991
Colorado	3,421	3,328	93	36,540	35,715	825
Connecticut	3,507	3,438	69	33,245	31,978	1,267
Delaware	458	327	131	6,793	6,448	345
District of Columbia	588	645	-57	9,669	8,524	1,145
Florida	5,425	5,744	-319	25,888	28,900	-3,012
Georgia	4,470	4,637	-167	26,520	27,379	-859
Hawaii	1,153	949	204	5,813	5,632	181
Idaho	1,144	1,224	-80	10,866	11,274	-408
Illinois	11,987	9,783	2,204	134,878	128,392	6,486
Indiana	3,741	3,186	555	26,581	28,556	-1,975
Iowa	2,587	3,275	-688	20,872	19,565	1,307
Kansas	1,891	1,445	446	10,326	9,659	667
Kentucky	2,171	2,628	-457	14,788	14,673	115
Louisiana	1,107	1,400	-293	6,207	8,096	-1,889
Maine	631	650	-19	9,700	9,227	473
Maryland	3,364	2,198	1,166	27,350	27,034	316
Massachusetts	6,980	6,430	550	95,347	96,060	-713
Michigan	8,945	8,579	366	85,032	93,582	-8,550
Minnesota	5,576	4,794	782	79,907	71,051	8,856
Mississippi	1,026	585	441	5,905	6,659	-754
Missouri	6,574	3,943	2,631	24,943	25,734	-791
Montana	794	959	-165	11,288	10,779	509
Nebraska	898	3,064	-2,166	8,166	7,719	447
Nevada	2,697	2,682	15	28,165	28,501	-336
New Hampshire	331	520	-189	3,743	4,707	-964
New Jersey	13,150	10,936	2,214	118,514	116,807	1,707
New Mexico	798	814	-16	11,214	10,938	276
New York	23,838	20,417	3,421	205,323	194,621	10,702
North Carolina	3,404	3,294	110	19,642	20,530	-888
North Dakota	573	519	54	7,446	6,475	971
Ohio	8,675	6,862	1,813	65,497	65,452	45
Oklahoma	1,638	2,502	-864	11,276	11,095	181
Oregon	5,379	4,747	632	42,026	38,569	3,457
Pennsylvania	18,871	13,570	5,301	115,294	113,991	1,303
Puerto Rico	1,196	1,449	-253	15,661	19,498	-3,837
Rhode Island	1,646	1,451	195	14,311	13,775	536
South Carolina	2,081	2,075	6	15,488	15,753	-265
South Dakota	301	328	-27	3,204	3,077	127
Tennessee	2,950	2,966	-16	19,072	19,580	-508
Texas	15,402	16,175	-773	158,339	150,911	7,428
Utah	1,607	1,756	-149	16,230	16,288	-58
Vermont	352	416	-64	4,111	3,914	197
Virgin Islands	22	13	9	218	172	46
Virginia	2,686	3,663	-977	23,315	21,226	2,089
Washington	6,320	5,614	706	97,581	90,015	7,566
West Virginia	955	944	11	9,184	8,913	271
Wisconsin	6,863	4,920	1,943	38,090	33,852	4,238
Wyoming	428	455	-27	3,293	2,891	402
US Total	251,651	231,633	20,018	2,214,483	2,136,751	77,732

