<u>DOL Home</u> > <u>Newsroom</u> > <u>News Releases</u>

EMPLOYMENT AND TRAINING ADMINISTRATION

USDL 10-254-NAT

Program Contact: Scott Gibbons (202) 693-3008

Tony Sznoluch (202) 693-3176

Media Contact :

TRANSMISSION OF MATERIAL IN THIS RELEASE IS EMBARGOED UNTIL 8:30 A.M. (EST), THURSDAY March 4 2010

UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE WEEKLY CLAIMS REPORT

SEASONALLY ADJUSTED DATA

In the week ending Feb. 27, the advance figure for seasonally adjusted **initial claims** was 469,000, a decrease of 29,000 from the previous week's revised figure of 498,000. The 4-week moving average was 470,750, a decrease of 3,500 from the previous week's revised average of 474,250.

The advance seasonally adjusted **insured unemployment rate** was 3.5 percent for the week ending Feb. 20, a decrease of 0.1 percentage point from the prior week's revised rate of 3.6 percent.

The advance number for seasonally adjusted **insured unemployment** during the week ending Feb. 20 was 4,500,000, a decrease of 134,000 from the preceding week's revised level of 4,634,000. The 4-week moving average was 4,575,750, a decrease of 29,250 from the preceding week's revised average of 4,605,000.

The fiscal year-to-date average of seasonally adjusted weekly insured unemployment, which corresponds to the appropriated AWIU trigger, was 5.186 million.

UNADJUSTED DATA

The advance number of actual initial claims under state programs, unadjusted, totaled 471,720 in the week ending Feb. 27, an increase of 17,128 from the previous week. There were 645,827 initial claims in the comparable week in 2009.

The advance unadjusted insured unemployment rate was 4.3 percent during the week ending Feb. 20, unchanged from the prior week. The advance unadjusted number for persons claiming UI benefits in state programs totaled 5,571,085, an increase of 24,534 from the preceding week. A year earlier, the rate was 4.7 percent and the volume was 6.231.080.

Extended benefits were available in Alabama, Alaska, Arizona, California, Colorado, Connecticut, Delaware, the District of Columbia, Georgia, Idaho, Illinois, Indiana, Kansas, Kentucky, Maine, Massachusetts, Michigan, Minnesota, Montana, Nevada, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New Mexico, New York, North Carolina, Ohio, Oregon, Pennsylvania, Puerto Rico, Rhode Island, South Carolina, Tennessee, Texas, Vermont, Virginia, Washington, West Virginia, and Wisconsin during the week ending Feb. 13.

Initial claims for UI benefits by former Federal civilian employees totaled 1,196 in the week ending Feb. 20, unchanged from the prior week. There were 1,946 initial claims by newly discharged veterans, a decrease of 244 from the preceding week.

There were 23,773 former Federal civilian employees claiming UI benefits for the week ending Feb. 13, a decrease of 322 from the previous week. Newly discharged veterans claiming benefits totaled 35,473, a decrease of 956 from the prior week.

States reported 5,687,574 persons claiming EUC (Emergency Unemployment Compensation) benefits for the week ending Feb. 13, an increase of 207,632 from the prior week. There were 1,929,723 claimants in the comparable week in 2009. EUC weekly claims include first, second, third, and fourth tier activity.

The highest insured unemployment rates in the week ending Feb. 13 were in Alaska (7.4 percent), Oregon (6.4), Pennsylvania (6.4), Idaho (6.3), Montana (6.3), Wisconsin (6.2), Puerto Rico (6.1), Michigan (5.8), Nevada (5.7), and North Carolina (5.4).

The largest increases in initial claims for the week ending Feb. 20 were in New Jersey (+4,879), Massachusetts (+4,744), Connecticut (+2,018), Missouri (+1,920), and Maryland (+1,499), while the largest decreases were in California (-12,000), North Carolina (-7,981), Florida (-2,564), Michigan (-2,484), and Ohio (-2,130).

UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE DATA FOR REGULAR STATE PROGRAMS

	Advance				Prior ·
WEEK ENDING	Feb. 27	Feb. 20	Change	Feb. 13	Yea
Initial Claims (SA)	469,000	498,000	-29,000	474,000	643,00
Initial Claims (NSA)	471,720	454,592	+17,128	478,235	645,82
4-Wk Moving Average (SA)	470,750	474,250	-3,500	467,750	636,750
	Advance				Prior1
WEEK ENDING	Feb. 20	Feb. 13	Change	Feb. 6	Yea
Ins. Unemployment (SA)	4,500,000	4,634,000	-134,000	4,611,000	5,074,00
Ins. Unemployment (NSA)	5,571,085	5,546,551	+24,534	5,597,688	6,231,080
4-Wk Moving Average (SA)	4,575,750	4,605,000	-29,250	4,596,500	4,960,500
Ins. Unemployment Rate (SA) ²	3.5%	3.6%	-0.1	3.5%	3.89
Ins. Unemployment Rate (NSA) ²	4.3%	4.3%	0.0	4.3%	4.7%

INITIAL CLAIMS FILED IN FEDERAL PROGRAMS (UNADJUSTED)

WEEK ENDING	Feb. 20	Feb. 13	Change	Prior1 Year
Federal Employees	1,196	1,196	0	1,141

Newly Discharged Veterans 1,946 2,190 -244 1,738

PERSONS CLAIMING UI BENEFITS IN FEDERAL PROGRAMS (UNADJUSTED)

WEEK ENDING	Feb. 13	Feb. 6	Change	Prior1 Year
Federal Employees	23,773	24,095	-322	19,999
Newly Discharged Veterans	35,473	36,429	-956	27,848
Railroad Retirement Board	10,000	10,000	0	9,000
Extended Benefits	178,469	188,554	-10,085	2,766
EUC 2008 ³	5,687,574	5,479,942	+207,632	1,929,723

FOOTNOTES

- SA Seasonally Adjusted Data
 NSA Not Seasonally Adjusted Data

 1 Prior year is comparable to most recent data.
- $^{\rm 2}$ Most recent week used covered employment of 130,128,328 as denominator.
- $^{\rm 3}$ EUC weekly claims include first, second, third, and fourth tier activity.

UNADJUSTED INITIAL CLAIMS FOR WEEK ENDED 02/20/2010

STATES WITH A DECREASE OF MORE THAN 1,000

<u>State</u>	<u>Change</u>	State Supplied Comment
CA	-12,000	A shorter workweek, as well as fewer layoffs in the service industry.
NC	-7,981	Fewer layoffs in the construction, stone/clay,glass, lumber/wood, and transportation industries.
FL	-2,564	Fewer layoffs in the construction, trade, service, and manufacturing industries, and agriculture.
MI	-2,484	Fewer layoffs in the automobile industry.
ОН	-2,130	No comment.
AR	-1,501	No comment.
OR	-1,367	no comment.
PR	-1,281	No comment.
WA	-1,230	No comment.
TN	-1,132	Fewer layoffs in the construction, service, and manufacturing industries.
SC	-1,045	Fewer layoffs in the manufacturing industry.
TX	-1,022	Fewer layoffs in the trade, service, finance, and manufacturing industries.

STATES WITH AN INCREASE OF MORE THAN 1,000

<u>State</u>	<u>Change</u>	State Supplied Comment
IL	+1,160	Layoffs in the construction, trade, and manufacturing industries.
DE	+1,210	Inclement weather during the prior week caused processing of backlog claims this week.
MD	+1,499	Inclement weather during the prior week caused processing of backlog claims this week.
MO	+1,920	Layoffs in the construction industry.
CT	+2,018	Claims are school closings related.
MA	+4,744	Claims are school closings related.
NJ	+4,879	Weather-related office closures and a statewide furlough day during the prior week caused processing of backlog claims this week. Layoffs were in construction, service, transportation, warehousing, and manufacturing industries.

This information will be made available to sensory impaired individuals upon request. Voice phone: 202-693-4676. TDD Message Phone: 1-800-326-2577. News releases from the U.S. Department of Labor are accessible on the Internet at: http://www.dol.qov/ and http://www.dol.qov/