

# How Many Weeks of Unemployment Compensation Are Available?

Workers in most states are eligible for up to 26 weeks of benefits from the regular state-funded unemployment compensation program, although nine states provide fewer weeks and two provide more.

The federal-state unemployment insurance (UI) system helps many people who have lost their jobs by temporarily replacing part of their wages. (See “[Introduction to Unemployment Insurance](#).”) Under certain circumstances, unemployed workers who exhaust their regular state-funded unemployment benefits before they can find work can receive additional weeks of benefits. The federally funded temporary Emergency Unemployment Compensation (EUC) program expired at the end of 2013, however, and no state currently qualifies to offer more weeks under the permanent Extended Benefits (EB) program.

Of the states not providing the standard 26-week maximum:

- Massachusetts provides up to 30 weeks of UI in the absence of a federal emergency unemployment compensation program. When a federal program is in place, Massachusetts provides the usual maximum of 26 weeks;
- Montana provides up to 28 weeks of UI;
- Arkansas, Michigan, and South Carolina provide up to 20 weeks of UI; and
- Missouri provides up to 13 weeks of UI.

The remaining five states periodically update their maximum weeks of UI available based on changes in the state’s unemployment rate:

- Idaho currently provides up to 21 weeks of UI;
- Kansas currently provides up to 16 weeks of UI;
- Florida provides up to 12 weeks of UI;
- Georgia currently provides up to 14 weeks of UI; and



## Policy Basics – How Many Weeks of Unemployment Compensation Are Available?

TABLE 1

### Unemployment Rates and Weeks of Unemployment Insurance (UI) Available

State	Unemployment (3-month avg.)	Reg. UI available
Delaware	3.9	26 weeks
District of Columbia	5.6	26 weeks
Florida	3.5	12 weeks
Georgia	3.7	14 weeks
Hawaii	2.2	26 weeks
Idaho	2.7	21 weeks
Illinois	4.1	26 weeks
Indiana	3.5	26 weeks
Iowa	2.5	26 weeks
Kansas	3.3	16 weeks
Kentucky	4.5	26 weeks
Louisiana	5.0	26 weeks
Maine	3.3	26 weeks
Maryland	4.1	26 weeks
Massachusetts	3.6	30 weeks
Michigan	4.0	20 weeks
Minnesota	2.8	26 weeks
Mississippi	4.8	26 weeks
Missouri	3.2	13 weeks
Montana	3.7	28 weeks
Nebraska	2.8	26 weeks
Nevada	4.5	26 weeks
New Hampshire	2.6	26 weeks
New Jersey	4.2	26 weeks
New Mexico	4.6	26 weeks
New York	4.1	26 weeks
North Carolina	3.8	12 weeks
North Dakota	2.7	26 weeks
Ohio	4.6	26 weeks
Oklahoma	3.5	26 weeks
Oregon	3.8	26 weeks
Pennsylvania	4.1	26 weeks
Puerto Rico	8.4	26 weeks

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State	Unemployment (3-month avg.)	Reg. UI available
Rhode Island	3.9	26 weeks
South Carolina	3.3	20 weeks
South Dakota	3.0	26 weeks
Tennessee	3.6	26 weeks
Texas	3.8	26 weeks
Utah	3.1	26 weeks
Vermont	2.8	26 weeks
Virgin Islands	4.6	26 weeks
Virginia	2.9	26 weeks
Washington	4.4	26 weeks
West Virginia	5.2	26 weeks
Wisconsin	3.0	26 weeks
Wyoming	4.0	26 weeks

*Updated December 17, 2018*