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	Change from			Change from			IUR
	Initial Claims	Prior Week	4-Week Average	Insured Unemployment	Prior Week	4-Week Average	
January 25, 2025	210	-12	213.50	1,874	25	1,865.25	1.2
February 1, 2025	222	12	217.75	1,839	-35	1,862.50	1.2
February 8, 2025	215	-7	217.25	1,861	22	1,855.75	1.2
February 15, 2025	224	9	217.75	1,847	-14	1,855.25	1.2
February 22, 2025	243	19	226.00	1,892	45	1,859.75	1.2
March 1, 2025	224	-19	226.50	1,851	-41	1,862.75	1.2
March 8, 2025	223	-1	228.50	1,881	30	1,867.75	1.2
March 15, 2025	225	2	228.75	1,847	-34	1,867.75	1.2
March 22, 2025	225	0	224.25	1,893	46	1,868.00	1.2
March 29, 2025	219	-6	223.00	1,844	-49	1,866.25	1.2
April 5, 2025	224	5	223.25	1,878	34	1,865.50	1.2
April 12, 2025	216	-8	221.00	1,833	-45	1,862.00	1.2
April 19, 2025	223	7	220.50	1,908	75	1,865.75	1.3
April 26, 2025	241	18	226.00	1,872	-36	1,872.75	1.2
May 3, 2025	229	-12	227.25	1,877	5	1,872.50	1.2
May 10, 2025	228	-1	230.25	1,893	16	1,887.50	1.2
May 17, 2025	226	-2	231.00	1,907	14	1,887.25	1.3
May 24, 2025	239	13	230.50	1,902	-5	1,894.75	1.2
May 31, 2025	248	9	235.25	1,951	49	1,913.25	1.3
June 7, 2025	250	2	240.75	1,937	-14	1,924.25	1.3
June 14, 2025	246	-4	245.75	1,964	27	1,938.50	1.3
June 21, 2025	237	-9	245.25	1,956	-8	1,952.00	1.3
June 28, 2025	232	-5	241.25	1,954	-2	1,952.75	1.3
July 5, 2025	228	-4	235.75	1,951	-3	1,956.25	1.3
July 12, 2025	221	-7	229.50	1,946	-5	1,951.75	1.3
July 19, 2025	217	-4	224.50	1,936	-10	1,946.75	1.3
July 26, 2025	219	2	221.25	1,968	32	1,950.25	1.3
August 2, 2025	227	8	221.00	1,942	-26	1,948.00	1.3
August 9, 2025	224	-3	221.75	1,961	19	1,951.75	1.3
August 16, 2025	234	10	226.00	1,944	-17	1,953.75	1.3
August 23, 2025	229	-5	228.50	1,939	-5	1,946.50	1.3
August 30, 2025	236	7	230.75	1,927	-12	1,942.75	1.3
September 6, 2025	264	28	240.75	1,928	1	1,934.50	1.3
September 13, 2025	232	-32	240.25	1,916	-12	1,927.50	1.3
September 20, 2025	219	-13	237.75	1,921	5	1,923.00	1.3
September 27, 2025	224	5	234.75	1,929	8	1,923.50	1.3
October 4, 2025	235	11	227.50	1,928	-1	1,923.50	1.3
October 11, 2025	220	-15	224.50	1,947	19	1,931.25	1.3
October 18, 2025	232	12	227.75	1,957	10	1,940.25	1.3
October 25, 2025	220	-12	226.75	1,964	7	1,949.00	1.3
November 1, 2025	229	9	225.25	1,946	-18	1,953.50	1.3
November 8, 2025	228	-1	227.25	1,953	7	1,955.00	1.3
November 15, 2025	222	-6	224.75	1,944	-9	1,951.75	1.3
November 22, 2025	217	-5	224.00	1,937	-7	1,945.00	1.3
November 29, 2025	192	-25	214.75	1,830	-107	1,916.00	1.2
December 6, 2025	237	45	217.00	1,885	55	1,899.00	1.2
December 13, 2025	224	-13	217.50	1,914	29	1,891.50	1.2
December 20, 2025	215	-9	217.00	1,856	-58	1,871.25	1.2
December 27, 2025	200	-15	219.00	1,903	47	1,889.50	1.2
January 3, 2026	207	7	211.50	1,875	-28	1,887.00	1.2
January 10, 2026	199	-8	205.25	1,865	-10	1,874.75	1.2
January 17, 2026	210	11	204.00	1,819	-46	1,865.50	1.2
January 24, 2026	209	-1	206.25	1,844	25	1,850.75	1.2
January 31, 2026	231	22	212.25				

