



# News Release

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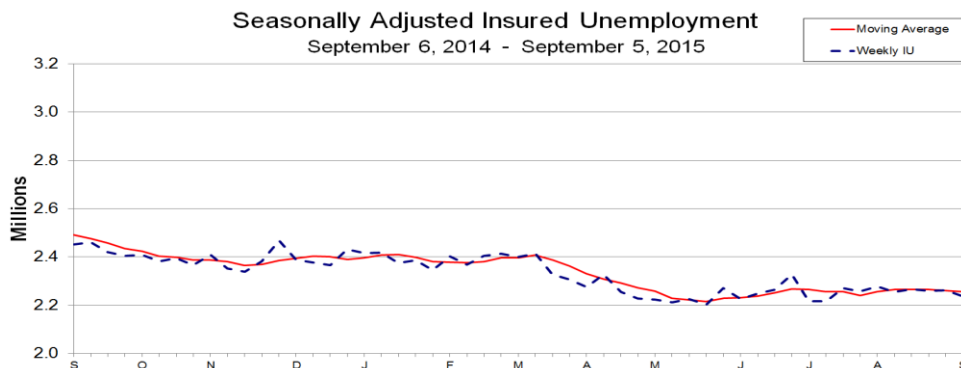
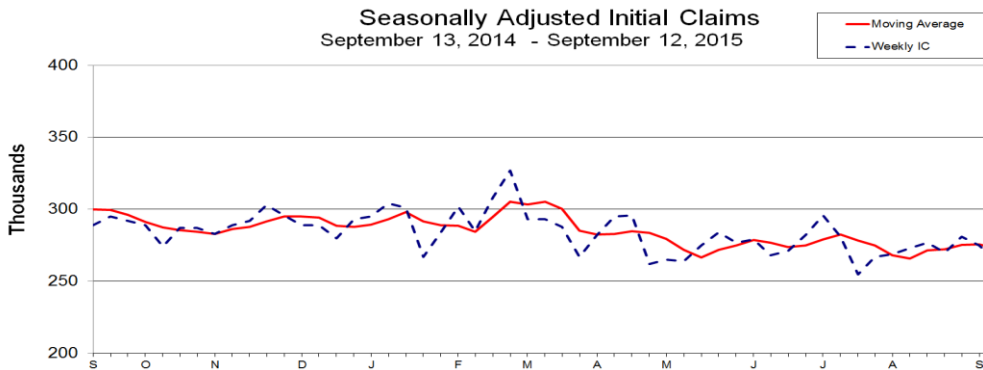
## UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE WEEKLY CLAIMS

### SEASONALLY ADJUSTED DATA

In the week ending September 12, the advance figure for seasonally adjusted **initial claims** was 264,000, a decrease of 11,000 from the previous week's unrevised level of 275,000. The 4-week moving average was 272,500, a decrease of 3,250 from the previous week's unrevised average of 275,750.

There were no special factors impacting this week's initial claims.

