



News Release

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8:30 A.M. (Eastern) Thursday, July 28, 2016

UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE WEEKLY CLAIMS

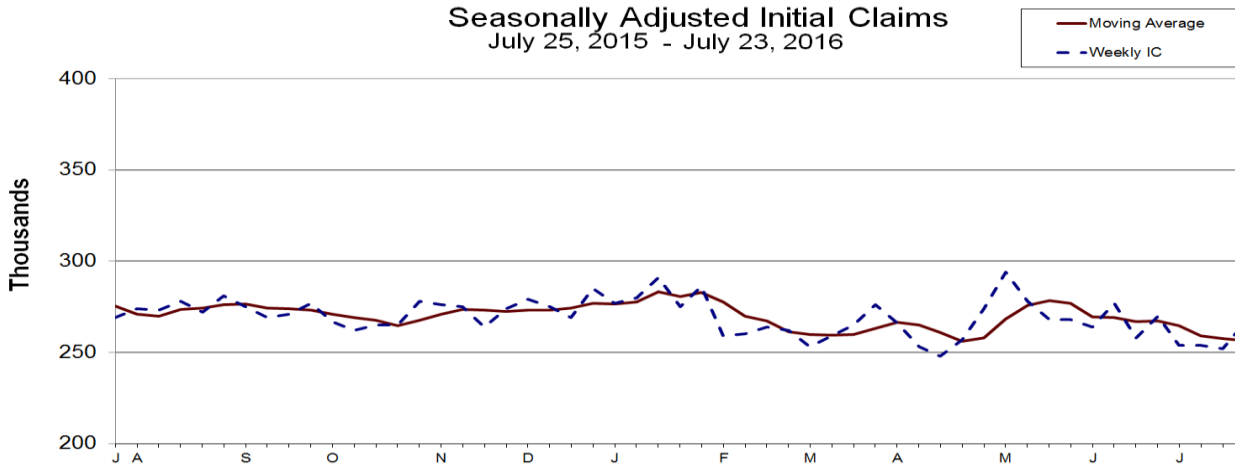
SEASONALLY ADJUSTED DATA

In the week ending July 23, the advance figure for seasonally adjusted **initial claims** was 266,000, an increase of 14,000 from the previous week's revised level. The previous week's level was revised down by 1,000 from 253,000 to 252,000. The 4-week moving average was 256,500, a decrease of 1,000 from the previous week's revised average. The previous week's average was revised down by 250 from 257,750 to 257,500.

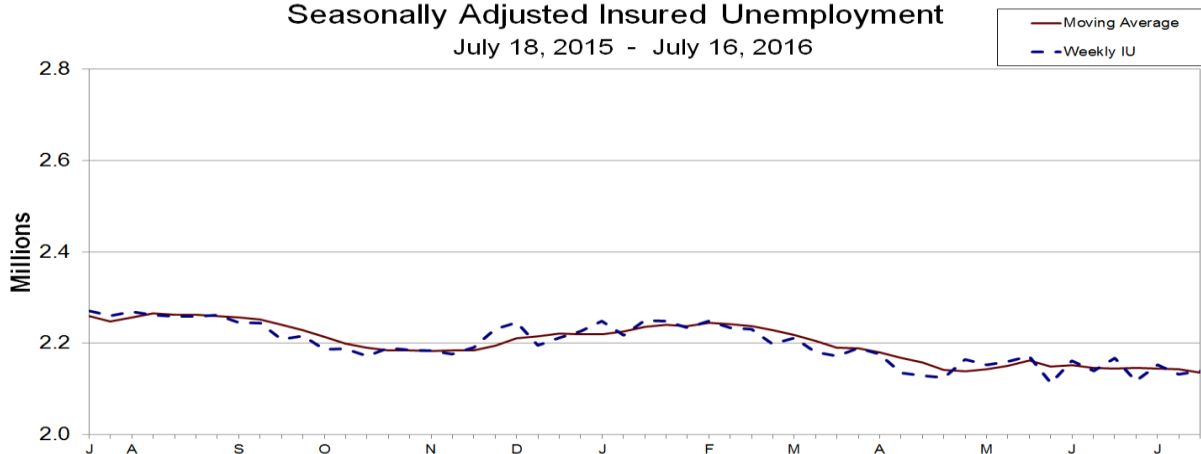
There were no special factors impacting this week's initial claims. This marks 73 consecutive weeks of initial claims below 300,000, the longest streak since 1973.

