



News Release

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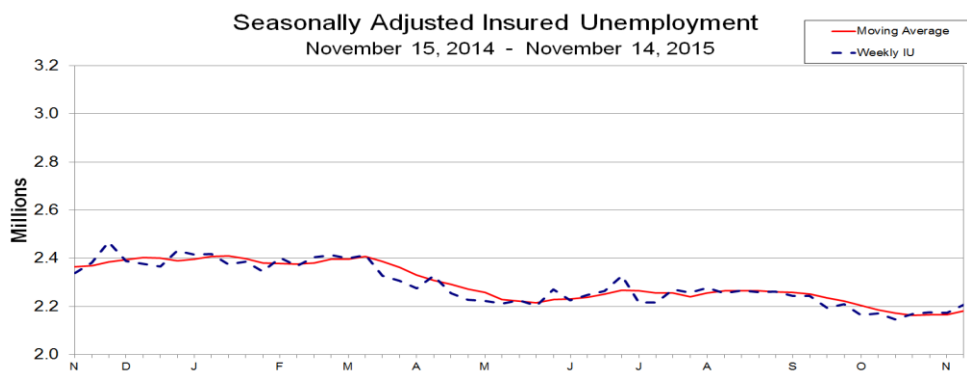
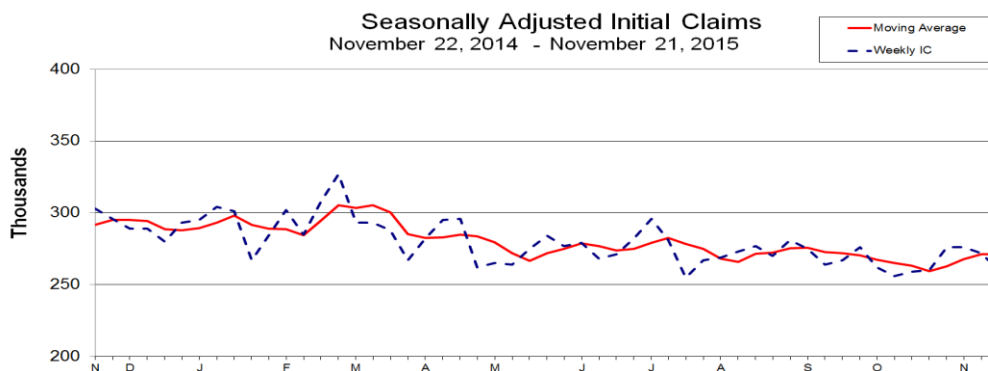
UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE WEEKLY CLAIMS

SEASONALLY ADJUSTED DATA

In the week ending November 21, the advance figure for seasonally adjusted **initial claims** was 260,000, a decrease of 12,000 from the previous week's revised level. The previous week's level was revised up by 1,000 from 271,000 to 272,000. The 4-week moving average was 271,000, unchanged from the previous week's revised average. The previous week's average was revised up by 250 from 270,750 to 271,000.