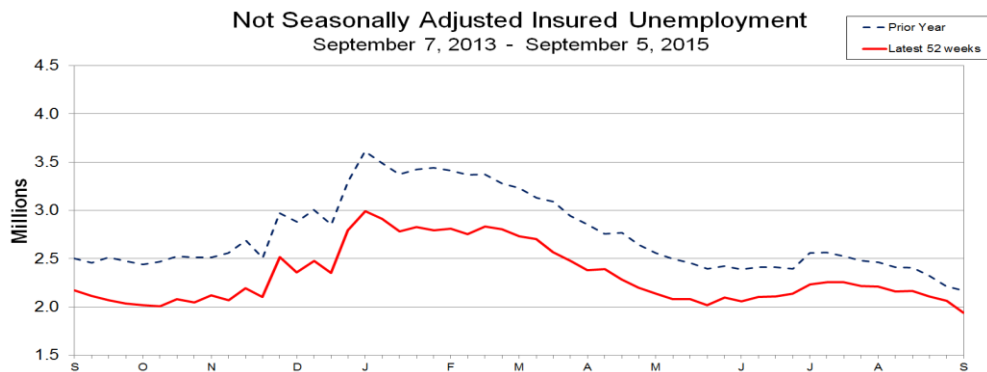
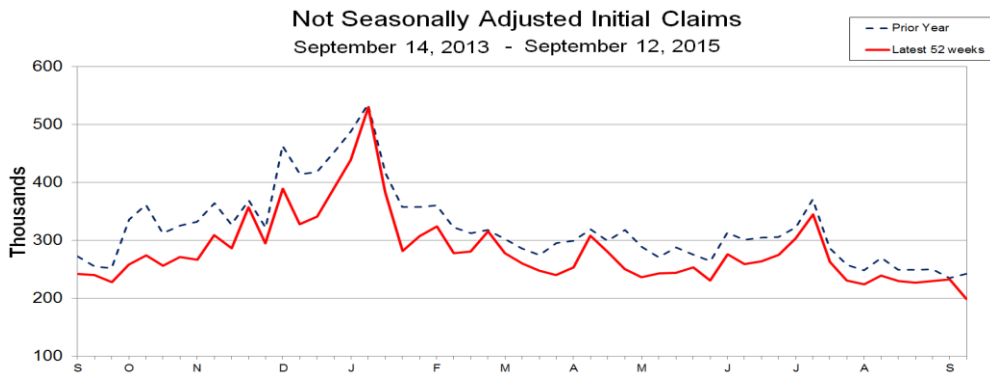
The advance seasonally adjusted **insured unemployment rate** was 1.7 percent for the week ending September 5, unchanged from the previous week's unrevised rate. The advance number for seasonally adjusted **insured unemployment** during the week ending September 5 was 2,237,000, a decrease of 26,000 from the previous week's revised level. The previous week's level was revised up 3,000 from 2,260,000 to 2,263,000. The 4-week moving average was 2,256,250, a decrease of 4,750 from the previous week's revised average. The previous week's average was revised up by 750 from 2,260,250 to 2,261,000.



**UNADJUSTED DATA**

The advance number of actual initial claims under state programs, unadjusted, totaled 198,597 in the week ending September 12, a decrease of 33,910 (or -14.6 percent) from the previous week. The seasonal factors had expected a decrease of 25,314 (or -10.9 percent) from the previous week. There were 242,318 initial claims in the comparable week in 2014.

The advance unadjusted insured unemployment rate was 1.4 percent during the week ending September 5, a decrease of 0.1 percentage point from the prior week. The advance unadjusted number for persons claiming UI benefits in state programs totaled 1,937,190, a decrease of 124,738 (or -6.0 percent) from the preceding week. The seasonal factors had expected a decrease of 101,852 (or -4.9 percent) from the previous week. A year earlier the rate was 1.6 percent and the volume was 2,167,651.



The total number of people claiming benefits in all programs for the week ending August 29 was 2,106,906, a decrease of 46,723 from the previous week. There were 2,264,376 persons claiming benefits in all programs in the comparable week in 2014.

No state was triggered "on" the Extended Benefits program during the week ending August 29.

Initial claims for UI benefits filed by former Federal civilian employees totaled 938 in the week ending September 5, a decrease of 887 from the prior week. There were 1,532 initial claims filed by newly discharged veterans, an increase of 154 from the preceding week.

There were 10,673 former Federal civilian employees claiming UI benefits for the week ending August 29, an increase of 406 from the previous week. Newly discharged veterans claiming benefits totaled 17,819, a decrease of 452 from the prior week.

The highest insured unemployment rates in the week ending August 29 were in Puerto Rico (3.5), New Jersey (2.9), Connecticut (2.5), Pennsylvania (2.5), the Virgin Islands (2.4), Alaska (2.3), California (2.2), Nevada (2.2), Rhode Island (2.1), and Massachusetts (2.0).

The largest increases in initial claims for the week ending September 5 were in Washington (+1,256), Texas (+1,120), Puerto Rico (+900), Illinois (+829), and New Jersey (+606), while the largest decreases were in New York (-4,012), Oregon (-633), Indiana (-476), Tennessee (-420), and Kansas (-245).

