

**EMPLOYMENT AND TRAINING ADMINISTRATION**

USDL13-386 -NAT

## Program Contacts:

Scott Gibbons (202) 693-3008

Tony Sznoluch (202) 693-3176

Media Contact: (202) 693-4676

TRANSMISSION OF MATERIAL IN THIS

RELEASE IS EMBARGOED UNTIL

8:30 A.M. (Eastern), Thursday

March 7, 2013

**UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE WEEKLY CLAIMS REPORT****SEASONALLY ADJUSTED DATA**

In the week ending March 2, the advance figure for seasonally adjusted **initial claims** was 340,000, a decrease of 7,000 from the previous week's revised figure of 347,000. The 4-week moving average was 348,750, a decrease of 7,000 from the previous week's revised average of 355,750.

The advance seasonally adjusted **insured unemployment rate** was 2.4 percent for the week ending February 23, unchanged from the prior week's unrevised rate. The advance number for seasonally adjusted **insured unemployment** during the week ending February 23 was 3,094,000, an increase of 3,000 from the preceding week's revised level of 3,091,000. The 4-week moving average was 3,121,750, a decrease of 37,500 from the preceding week's revised average of 3,159,250.

**UNADJUSTED DATA**

The advance number of actual initial claims under state programs, unadjusted, totaled 333,389 in the week ending March 2, an increase of 23,198 from the previous week. There were 368,433 initial claims in the comparable week in 2012.

The advance unadjusted insured unemployment rate was 2.8 percent during the week ending February 23, an increase of 0.1 percentage point from the prior week's unrevised rate. The advance unadjusted number for persons claiming UI benefits in state programs totaled 3,589,315, an increase of 52,854 from the preceding week's revised level of 3,536,461. A year earlier, the rate was 3.2 percent and the volume was 3,988,890.

The total number of people claiming benefits in all programs for the week ending February 16 was 5,401,893, a decrease of 362,275 from the previous week. There were 7,387,649 persons claiming benefits in all programs in the comparable week in 2012.

Extended Benefits were available only in Alaska during the week ending February 16.

Initial claims for UI benefits filed by former Federal civilian employees totaled 1,138 in the week ending February 23, a decrease of 214 from the prior week. There were 2,188 initial claims filed by newly discharged veterans, a decrease of 115 from the preceding week.

There were 20,902 former Federal civilian employees claiming UI benefits for the week ending February 16, a decrease of 1,780 from the previous week. Newly discharged veterans claiming benefits totaled 38,482, a decrease of 984 from the prior week.

States reported 1,780,626 persons claiming EUC (Emergency Unemployment Compensation) benefits for the week ending February 16, a decrease of 225,365 from the prior week. There were 2,929,210 persons claiming EUC in the comparable week in 2012. EUC weekly claims include first, second, third, and fourth tier activity.

The highest insured unemployment rates in the week ending February 16 were in Alaska (6.0), Montana (4.3), Puerto Rico (4.3), New Jersey (4.1), Pennsylvania (4.1), Rhode Island (4.1), Wisconsin (3.9), Idaho (3.7), Massachusetts (3.7), Connecticut (3.6), Illinois (3.6), and Oregon (3.6).

The largest increases in initial claims for the week ending February 23 were in Massachusetts (+4,024), North Carolina (+1,995), Illinois (+1,782), Rhode Island (+988), and Connecticut (+733), while the largest decreases were in California (-40,352), New York (-2,070), Texas (-1,334), Florida (-878), and Pennsylvania (-781).

#### UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE DATA FOR REGULAR STATE PROGRAMS

WEEK ENDING	Advance March 2	Feb. 23	Change	Feb. 16	Prior Year <sup>1</sup>
<b>Initial Claims (SA)</b>	340,000	347,000	-7,000	366,000	374,000
<b>Initial Claims (NSA)</b>	333,389	310,191	+23,198	350,797	368,433
<b>4-Wk Moving Average (SA)</b>	348,750	355,750	-7,000	361,750	367,500
WEEK ENDING	Advance Feb. 23	Feb. 16	Change	Feb. 9	Prior Year <sup>1</sup>
<b>Ins. Unemployment (SA)</b>	3,094,000	3,091,000	+3,000	3,165,000	3,436,000
<b>Ins. Unemployment (NSA)</b>	3,589,315	3,536,461	+52,854	3,668,711	3,988,890
<b>4-Wk Moving Average (SA)</b>	3,121,750	3,159,250	-37,500	3,190,500	3,429,250
<b>Ins. Unemployment Rate (SA)<sup>2</sup></b>	2.4%	2.4%	0.0	2.5%	2.7%
<b>Ins. Unemployment Rate (NSA)<sup>2</sup></b>	2.8%	2.7%	+0.1	2.9%	3.2%

#### INITIAL CLAIMS FILED IN FEDERAL PROGRAMS (UNADJUSTED)

WEEK ENDING	Feb. 23	Feb. 16	Change	Prior Year <sup>1</sup>
<b>Federal Employees</b>	1,138	1,352	-214	1,136
<b>Newly Discharged Veterans</b>	2,188	2,303	-115	2,286

#### PERSONS CLAIMING UI BENEFITS IN ALL PROGRAMS (UNADJUSTED)

WEEK ENDING	Feb. 16	Feb. 9	Change	Prior Year <sup>1</sup>
<b>Regular State</b>	3,530,008	3,660,325	-130,317	3,873,355
<b>Federal Employees (UCFE)</b>	20,902	22,682	-1,780	27,150
<b>Newly Discharged Veterans (UCX)</b>	38,482	39,466	-984	41,594
<b>EUC 2008<sup>3</sup></b>	1,780,626	2,005,991	-225,365	2,929,210
<b>Extended Benefits<sup>4</sup></b>	555	644	-89	473,762
<b>State Additional Benefits<sup>5</sup></b>	6,000	5,723	+277	6,961

<b>STC / Workshare</b> <sup>6</sup>	25,320	29,337	-4,017	35,617
<b>TOTAL</b>	5,401,893	5,764,168	-362,275	7,387,649

**FOOTNOTES**

SA - Seasonally Adjusted Data, NSA - Not Seasonally Adjusted Data

<sup>1</sup> - Prior year is comparable to most recent data.<sup>2</sup> - Most recent week used covered employment of 128,613,913 as denominator.<sup>3</sup> - EUC weekly claims include first, second, third, and fourth tier activity. Tier-specific EUC data can be found here: <http://ows.doleta.gov/unemploy/docs/persons.xls><sup>4</sup> - Information on the EB program can be found here: <http://www.ows.doleta.gov/unemploy/extenben.asp><sup>5</sup> - 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 of this link: <http://ows.doleta.gov/unemploy/pdf/uilawcompar/2010/special.pdf><sup>6</sup> - Information on STC/Worksharing can be found starting on page 4 of the following link: <http://ows.doleta.gov/unemploy/pdf/uilawcompar/2010/special.pdf>**UNADJUSTED INITIAL CLAIMS FOR WEEK ENDED 02/23/2013****STATES WITH A DECREASE OF MORE THAN 1,000**

<u>State</u>	<u>Change</u>	<u>State Supplied Comment</u>
CA	-40,352	Fewer layoffs in all sectors, with the largest decrease in the service industry.
NY	-2,070	Fewer layoffs in the construction, retail, and healthcare and social service industries.
TX	-1,334	No comment.

**STATES WITH AN INCREASE OF MORE THAN 1,000**

<u>State</u>	<u>Change</u>	<u>State Supplied Comment</u>
MA	+4,024	Claims increase is due to school vacations and inclement weather.
NC	+1,995	Layoffs in the construction, transportation, motor freight transportation and warehousing, stone, clay, glass, and concrete product industries.
IL	+1,782	Layoffs in the construction, manufacturing, and administrative support service industries.

**State Detail Prior Week****UI Claims Series 1967 to current**

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.gov/> and <http://www.oui.doleta.gov/>