The advance seasonally adjusted **insured unemployment rate** was 1.6 percent for the week ending July 16, an increase of 0.1 percentage point from the previous week's unrevised rate. The advance number for seasonally adjusted **insured unemployment** during the week ending July 16 was 2,139,000, an increase of 7,000 from the previous week's revised level. The previous week's level was revised up 4,000 from 2,128,000 to 2,132,000. The 4-week moving average was 2,135,250, a decrease of 7,000 from the previous week's revised average. This is the lowest level for this average since November 11, 2000 when it was 2,119,750. The previous week's average was revised up by 1,000 from 2,141,250 to 2,142,250.

Seasonally Adjusted Initial Claims
July 25, 2015 - July 23, 2016



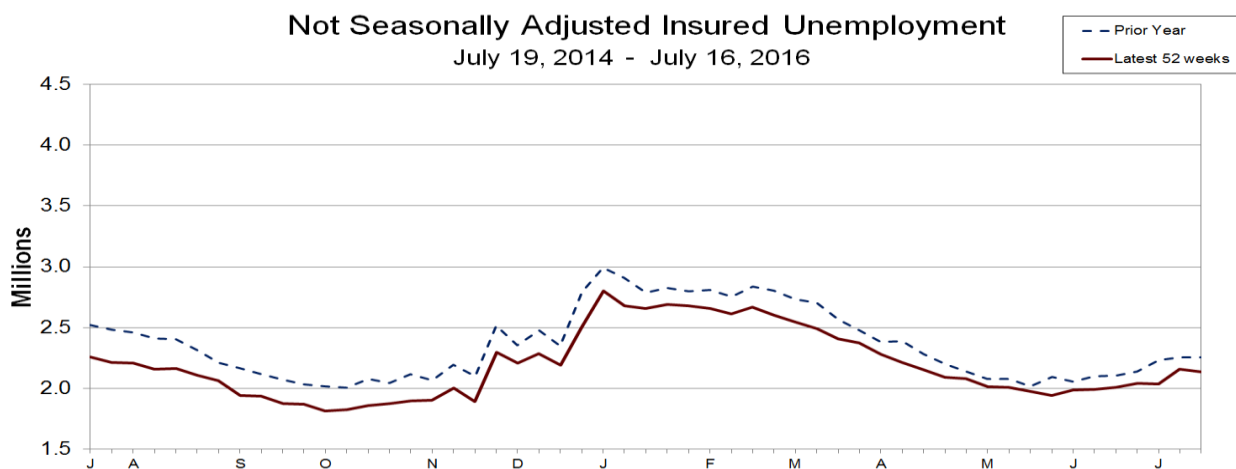
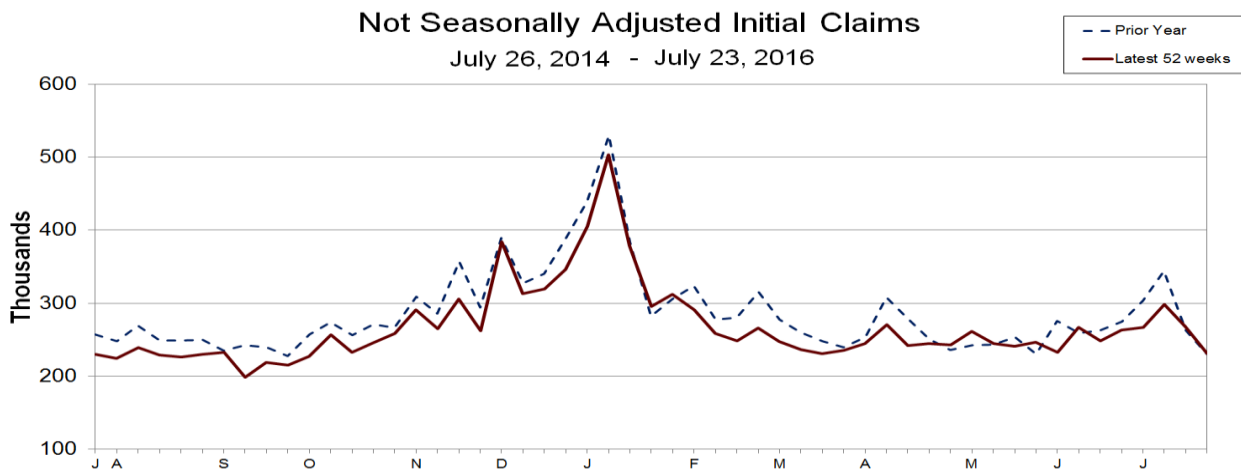
Seasonally Adjusted Insured Unemployment
July 18, 2015 - July 16, 2016