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UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE DATA FOR REGULAR STATE PROGRAMS

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<b>WEEK ENDING</b>	<b>September 12</b>	<b>September 5</b>	<b>Change</b>	<b>August 29</b>	<b><u>Prior Year</u><sup>1</sup></b>
Initial Claims (SA)	264,000	275,000	-11,000	281,000	289,000
Initial Claims (NSA)	198,597	232,507	-33,910	230,079	242,318
4-Wk Moving Average (SA)	272,500	275,750	-3,250	275,250	300,000
<b>WEEK ENDING</b>	<b>September 5</b>	<b>August 29</b>	<b>Change</b>	<b>August 22</b>	<b><u>Prior Year</u><sup>1</sup></b>
Insured Unemployment (SA)	2,237,000	2,263,000	-26,000	2,259,000	2,452,000
Insured Unemployment (NSA)	1,937,190	2,061,928	-124,738	2,108,098	2,167,651
4-Wk Moving Average (SA)	2,256,250	2,261,000	-4,750	2,264,750	2,492,750
<u>Insured Unemployment Rate (SA)</u> <sup>2</sup>	1.7%	1.7%	0.0	1.7%	1.9%
<u>Insured Unemployment Rate (NSA)</u> <sup>2</sup>	1.4%	1.5%	-0.1	1.6%	1.6%

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INITIAL CLAIMS FILED IN FEDERAL PROGRAMS (UNADJUSTED)

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<b>WEEK ENDING</b>	<b>September 5</b>	<b>August 29</b>	<b>Change</b>	<b><u>Prior Year</u><sup>1</sup></b>
Federal Employees (UCFE)	938	1,825	-887	1,540
Newly Discharged Veterans (UCX)	1,532	1,378	+154	2,000

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PERSONS CLAIMING UI BENEFITS IN ALL PROGRAMS (UNADJUSTED)

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<b>WEEK ENDING</b>	<b>August 29</b>	<b>August 22</b>	<b>Change</b>	<b><u>Prior Year</u><sup>1</sup></b>
Regular State	2,057,581	2,103,702	-46,121	2,209,253
Federal Employees	10,673	10,267	+406	14,311
Newly Discharged Veterans	17,819	18,271	-452	23,682
<u>Extended Benefits</u> <sup>3</sup>	0	0	0	37
<u>State Additional Benefits</u> <sup>4</sup>	6,463	6,361	+102	4,381
<u>STC / Workshare</u> <sup>5</sup>	14,370	15,028	-658	12,712
<u>TOTAL</u>	2,106,906	2,153,629	-46,723	2,264,376

FOOTNOTES

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

1. Prior year is comparable to most recent data.
2. Most recent week used covered employment of 134,803,907 as denominator.
3. Information on the EB program can be found here: [EB Program information](#)
4. 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 4-5 of this link: [Extensions and Special Programs PDF](#)
5. Information on STC/Worksharing can be found starting on page 4-9 of the following link: [Extensions and Special Programs PDF](#)