STATE NAME	INITIAL CLAIMS FILED DURING WEEK ENDED JANUARY 24					INSURED UNEMPLOYMENT FOR WEEK ENDED JANUARY 17						
	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	1,956	-421	192	9	2	9,415	0.5	-537	198	56	15	9,486
Alaska	578	-25	30	2	1	6,076	1.9	-169	-127	94	4	6,174
Arizona	2,531	-271	-526	5	5	17,754	0.6	-300	-4,585	110	33	17,897
Arkansas	1,069	-540	-56	1	0	5,942	0.5	-1,436	-1,846	24	3	5,969
California	43,200	-12,531	-2,766	141	76	373,377	2.1	-44,110	-19,662	1,693	1,054	376,124
Colorado	3,328	-668	-77	7	6	35,715	1.3	213	2,926	342	206	36,263
Connecticut	3,438	-921	-46	0	2	31,978	1.9	-1,058	483	68	28	32,074
Delaware	327	-95	56	0	1	6,448	1.4	-451	31	19	1	6,468
District of Columbia	645	-134	-123	27	1	8,524	1.5	-154	869	1,289	13	9,826
Florida	5,744	-802	-3	25	31	28,900	0.3	124	-2,732	206	76	29,182
Georgia	4,637	-1,641	-42	32	8	27,379	0.6	-1,497	-2,237	332	62	27,773
Hawaii	949	-101	61	1	6	5,632	0.9	-398	237	57	42	5,731
Idaho	1,224	-311	-353	10	0	11,274	1.3	16	-36	194	9	11,477
Illinois	9,783	-705	-624	5	3	128,392	2.1	-9,005	-16,130	422	114	128,928
Indiana	3,186	-603	-431	2	1	28,556	0.9	-1,056	-1,400	56	25	28,637
Iowa	3,275	522	413	3	1	19,565	1.3	53	-3,807	29	6	19,600
Kansas	1,445	-78	-333	0	0	9,659	0.7	73	-2,541	31	22	9,712
Kentucky	2,628	-3,879	453	2	0	14,673	0.7	-326	-278	95	25	14,793
Louisiana	1,400	-238	361	5	1	8,096	0.4	-297	-4,360	36	5	8,137
Maine	650	-277	9	0	0	9,227	1.5	238	406	44	1	9,272
Maryland	2,198	-302	-358	36	7	27,034	1.0	40	1,523	840	56	27,930
Massachusetts	6,430	-1,299	-171	3	0	96,060	2.7	-227	11,181	311	73	96,444
Michigan	8,579	-8,197	154	0	3	93,582	2.2	3,801	-3,384	154	30	93,766
Minnesota	4,794	-514	159	10	2	71,051	2.5	-1,041	-1,323	120	48	71,219
Mississippi	585	-465	-265	2	0	6,659	0.6	-433	-529	64	9	6,732
Missouri	3,943	-1,103	-212	3	1	25,734	0.9	315	-4,930	124	19	25,877
Montana	959	-100	-141	16	1	10,779	2.2	398	-117	401	8	11,188
Nebraska	3,064	2,074	1,951	0	0	7,719	0.8	-15	-182	15	0	7,734
Nevada	2,682	-484	137	2	6	28,501	1.9	-236	1,985	151	75	28,727
New Hampshire	520	-42	44	1	0	4,707	0.7	94	743	3	0	4,710
New Jersey	10,936	-1,121	-720	20	18	116,807	2.8	-93	-3,637	332	212	117,351
New Mexico	814	-125	44	2	1	10,938	1.3	-113	-17	157	32	11,127
New York	20,417	1,739	5,219	15	10	194,621	2.0	-3,815	16,981	642	208	195,471
North Carolina	3,294	-636	-240	5	1	20,530	0.4	288	-7,189	103	72	20,705
North Dakota	519	-110	-19	0	0	6,475	1.5	58	211	17	4	6,496
Ohio	6,862	15	-412	3	12	65,452	1.2	-895	-5,819	154	55	65,661
Oklahoma	2,502	938	1,161	8	4	11,095	0.7	-138	1,116	60	39	11,194
Oregon	4,747	-792	296	18	1	38,569	2.0	-476	5,258	634	78	39,281
Pennsylvania	13,570	-765	-1,217	20	7	113,991	1.9	-2,832	-6,064	493	135	114,619
Puerto Rico	1,449	-486	-106	7	2	19,498	2.1	-1,205	1,266	264	60	19,822
Rhode Island	1,451	-225	163	2	4	13,775	2.8	-384	250	36	14	13,825
South Carolina	2,075	-2,095	325	5	6	15,753	0.7	-1,979	33	67	47	15,867
South Dakota	328	5	31	1	0	3,077	0.7	21	22	35	4	3,116
Tennessee	2,966	-635	131	1	9	19,580	0.6	-6	1,326	71	41	19,692
Texas	16,175	-2,187	1,612	44	71	150,911	1.1	-15,833	3,798	633	756	152,300
Utah	1,756	-359	128	19	2	16,288	1.0	144	851	336	17	16,641
Vermont	416	-34	25	0	0	3,914	1.3	97	223	3	0	3,917
Virgin Islands	13	-13	-18	1	0	172	0.5	-34	-74	0	0	172
Virginia	3,663	768	1,141	18	5	21,226	0.5	-461	4,023	291	64	21,581
Washington	5,614	-259	-664	18	15	90,015	2.5	-4,486	9,246	662	392	91,069
West Virginia	944	-251	-572	0	2	8,913	1.3	-912	-3,028	56	15	8,984
Wisconsin	4,920	-19	-606	7	2	33,852	1.2	-1,525	-3,166	82	9	33,943
Wyoming	455	-5	-46	4	0	2,891	1.1	-40	132	57	5	2,953
Totals	231,633	-40,803	3,149	568	337	2,136,751	1.4	-92,000	-33,882	12,565	4,321	2,153,637

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 JANUARY 24, 2026

STATES WITH AN INCREASE OF MORE THAN 1,000

State	Change	State Supplied Comment
NE	+2,074	Layoffs in manufacturing industry.
NY	+1,739	Layoffs in health care and social assistance, utilities, and management of companies and enterprises industries.

STATES WITH A DECREASE OF MORE THAN 1,000

State	Change	State Supplied Comment
CA	-12,531	No comment.
MI	-8,197	Fewer layoffs in management of companies and enterprises industry.
KY	-3,879	No comment.
TX	-2,187	No comment.
SC	-2,095	No comment.
GA	-1,641	Fewer layoffs in manufacturing, administrative and support and waste management and remediation services, transportation and warehousing, and in accommodation and food services industries.
MA	-1,299	No comment.
NJ	-1,121	No comment.
MO	-1,103	Fewer layoffs in manufacturing; accommodation and food services; arts, entertainment, and recreation; and in construction 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. 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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