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

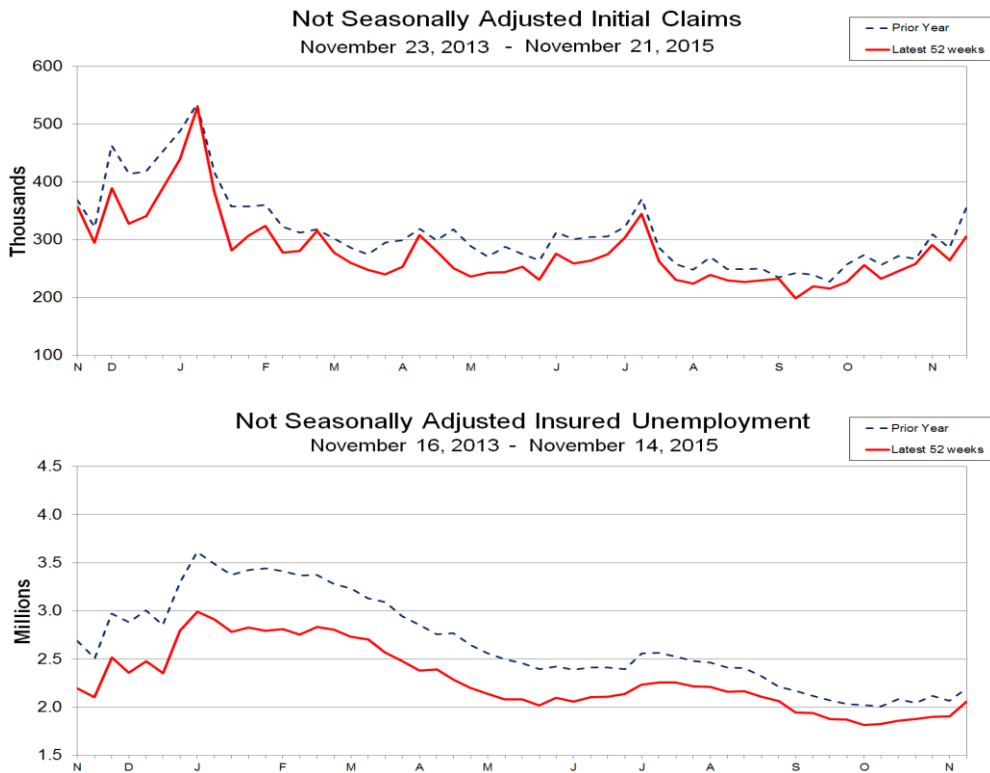
The advance seasonally adjusted **insured unemployment rate** was 1.6 percent for the week ending November 14, unchanged from the previous week's unrevised rate. The advance number for seasonally adjusted **insured unemployment** during the week ending November 14 was 2,207,000, an increase of 34,000 from the previous week's revised level. The previous week's level was revised down by 2,000 from 2,175,000 to 2,173,000. The 4-week moving average was 2,181,750, an increase of 15,250 from the previous week's revised average. The previous week's average was revised down by 500 from 2,167,000 to 2,166,500.



UNADJUSTED DATA

The advance number of actual initial claims under state programs, unadjusted, totaled 305,757 in the week ending November 21, an increase of 40,941 (or 15.5 percent) from the previous week. The seasonal factors had expected an increase of 54,977 (or 20.8 percent) from the previous week. There were 357,202 initial claims in the comparable week in 2014.

The advance unadjusted insured unemployment rate was 1.5 percent during the week ending November 14, an increase of 0.1 percentage point from the prior week. The advance unadjusted number for persons claiming UI benefits in state programs totaled 2,054,774, an increase of 148,815 (or 7.8 percent) from the preceding week. The seasonal factors had expected an increase of 117,357 (or 6.2 percent) from the previous week. A year earlier the rate was 1.7 percent and the volume was 2,193,628.



The total number of people claiming benefits in all programs for the week ending November 7 was 1,955,068, an increase of 4,202 from the previous week. There were 2,120,705 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 November 7.

Initial claims for UI benefits filed by former Federal civilian employees totaled 1,257 in the week ending November 14, a decrease of 511 from the prior week. There were 1,092 initial claims filed by newly discharged veterans, a decrease of 359 from the preceding week.

There were 13,146 former Federal civilian employees claiming UI benefits for the week ending November 7, a decrease of 1,390 from the previous week. Newly discharged veterans claiming benefits totaled 17,037, a decrease of 235 from the prior week.

The highest insured unemployment rates in the week ending November 7 were in Alaska (3.6), Puerto Rico (3.1), New Jersey (2.4), the Virgin Islands (2.4), Pennsylvania (2.1), California (2.0), Connecticut (2.0), Nevada (2.0), West Virginia (2.0), and Illinois (1.8).

The largest increases in initial claims for the week ending November 14 were in Louisiana (+1,389), Idaho (+401), Minnesota (+107), North Dakota (+71), and Rhode Island (+37), while the largest decreases were in Texas (-3,120), Kansas (-2,034), New Jersey (-2,013), California (-1,824), and Tennessee (-1,710).

UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE DATA FOR REGULAR STATE PROGRAMS

WEEK ENDING	November 21	November 14	Change	November 7	<u>Prior Year</u>¹
Initial Claims (SA)	260,000	272,000	-12,000	276,000	303,000
Initial Claims (NSA)	305,757	264,816	+40,941	291,097	357,202
4-Wk Moving Average (SA)	271,000	271,000	0	267,750	291,750
WEEK ENDING	November 14	November 7	Change	October 31	<u>Prior Year</u>¹
Insured Unemployment (SA)	2,207,000	2,173,000	+34,000	2,177,000	2,339,000
Insured Unemployment (NSA)	2,054,774	1,905,959	+148,815	1,900,497	2,193,628
4-Wk Moving Average (SA)	2,181,750	2,166,500	+15,250	2,166,250	2,366,000
<u>Insured Unemployment Rate (SA)</u> ²	1.6%	1.6%	0.0	1.6%	1.8%
<u>Insured Unemployment Rate (NSA)</u> ²	1.5%	1.4%	+0.1	1.4%	1.7%

INITIAL CLAIMS FILED IN FEDERAL PROGRAMS (UNADJUSTED)

WEEK ENDING	November 14	November 7	Change	<u>Prior Year</u>¹
Federal Employees (UCFE)	1,257	1,768	-511	1,420
Newly Discharged Veterans (UCX)	1,092	1,451	-359	1,473

PERSONS CLAIMING UI BENEFITS IN ALL PROGRAMS (UNADJUSTED)

WEEK ENDING	November 7	October 31	Change	<u>Prior Year</u>¹
Regular State	1,900,036	1,895,618	+4,418	2,064,655
Federal Employees	13,146	14,536	-1,390	15,580
Newly Discharged Veterans	17,037	17,272	-235	25,138
<u>Extended Benefits</u> ³	0	0	0	5
<u>State Additional Benefits</u> ⁴	7,215	7,256	-41	5,206
<u>STC / Workshare</u> ⁵	17,634	16,184	+1,450	10,121
<u>TOTAL</u>	1,955,068	1,950,866	+4,202	2,120,705

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 135,574,808 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 November 21			Insured Unemployment For Week Ended November 14		
	Advance	Prior Wk	Change	Advance	Prior Wk	Change
Alabama	2,721	2,830	-109	20,390	21,252	-862
Alaska	2,135	1,684	451	12,354	11,343	1,011
Arizona	3,737	3,674	63	25,287	28,069	-2,782
Arkansas	3,340	2,791	549	19,010	18,602	408
California	54,213	45,851	8,362	356,790	316,408	40,382
Colorado	3,891	2,893	998	28,862	25,938	2,924
Connecticut	3,447	2,426	1,021	35,032	32,265	2,767
Delaware	666	777	-111	6,199	5,689	510
District of Columbia	584	323	261	7,814	8,217	-403
Florida	7,826	7,670	156	49,075	52,238	-3,163
Georgia	7,245	7,362	-117	33,170	34,957	-1,787
Hawaii	1,151	968	183	6,698	6,399	299
Idaho	2,072	1,992	80	6,374	7,048	-674
Illinois	14,687	10,971	3,716	107,796	104,758	3,038
Indiana	4,573	3,808	765	21,217	20,537	680
Iowa	5,435	2,818	2,617	18,134	17,114	1,020
Kansas	2,873	1,811	1,062	14,013	11,275	2,738
Kentucky	3,560	2,806	754	19,584	19,599	-15
* Louisiana	2,098	3,196	-1,098	20,575	19,595	980
Maine	1,259	1,184	75	6,218	5,749	469
Maryland	3,915	3,762	153	33,734	36,412	-2,678
Massachusetts	6,605	6,634	-29	60,295	59,358	937
Michigan	10,226	8,830	1,396	53,124	50,419	2,705
Minnesota	8,984	5,924	3,060	42,175	34,486	7,689
Mississippi	1,722	1,798	-76	11,221	12,064	-843
Missouri	4,759	4,187	572	25,947	27,137	-1,190
Montana	2,092	1,715	377	8,465	7,753	712
Nebraska	1,308	931	377	5,213	4,912	301
Nevada	3,361	3,077	284	23,180	24,112	-932
New Hampshire	678	649	29	4,154	4,349	-195
New Jersey	10,400	9,632	768	96,736	92,487	4,249
New Mexico	1,415	1,133	282	12,266	11,998	268
New York	19,912	18,347	1,565	150,333	143,253	7,080
North Carolina	4,859	4,557	302	26,191	26,557	-366
North Dakota	1,586	653	933	5,845	2,776	3,069
Ohio	9,701	9,316	385	108,239	53,889	54,350
Oklahoma	3,022	1,659	1,363	20,759	21,969	-1,210
Oregon	5,845	4,612	1,233	31,115	29,521	1,594
Pennsylvania	20,510	19,471	1,039	125,151	117,013	8,138
Puerto Rico	1,284	1,510	-226	26,147	27,969	-1,822
Rhode Island	858	1,090	-232	7,726	7,326	400
South Carolina	3,626	3,541	85	16,470	16,974	-504
South Dakota	509	364	145	1,369	1,285	84
Tennessee	3,266	3,234	32	21,329	22,208	-879
Texas	18,376	16,301	2,075	170,421	160,704	9,717
Utah	1,885	1,675	210	9,470	9,676	-206
Vermont	775	666	109	4,155	3,556	599
Virgin Islands	25	23	2	794	876	-82
Virginia	4,102	3,420	682	26,946	25,320	1,626
Washington	10,669	8,680	1,989	54,463	49,904	4,559
West Virginia	1,678	1,608	70	15,644	13,726	1,918
Wisconsin	9,378	7,370	2,008	35,914	34,061	1,853
Wyoming	913	612	301	5,191	4,857	334
US Total	305,757	264,816	40,941	2,054,774	1,905,959	148,815