## Advance State Claims - Not Seasonally Adjusted

STATE	Initial Claims Filed During Week Ended September 12			Insured Unemployment For Week Ended September 5		
	Advance	Prior Wk	Change	Advance	Prior Wk	Change
Alabama	2,086	2,955	-869	20,823	22,312	-1,489
Alaska	1,239	1,042	197	6,729	7,124	-395
Arizona	3,152	3,972	-820	31,385	35,587	-4,202
Arkansas	1,702	2,248	-546	18,268	19,542	-1,274
California	37,094	42,125	-5,031	328,244	348,562	-20,318
Colorado	2,074	2,575	-501	25,819	25,062	757
Connecticut	2,404	2,940	-536	35,267	40,337	-5,070
Delaware	597	604	-7	5,734	6,801	-1,067
District of Columbia	502	323	179	8,170	8,973	-803
Florida	6,974	8,569	-1,595	56,322	65,968	-9,646
Georgia	5,348	6,252	-904	34,482	35,989	-1,507
Hawaii	1,132	1,573	-441	7,469	7,596	-127
Idaho	838	1,195	-357	5,212	6,065	-853
Illinois	8,501	10,403	-1,902	103,307	108,563	-5,256
Indiana	2,922	3,199	-277	20,847	21,336	-489
Iowa	2,373	2,468	-95	16,952	16,565	387
Kansas	1,528	1,609	-81	12,688	11,751	937
Kentucky	2,392	2,449	-57	19,743	20,292	-549
Louisiana	1,780	2,417	-637	22,905	24,425	-1,520
Maine	659	650	9	4,718	5,281	-563
Maryland	2,881	3,617	-736	32,789	38,336	-5,547
Massachusetts	4,267	5,111	-844	60,983	67,435	-6,452
Michigan	4,969	5,802	-833	45,519	48,546	-3,027
Minnesota	3,456	3,223	233	31,163	30,233	930
Mississippi	1,172	1,601	-429	12,114	14,180	-2,066
Missouri	3,333	4,187	-854	25,007	28,539	-3,532
Montana	704	855	-151	4,528	5,534	-1,006
Nebraska	611	700	-89	5,190	5,215	-25
Nevada	2,505	2,928	-423	24,093	25,846	-1,753
New Hampshire	471	618	-147	4,159	4,867	-708
New Jersey	6,324	8,007	-1,683	101,962	111,339	-9,377
New Mexico	826	993	-167	10,816	11,693	-877
New York	14,279	16,954	-2,675	161,700	169,061	-7,361
North Carolina	3,733	3,883	-150	28,597	30,286	-1,689
North Dakota	770	354	416	5,277	2,539	2,738
Ohio	5,833	7,516	-1,683	51,068	53,203	-2,135
Oklahoma	1,773	2,001	-228	20,804	21,803	-999
Oregon	3,556	4,074	-518	27,693	29,395	-1,702
Pennsylvania	13,452	15,303	-1,851	123,098	137,998	-14,900
Puerto Rico	1,476	2,294	-818	29,674	31,146	-1,472
Rhode Island	926	938	-12	7,549	9,401	-1,852
South Carolina	2,329	2,562	-233	15,171	16,411	-1,240
South Dakota	146	178	-32	1,026	1,170	-144
Tennessee	2,312	2,926	-614	22,203	24,107	-1,904
Texas	13,656	17,045	-3,389	165,569	170,253	-4,684
Utah	951	1,245	-294	8,113	8,844	-731
Vermont	334	341	-7	3,032	3,139	-107
Virgin Islands	73	83	-10	846	908	-62
Virginia	3,287	3,182	105	27,114	24,242	2,872
Washington	6,364	7,017	-653	44,820	43,476	1,344
West Virginia	850	1,131	-281	13,449	13,116	333
Wisconsin	5,287	5,890	-603	33,475	37,310	-3,835
Wyoming	394	380	14	3,505	4,226	-721
US Total	198,597	232,507	-33,910	1,937,190	2,061,928	-124,738

Note: Advance Claims are not directly comparable to claims reported in prior weeks. Advance claims are reported by the state liable for paying the unemployment compensation, whereas previous weeks reported reflect claimants by state of residence. In addition, claims reported as "workshare equivalent" in the previous week are added to the advance claims as a proxy for the current week's "workshare equivalent" activity.

