

09.Feb.2023

Jobless Claims: Bounce, But Trends Still Mixed

Bottom Line: Jobless claims rose sharply last week after several weeks of declines. The short-term trend in claims remained lower and the medium- to longer-term trends were mixed, with continuing claims still trending slightly higher. Our Nowcast model continues to show claims running above the reported figures and suggests this week is running closer to 230k, near the highs of the last year. Coming off a period of difficult seasonal adjustments, it will likely take some time for the reported data to smooth out. Moreover, some employees who lost jobs in the early rounds of large company layoff announcements last year will start to lose severance pay and could be looking to collect benefits in the coming months. And our Nowcast model would likely start to pick that up several weeks, even months, before the actual claim. So while claims remain historically low, we are watching closely for signs of an uptick in the trend.

Initial Jobless Claims

04.Feb: 196k +13k consensus: +190k



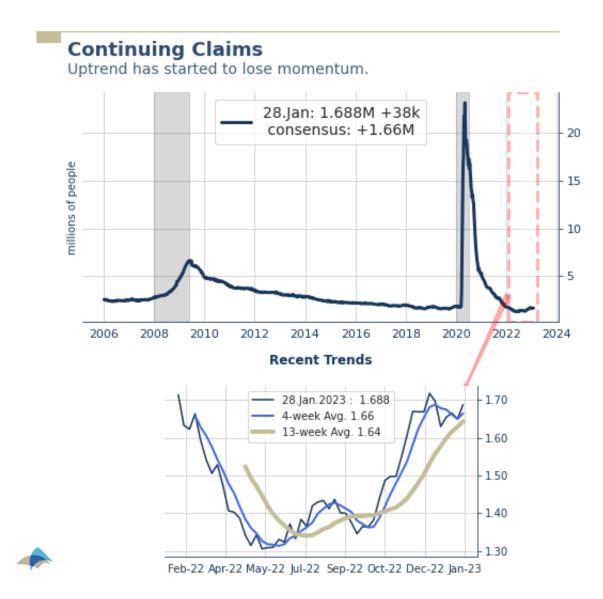
Contingent Macro Advisors 2023 source: BLS via FRED



Initial Jobless Claims ROSE 13k in the week ended February 4th to 196k, ABOVE

the 4-week average of 189.25k, BELOW the 13-week average of 210.84615k and 5k ABOVE the year-ago level. Non-seasonally adjusted Claims ROSE 9.6k

Continuing Claims ROSE 38k in the week ended January 28th to 1.688M, ABOVE the 4-week average of 1.66475M, ABOVE the 13-week average of 1.643846M but -55k BELOW the year-ago level. Continuing Claims for the 21st of Jan were revised down from +1.655M to +1.65M.



Contingent Macro Advisors 2023 source: BLS via FRED

US Weekly Jobless Claims in 000s	Feb-04	Jan-28	Jan-21	Jan-14	Jan-07	Dec-31	Dec-24	Dec-17
Initial Jobless Claims SA	196	183	186	192	206	206	223	216
wk chg (SA)	13	-3	-6	-14	0	-17	7	4
Initial Jobless Claims NSA	235	225	225	288	340	278	270	248
wk chg (NSA)	10	-0	-63	-52	62	9	21	-2

4-week avg (SA)	189	192	198	207	213	214	220	22	21
chg in 4wk avg	-2	-6	-9	-6	-2	-6	-1	-(6
13-week avg (SA)	211	213	216	218	220	222	223	22	20
chg in 13k avg	-2	-3	-2	-2	-2	-1	3	,	1
Continuing Claims in 000s (one week lag)	Jan-21	Jan-14	Jan-07	Dec-31	Dec-24	Dec-1	17 D	ec-10	Dec-03
Continuing Claims SA	1655	1666	1655	1630	1697	1718	3 1	1669	1669
wk chg (SA)	-11	11	25	-67	-21	49		0	-1
Continuing Claims NSA	1916	1864	1909	1870	1711	1577	7 1	1594	1503
wk chg (NSA)	52	-45	39	159	134	-17		91	-58
4-week avg (SA)	1652	1662	1675	1678	1688	1682	2 1	1654	1625
chg in 4wk avg	-10	-13	-4	-10	7	27		30	43
13-week avg (SA)	1630	1617	1599	1578	1558	1532	2 1	1504	1481
chg in 13k avg	13	18	21	20	26	29		23	21

source: Bureau of Labor Statistics via St. Louis Fed FRED