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.

* Denotes state estimate.

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		
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	2,243	-20	2,257.75	1.7	
September 12, 2015	264	-11	272.50	2,244	1	2,252.25	1.7	
September 19, 2015	267	3	271.75	2,195	-49	2,236.25	1.6	
September 26, 2015	276	9	270.50	2,209	14	2,222.75	1.6	
October 3, 2015	262	-14	267.25	2,165	-44	2,203.25	1.6	
October 10, 2015	256	-6	265.25	2,172	7	2,185.25	1.6	
October 17, 2015	259	3	263.25	2,146	-26	2,173.00	1.6	
October 24, 2015	260	1	259.25	2,170	24	2,163.25	1.6	
October 31, 2015	276	16	262.75	2,177	7	2,166.25	1.6	
November 7, 2015	276	0	267.75	2,173	-4	2,166.50	1.6	
November 14, 2015	272	-4	271.00	2,207	34	2,181.75	1.6	
November 21, 2015	260	-12	271.00					

Initial Claims Filed During Week Ended November 14
INITIAL CLAIMS

Insured Unemployment For Week Ended November 7
INSURED UNEMPLOYMENT

STATE	STATE	CHANGE FROM				STATE	STATE	CHANGE FROM				ALL PROGRAMS EXCLUDING RAILROAD RETIREMENT
		LAST WEEK	YEAR AGO	UCFE ¹	UCX ¹			LAST WEEK	YEAR AGO	UCFE ¹	UCX ¹	
Alabama	2830	-972	-255	11	20	21252	1.2	-196	-2634	96	181	21529
Alaska	1684	-221	-20	8	1	11343	3.6	564	92	182	51	11576
Arizona	3674	-561	-273	20	14	28069	1.1	-1075	-3049	217	186	28472
Arkansas	2791	-201	-618	5	3	18602	1.6	-933	-2050	110	150	18862
California	45851	-1824	5413	354	147	316408	2.0	-15553	-34912	2526	3176	322110
Colorado	2893	-275	-1394	36	49	25938	1.1	-965	-1216	240	616	26794
Connecticut	2426	-919	-963	2	6	32265	2.0	-701	-5615	78	157	32500
Delaware	777	-47	18	3	3	5689	1.4	215	-746	19	29	5737
District of Columbia	323	-41	-40	4	1	8217	1.5	-91	-1013	316	17	8550
Florida	7670	-1013	-3697	23	81	52238	0.7	-3503	-23657	227	414	52879
Georgia	7362	-1551	443	26	42	34957	0.9	-354	-5220	409	544	35910
Hawaii	968	-117	-364	7	14	6399	1.1	37	-2017	93	168	6660
Idaho	1992	401	-353	26	2	7048	1.1	348	-1481	112	47	7207
Illinois	10971	-1381	-2846	7	14	104758	1.8	3991	-179	365	470	105593
Indiana	3808	-60	-962	8	13	20537	0.7	577	-4066	142	119	20798
Iowa	2818	-185	-894	3	2	17114	1.1	179	987	59	101	17274
Kansas	1811	-2034	-939	2	2	11275	0.8	-549	-2448	85	119	11479
Kentucky	2806	-190	-558	20	14	19599	1.1	1059	-1622	251	308	20158
Louisiana	3196	1389	819	2	1	19595	1.0	-2833	344	30	54	19679
Maine	1184	-156	-389	2	2	5749	1.0	494	-2303	36	34	5819
Maryland	3762	-604	-357	21	14	36412	1.5	303	-9031	406	259	37077
Massachusetts	6634	-396	45	20	14	59358	1.8	2077	-9282	304	321	59983
Michigan	8830	-1271	-1503	29	27	50419	1.2	1543	-9803	173	253	50845
Minnesota	5924	107	-2408	13	7	34486	1.3	2743	-457	111	181	34778
Mississippi	1798	-297	-267	4	3	12064	1.1	-208	-1522	66	73	12203