## Seasonally Adjusted US Weekly UI Claims (in thousands)

Week Ending	Change from			Insured Unemployment	Change from			IUR
	Initial Claims	Prior Week	4-Week Average		Prior Week	4-Week Average		
September 6, 2014	309	4	303.50	2,452	-48	2,492.75	1.9	
September 13, 2014	289	-20	300.00	2,460	8	2,475.75	1.9	
September 20, 2014	295	6	299.50	2,421	-39	2,458.25	1.8	
September 27, 2014	292	-3	296.25	2,404	-17	2,434.25	1.8	
October 4, 2014	289	-3	291.25	2,409	5	2,423.50	1.8	
October 11, 2014	274	-15	287.50	2,383	-26	2,404.25	1.8	
October 18, 2014	287	13	285.50	2,395	12	2,397.75	1.8	
October 25, 2014	287	0	284.25	2,365	-30	2,388.00	1.8	
November 1, 2014	283	-4	282.75	2,408	43	2,387.75	1.8	
November 8, 2014	289	6	286.50	2,352	-56	2,380.00	1.8	
November 15, 2014	292	3	287.75	2,339	-13	2,366.00	1.8	
November 22, 2014	303	11	291.75	2,383	44	2,370.50	1.8	
November 29, 2014	296	-7	295.00	2,469	86	2,385.75	1.9	
December 6, 2014	289	-7	295.00	2,388	-81	2,394.75	1.8	
December 13, 2014	289	0	294.25	2,377	-11	2,404.25	1.8	
December 20, 2014	280	-9	288.50	2,366	-11	2,400.00	1.8	
December 27, 2014	293	13	287.75	2,431	65	2,390.50	1.8	
January 3, 2015	295	2	289.25	2,415	-16	2,397.25	1.8	
January 10, 2015	304	9	293.00	2,418	3	2,407.50	1.8	
January 17, 2015	301	-3	298.25	2,376	-42	2,410.00	1.8	
January 24, 2015	267	-34	291.75	2,386	10	2,398.75	1.8	
January 31, 2015	284	17	289.00	2,346	-40	2,381.50	1.8	
February 7, 2015	302	18	288.50	2,402	56	2,377.50	1.8	
February 14, 2015	285	-17	284.50	2,369	-33	2,375.75	1.8	
February 21, 2015	308	23	294.75	2,405	36	2,380.50	1.8	
February 28, 2015	327	19	305.50	2,414	9	2,397.50	1.8	
March 7, 2015	293	-34	303.25	2,399	-15	2,396.75	1.8	
March 14, 2015	293	0	305.25	2,413	14	2,407.75	1.8	
March 21, 2015	288	-5	300.25	2,327	-86	2,388.25	1.7	
March 28, 2015	267	-21	285.25	2,308	-19	2,361.75	1.7	
April 4, 2015	282	15	282.50	2,275	-33	2,330.75	1.7	
April 11, 2015	295	13	283.00	2,327	52	2,309.25	1.7	
April 18, 2015	296	1	285.00	2,256	-71	2,291.50	1.7	
April 25, 2015	262	-34	283.75	2,229	-27	2,271.75	1.7	
May 2, 2015	265	3	279.50	2,223	-6	2,258.75	1.7	
May 9, 2015	264	-1	271.75	2,212	-11	2,230.00	1.6	
May 16, 2015	275	11	266.50	2,226	14	2,222.50	1.7	
May 23, 2015	284	9	272.00	2,204	-22	2,216.25	1.6	
May 30, 2015	277	-7	275.00	2,272	68	2,228.50	1.7	
June 6, 2015	279	2	278.75	2,225	-47	2,231.75	1.7	
June 13, 2015	268	-11	277.00	2,249	24	2,237.50	1.7	
June 20, 2015	271	3	273.75	2,265	16	2,252.75	1.7	
June 27, 2015	282	11	275.00	2,327	62	2,266.50	1.7	
July 4, 2015	296	14	279.25	2,216	-111	2,264.25	1.6	
July 11, 2015	281	-15	282.50	2,216	0	2,256.00	1.6	
July 18, 2015	255	-26	278.50	2,270	54	2,257.25	1.7	
July 25, 2015	267	12	274.75	2,258	-12	2,240.00	1.7	
August 1, 2015	269	2	268.00	2,278	20	2,255.50	1.7	
August 8, 2015	273	4	266.00	2,256	-22	2,265.50	1.7	
August 15, 2015	277	4	271.50	2,266	10	2,264.50	1.7	
August 22, 2015	270	-7	272.25	2,259	-7	2,264.75	1.7	
August 29, 2015	281	11	275.25	2,263	4	2,261.00	1.7	
September 5, 2015	275	-6	275.75	2,237	-26	2,256.25	1.7	
September 12, 2015	264	-11	272.50					