UNADJUSTED DATA

The advance number of actual initial claims under state programs, unadjusted, totaled 231,325 in the week ending July 23, a decrease of 36,971 (or -13.8 percent) from the previous week. The seasonal factors had expected a decrease of 49,079 (or -18.3 percent) from the previous week. There were 230,314 initial claims in the comparable week in 2015.

The advance unadjusted insured unemployment rate was 1.6 percent during the week ending July 16, unchanged from the prior week. The advance unadjusted number for persons claiming UI benefits in state programs totaled 2,137,129, a decrease of 22,544 (or -1.0 percent) from the preceding week. The seasonal factors had expected a decrease of 29,847 (or -1.4 percent) from the previous week. A year earlier the rate was 1.7 percent and the volume was 2,258,311.



The total number of people claiming benefits in all programs for the week ending July 9 was 2,197,860, an increase of 124,201 from the previous week. There were 2,300,027 persons claiming benefits in all programs in the comparable week in 2015.

No state was triggered "on" the Extended Benefits program during the week ending July 9.

Initial claims for UI benefits filed by former Federal civilian employees totaled 948 in the week ending July 16, an increase of 84 from the prior week. There were 1,094 initial claims filed by newly discharged veterans, an increase of 133 from the preceding week.

There were 7,688 former Federal civilian employees claiming UI benefits for the week ending July 9, an increase of 685 from the previous week. Newly discharged veterans claiming benefits totaled 13,323, an increase of 659 from the prior week.

The highest insured unemployment rates in the week ending July 9 were in Puerto Rico (3.3), Alaska (2.8), New Jersey (2.8), Connecticut (2.7), Pennsylvania (2.5), West Virginia (2.5), Rhode Island (2.3), Wyoming (2.3), California (2.2), and Illinois (2.0).

The largest increases in initial claims for the week ending July 16 were in California (+4,941), Georgia (+4,554), Alabama (+2,851), Oregon (+2,722), and Texas (+1,408), while the largest decreases were in New York (-12,012), Michigan (-9,419), Missouri (-4,432), Pennsylvania (-3,647), and Ohio (-2,550).

UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE DATA FOR REGULAR STATE PROGRAMS

WEEK ENDING	July 23	July 16	Change	July 9	<u>Prior Year</u>¹
Initial Claims (SA)	266,000	252,000	+14,000	254,000	269,000
Initial Claims (NSA)	231,325	268,296	-36,971	298,673	230,314
4-Wk Moving Average (SA)	256,500	257,500	-1,000	259,000	275,250
WEEK ENDING	July 16	July 9	Change	July 2	<u>Prior Year</u>¹
Insured Unemployment (SA)	2,139,000	2,132,000	+7,000	2,153,000	2,270,000
Insured Unemployment (NSA)	2,137,129	2,159,673	-22,544	2,037,038	2,258,311
4-Wk Moving Average (SA)	2,135,250	2,142,250	-7,000	2,144,000	2,259,000
<u>Insured Unemployment Rate (SA)</u> ²	1.6%	1.5%	+0.1	1.6%	1.7%
<u>Insured Unemployment Rate (NSA)</u> ²	1.6%	1.6%	0.0	1.5%	1.7%