Missouri	4187	-357	-1734	25	18	27137	1.0	505	-5543	673	135	27945
Montana	1715	-300	-1596	68	3	7753	1.8	706	416	193	48	7994
Nebraska	931	15	-816	2	3	4912	0.5	216	-1052	34	23	4969
Nevada	3077	-235	-888	21	5	24112	2.0	470	-2026	141	162	24415
New Hampshire	649	-7	-113	0	2	4349	0.7	98	-1342	4	12	4365
New Jersey	9632	-2013	-213	12	20	92487	2.4	4002	-13887	244	533	93264
New Mexico	1133	-341	-87	16	6	11998	1.6	221	-619	226	88	12312
New York	18347	-49	-1937	42	47	143253	1.6	3121	-21051	589	823	144665
North Carolina	4557	-75	-175	13	43	26557	0.7	415	-12073	143	414	27114
North Dakota	653	71	-171	1	1	2776	0.6	184	1219	16	5	2797
Ohio	9316	-119	925	16	33	53889	1.1	2886	-2179	241	431	54561
Oklahoma	1659	-1683	243	6	14	21969	1.4	919	7337	75	174	22218
Oregon	4612	-887	-370	80	25	29521	1.7	744	-4299	423	325	30269
Pennsylvania	19471	14	1461	72	61	117013	2.1	2372	-1662	832	641	118486
Puerto Rico	1510	-365	196	2	5	27969	3.1	940	-569	136	217	28322
Rhode Island	1090	37	-19	4	1	7326	1.6	311	-863	19	40	7385
South Carolina	3541	-824	227	4	13	16974	0.9	350	-691	55	146	17175
South Dakota	364	-50	-407	9	4	1285	0.3	158	-87	21	4	1310
Tennessee	3234	-1710	-360	15	15	22208	0.8	-989	-3367	226	193	22627
Texas	16301	-3120	966	30	145	160704	1.4	-243	37548	898	2636	164238
Utah	1675	-79	-51	46	7	9676	0.8	497	-370	252	52	9980
Vermont	666	-38	-126	4	0	3556	1.2	287	-864	18	4	3578
Virgin Islands	23	-16	-20	0	0	876	2.4	-122	8	4	26	906
Virginia	3420	-143	-597	19	33	25320	0.7	-122	-5223	323	658	26301
Washington	8680	-769	-676	70	74	49904	1.7	93	-2414	436	1018	51358
West Virginia	1608	-130	185	1	3	13726	2.0	131	1602	90	81	13897
Wisconsin	7370	-575	-2411	10	13	34061	1.2	86	-8010	115	90	34266
Wyoming	612	-114	-373	13	2	4857	1.7	57	1583	66	30	4953
Totals	264816	-26281	-21299	1257	1092	1905959	1.4	5462	-161378	13146	17037	1936142

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 NOVEMBER 14, 2015

STATES WITH AN INCREASE OF MORE THAN 1,000

State	Change	State Supplied Comment
LA	+1,389	No comment.

STATES WITH A DECREASE OF MORE THAN 1,000

State	Change	State Supplied Comment
TX	-3,120	No comment.
KS	-2,034	No comment.
NJ	-2,013	Fewer layoffs in the educational service, transportation and warehousing, accommodation and food service, and public administration industries.
CA	-1,824	No comment.
TN	-1,710	No comment.
OK	-1,683	No comment.
GA	-1,551	Fewer layoffs in the manufacturing and trade industries.
IL	-1,381	No comment.
MI	-1,271	No comment.
FL	-1,013	Fewer layoffs in the manufacturing, wholesale trade, retail trade, and service industries.

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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