Initial Claims Filed During Week Ended September 5  
INITIAL CLAIMS

Insured Unemployment For Week Ended August 29  
INSURED UNEMPLOYMENT

STATE	CHANGE FROM					STATE	RATE (%) <sup>2</sup>	CHANGE FROM				ALL PROGRAMS EXCLUDING RAILROAD RETIREMENT
	STATE	LAST WEEK	YEAR AGO	UCFE <sup>1</sup>	UCX <sup>1</sup>			LAST WEEK	YEAR AGO	UCFE <sup>1</sup>	UCX <sup>1</sup>	
Alabama	2955	-223	-42	15	19	22312	1.2	-334	-3073	117	179	22608
Alaska	1042	51	80	4	2	7124	2.3	-63	-2175	75	46	7245
Arizona	3972	175	231	4	4	35587	1.4	-1710	-3366	141	207	35935
Arkansas	2248	-149	-37	5	7	19542	1.7	-150	-892	118	169	19829
California	42125	528	4391	163	262	348562	2.2	-6917	45	2117	3617	354296
Colorado	2575	316	484	10	46	25062	1.1	-1072	-2579	147	698	25907
Connecticut	2940	-8	333	12	15	40337	2.5	-3621	-3231	100	166	40603
Delaware	604	-5	10	0	3	6801	1.6	24	411	19	25	6845
District of Columbia	323	-24	-13	4	1	8973	1.7	-127	-1317	344	19	9336
Florida	8569	-143	-3977	35	92	65968	0.9	-1117	-24877	189	393	66550
Georgia	6252	249	-473	42	63	35989	0.9	-933	-8290	291	613	36893
Hawaii	1573	189	272	4	27	7596	1.3	321	-1133	102	158	7856
Idaho	1195	303	470	1	5	6065	1.0	-352	-1637	30	42	6137
Illinois	10403	829	647	11	29	108563	1.9	-1249	-4941	377	533	109473
Indiana	3199	-476	-591	15	15	21336	0.7	-250	-2829	111	128	21575
Iowa	2468	348	687	2	7	16565	1.1	-1357	325	63	99	16727
Kansas	1609	-245	-1151	1	9	11751	0.9	-300	-2799	63	164	11978
Kentucky	2449	-152	7	7	7	20292	1.1	-663	-2849	328	339	20959
Louisiana	2417	-25	456	4	12	24425	1.3	-928	3686	37	79	24541
Maine	650	35	-213	1	4	5281	0.9	-332	-1581	18	36	5335
Maryland	3617	263	-336	31	27	38336	1.6	-2496	-8183	364	304	39004
Massachusetts	5111	285	-268	13	40	67435	2.0	-1463	-7355	204	384	68023
Michigan	5802	588	-2778	14	25	48546	1.2	-5117	-14816	121	231	48898
Minnesota	3223	-103	76	1	7	30233	1.1	-350	-1357	67	152	30452
Mississippi	1601	-60	184	1	7	14180	1.3	-651	-3394	81	63	14324
Missouri	4187	154	-258	91	3	28539	1.1	-1214	-4742	553	133	29225
Montana	855	63	68	5	5	5534	1.3	-26	96	31	58	5623
Nebraska	700	-12	-1145	3	3	5215	0.6	-213	-1029	40	21	5276
Nevada	2928	-55	-111	5	14	25846	2.2	104	1336	64	168	26078
New Hampshire	618	57	-6	0	2	4867	0.8	-406	-1360	5	11	4883
New Jersey	8007	606	-2557	17	31	111339	2.9	-205	-11213	232	526	112097
New Mexico	993	-27	-13	3	8	11693	1.5	67	-1258	78	92	11863
New York	16954	-4012	-1205	76	70	169061	1.9	-2097	-16015	634	875	170570
North Carolina	3883	112	-608	8	36	30286	0.8	-1329	-17218	132	390	30808
North Dakota	354	53	128	0	1	2539	0.6	-189	1064	20	7	2566
Ohio	7516	-161	954	13	43	53203	1.0	-876	-3213	200	453	53856
Oklahoma	2001	5	276	6	16	21803	1.4	0	6506	89	161	22053
Oregon	4074	-633	343	43	29	29395	1.7	-293	-2020	194	283	29872
Pennsylvania	15303	372	1102	66	75	137998	2.5	3144	-1489	559	644	139201
Puerto Rico	2294	900	412	14	10	31146	3.5	502	-4347	101	251	31498
Rhode Island	938	37	35	0	4	9401	2.1	-745	9	20	49	9470
South Carolina	2562	-15	-217	4	25	16411	0.9	-694	-2169	48	131	16590
South Dakota	178	-8	-31	2	0	1170	0.3	-90	82	29	8	1207
Tennessee	2926	-420	-1040	16	24	24107	0.9	-1174	-4513	127	170	24404
Texas	17045	1120	3247	74	238	170253	1.5	-2802	28591	891	2608	173752
Utah	1245	87	152	27	5	8844	0.7	-226	-981	318	62	9224
Vermont	341	-6	-72	2	2	3139	1.1	-637	-139	13	9	3161
Virgin Islands	83	22	41	0	1	908	2.4	116	126	10	10	928
Virginia	3182	96	-630	18	43	24242	0.7	-2964	-7523	192	641	25075
Washington	7017	1256	405	32	93	43476	1.5	-446	-4860	272	1019	44767
West Virginia	1131	-56	176	4	2	13116	1.9	-678	1339	82	81	13279
Wisconsin	5890	313	-261	9	12	37310	1.4	-1594	-9479	100	76	37486
Wyoming	380	34	118	0	2	4226	1.5	2	1658	15	38	4279
Totals	232507	2428	-2248	938	1532	2061928	1.5	-46170	-150968	10673	17819	2090420

