

# Weekly Analysis

## February 21, 2026

Ohio Law initial claims, representing newly unemployed persons, totaled 4,911 last week, a decrease of 28.9 percent from the prior week's figure of 6,905 and a 23.4 percent decrease from the February 2025 weekly average of 6,413. Initial claims under Title 5 of the U.S. Code (UCFE & UCX) totaled 15. Pandemic Unemployment Compensation (PUA) initial claims totaled zero .

Ohio Law continued claims, representing persons unemployed one week or more, totaled 66,250 last week, a decrease of 0.8 percent from the prior week's figure of 66,797 and a 4.2 percent decrease from the February 2025 weekly average of 69,153. Continued claims under Title 5 totaled 215. Pandemic Emergency Unemployment Compensation (PEUC) continued claims totaled 12 while PUA continued claims totaled zero. Extended Benefits (EB) continued claims totaled zero.

Category	Weekly Average February 2025	Week Ending February 07	Week Ending February 14	Week Ending February 21	Percent Change	
					Previous Week	Average of Last Year
All Claims . . . . .	75,765	76,035	73,954	71,391	-3.5	-5.8
Initial Claims <sup>a</sup> . . . . .	6,439	7,979	6,924	4,926	-28.9	-23.5
Regular Ohio Law . . . . .	6,413	7,956	6,905	4,911	-28.9	-23.4
UCFE . . . . .	18	16	7	6	...	...
UCX . . . . .	8	7	12	9	...	...
Continued Claims <sup>a</sup> . . . . .	69,326	68,056	67,030	66,465	-0.8	-4.1
Regular Ohio Law . . . . .	69,153	67,866	66,797	66,250	-0.8	-4.2
UCFE . . . . .	89	133	171	149	-12.9	66.9
UCX . . . . .	84	57	62	66	6.5	-21.0

Financial Summary <sup>b</sup>	Number	Percent Change <sup>c</sup>
Collections, December 2025 . . . . .	\$4,999,672	...
Gross Benefits Paid, January 2026 . . . . .	\$105,170,749	-7.4
Average Weekly Benefit, January 2026 . . . . .	\$522.77	5.2
Trust Fund Balance as of December 31, 2025 . . . . .	\$1,913,025,704	...

<sup>a</sup>Includes agent-state claims, excludes transitionals.  
<sup>d</sup>Regular Ohio Law. <sup>c</sup>From corresponding period, preceding year.

**INITIAL AND CONTINUED CLAIMS  
UNDER REGULAR OHIO UNEMPLOYMENT COMPENSATION LAW  
BY COUNTY OF RESIDENCE  
WEEK ENDING February 21, 2026**

County	Initial* Claims	Continued Claims	County	Initial* Claims	Continued Claims
<b>Total.....</b>	<b>4,911</b>	<b>66,250</b>			
Adams.....	13	277	Lorain.....	243	3,079
Allen.....	32	536	Lucas.....	217	2,440
Ashland.....	15	314	Madison.....	10	173
Ashtabula.....	27	630	Mahoning.....	84	1,867
Athens.....	22	334	Marion.....	22	231
Auglaize.....	12	131	Medina.....	74	957
Belmont.....	15	313	Meigs.....	21	180
Brown.....	21	307	Mercer.....	6	109
Butler.....	117	1,634	Miami.....	40	521
Carroll.....	7	157	Monroe.....	5	87
Champaign.....	7	158	Montgomery.....	205	2,567
Clark.....	48	606	Morgan.....	4	161
Clermont.....	87	1,070	Morrow.....	9	201
Clinton.....	7	217	Muskingum.....	40	676
Columbiana.....	38	513	Noble.....	6	78
Coshocton.....	16	153	Ottawa.....	13	513
Crawford.....	21	235	Paulding.....	10	53
Cuyahoga.....	541	6,758	Perry.....	12	281
Darke.....	23	319	Pickaway.....	16	317
Defiance.....	27	161	Pike.....	13	300
Delaware.....	48	731	Portage.....	75	973
Erie.....	45	765	Preble.....	13	195
Fairfield.....	60	665	Putnam.....	13	184
Fayette.....	3	156	Richland.....	47	734
Franklin.....	503	5,469	Ross.....	20	593
Fulton.....	22	377	Sandusky.....	22	408
Gallia.....	15	182	Scioto.....	42	518
Geauga.....	22	476	Seneca.....	17	273
Greene.....	39	580	Shelby.....	19	175
Guernsey.....	12	312	Stark.....	159	2,159
Hamilton.....	316	3,343	Summit.....	253	3,082
Hancock.....	23	223	Trumbull.....	79	1,810
Hardin.....	9	130	Tuscarawas.....	21	470
Harrison.....	6	65	Union.....	14	226
Henry.....	12	237	Van Wert.....	4	103
Highland.....	18	276	Vinton.....	5	167
Hocking.....	8	233	Warren.....	73	939
Holmes.....	4	70	Washington.....	13	284
Huron.....	25	762	Wayne.....	15	410
Jackson.....	28	392	Williams.....	8	175
Jefferson.....	32	299	Wood.....	62	577
Knox.....	11	273	Wyandot.....	6	91
Lake.....	87	1,505	Out of State .....	180	2,206
Lawrence.....	20	179	Interstate Agent .....	183	1,314
Licking.....	39	694			
Logan.....	15	176	Interstate Liable.....	185	1,658

\*Transitional claims are excluded from the count of initial claims.

Note: Interstate Liable counts not included in totals.  
Source: Weekly Claims file.

Ohio Department of Job and Family Services  
OUJO - Central Administration, Finance  
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