Figures Appearing In columns showing Over-The-Week Changes reflect all revisions in data for prior week submitted by State agencies.

1. The Unemployment Compensation program for Federal Employees (UCFE) and the Unemployment Compensation for Ex-servicemembers (UCX) exclude claims filed jointly under other programs to avoid duplication.
2. Rate is not seasonally adjusted. The source of US total covered employment is BLS.

**UNADJUSTED INITIAL CLAIMS FOR WEEK ENDED SEPTEMBER 5, 2015**

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STATES WITH AN INCREASE OF MORE THAN 1,000

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<b>State</b>	<b>Change</b>	<b>State Supplied Comment</b>
WA	+1,256	Layoffs in the construction, manufacturing, information, and finance and insurance industries.
TX	+1,120	Layoffs in the manufacturing, administrative and support and waste management and remediation service, educational service, health and social service, and retail trade industries.

STATES WITH A DECREASE OF MORE THAN 1,000

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<b>State</b>	<b>Change</b>	<b>State Supplied Comment</b>
NY	-4,012	Layoffs in the transportation and warehousing, educational service, and accommodation and food service industries.

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## TECHNICAL NOTES

This news release presents the weekly unemployment insurance (UI) claims reported by each state's unemployment insurance program offices. These claims may be used for monitoring workload volume, assessing state program operations and for assessing labor market conditions. States initially report claims directly taken by the state liable for the benefit payments, regardless of where the claimant who filed the claim resided. These are the basis for the advance initial claims and continued claims reported each week. These data come from ETA 538, Advance Weekly Initial and Continued Claims Report. The following week initial claims and continued claims are revised based on a second reporting by states that reflect the claimants by state of residence. These data come from the ETA 539, Weekly Claims and Extended Benefits Trigger Data Report.

### A. Initial Claims

An initial claim is a claim filed by an unemployed individual after a separation from an employer. The claimant requests a determination of basic eligibility for the UI program. When an initial claim is filed with a state, certain programmatic activities take place and these result in activity counts including the count of initial claims. The count of U.S. initial claims for unemployment insurance is a leading economic indicator because it is an indication of emerging labor market conditions in the country. However, these are weekly administrative data which are difficult to seasonally adjust, making the series subject to some volatility.

### B. Continued Weeks Claimed

A person who has already filed an initial claim and who has experienced a week of unemployment then files a continued claim to claim benefits for that week of unemployment. Continued claims are also referred to as insured unemployment. The count of U.S. continued weeks claimed is also a good indicator of labor market conditions. Continued claims reflect the current number of insured unemployed workers filing for UI benefits in the nation. While continued claims are not a leading indicator (they roughly coincide with economic cycles at their peaks and lag at cycle troughs), they provide confirming evidence of the direction of the U.S. economy.

### C. Seasonal Adjustments and Annual Revisions

Over the course of a year, the weekly changes in the levels of initial claims and continued claims undergo regularly occurring fluctuations. These fluctuations may result from seasonal changes in weather, major holidays, the opening and closing of schools, or other similar events. Because these seasonal events follow a more or less regular pattern each year, their influence on the level of a series can be tempered by adjusting for regular seasonal variation. These adjustments make trend and cycle developments easier to spot. At the beginning of each calendar year, the Bureau of Labor Statistics provides the Employment and Training Administration (ETA) with a set of seasonal factors to apply to the unadjusted data during that year. Concurrent with the implementation and release of the new seasonal factors, ETA incorporates revisions to the UI claims historical series caused by updates to the unadjusted data.

[Weekly Claims Archives](#)

[Weekly Claims Data](#)

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