INITIAL CLAIMS FILED IN FEDERAL PROGRAMS (UNADJUSTED)

WEEK ENDING	July 16	July 9	Change	<u>Prior Year</u>¹
Federal Employees (UCFE)	948	864	+84	1,008
Newly Discharged Veterans (UCX)	1,094	961	+133	1,354

PERSONS CLAIMING UI BENEFITS IN ALL PROGRAMS (UNADJUSTED)

WEEK ENDING	July 9	July 2	Change	<u>Prior Year</u>¹
Regular State	2,154,750	2,032,058	+122,692	2,248,897
Federal Employees	7,688	7,003	+685	10,284
Newly Discharged Veterans	13,323	12,664	+659	18,495
<u>Extended Benefits</u> ³	0	0	0	0
<u>State Additional Benefits</u> ⁴	6,819	6,421	+398	6,315
<u>STC / Workshare</u> ⁵	15,280	15,513	-233	16,036
<u>TOTAL</u>	2,197,860	2,073,659	+124,201	2,300,027

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 137,652,280 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 July 23			Insured Unemployment For Week Ended July 16		
	Advance	Prior Wk	Change	Advance	Prior Wk	Change
Alabama	3,618	6,402	-2,784	23,393	27,635	-4,242
Alaska	978	979	-1	7,953	8,902	-949
Arizona	4,651	5,408	-757	34,633	37,909	-3,276
Arkansas	1,835	2,207	-372	16,810	18,645	-1,835
California	42,981	44,078	-1,097	358,375	358,938	-563
Colorado	1,912	2,199	-287	27,759	26,362	1,397
Connecticut	3,394	3,788	-394	44,995	44,355	640
Delaware	461	982	-521	6,796	6,388	408
District of Columbia	629	427	202	8,209	8,673	-464
Florida	8,168	9,365	-1,197	51,964	54,844	-2,880
Georgia	7,021	11,900	-4,879	32,211	39,826	-7,615
**Hawaii	1,257	1,244	13	7,729	7,746	-17
Idaho	765	965	-200	5,773	6,733	-960
Illinois	10,375	9,850	525	118,368	114,246	4,122
Indiana	2,898	3,522	-624	22,194	22,334	-140
Iowa	2,916	2,886	30	19,988	19,037	951
Kansas	2,292	2,567	-275	15,287	14,396	891
Kentucky	3,006	5,231	-2,225	23,184	23,264	-80
Louisiana	2,567	3,062	-495	27,851	27,611	240
Maine	738	850	-112	5,040	5,766	-726
Maryland	3,175	3,906	-731	35,033	38,508	-3,475
Massachusetts	4,852	5,194	-342	66,739	67,631	-892
Michigan	10,541	8,104	2,437	65,679	51,890	13,789
Minnesota	2,817	3,877	-1,060	34,780	35,323	-543
Mississippi	1,299	1,864	-565	15,514	17,785	-2,271
Missouri	4,011	5,997	-1,986	30,196	30,019	177
Montana	595	741	-146	5,702	6,385	-683
Nebraska	687	765	-78	5,093	5,420	-327
Nevada	2,823	2,510	313	21,653	23,562	-1,909
New Hampshire	510	602	-92	4,649	5,187	-538
New Jersey	8,348	9,493	-1,145	106,979	107,046	-67
New Mexico	952	1,134	-182	13,492	13,842	-350
New York	14,271	21,300	-7,029	160,801	167,393	-6,592
North Carolina	3,840	3,806	34	26,614	28,168	-1,554
North Dakota	482	479	3	6,111	4,713	1,398
Ohio	7,734	7,289	445	59,773	61,371	-1,598
Oklahoma	1,757	1,924	-167	23,876	24,662	-786
Oregon	3,785	6,515	-2,730	28,039	30,309	-2,270
Pennsylvania	14,067	16,071	-2,004	147,345	139,465	7,880
*Puerto Rico	1,900	2,597	-697	22,708	29,169	-6,461
Rhode Island	846	1,151	-305	10,119	10,405	-286
South Carolina	3,061	4,619	-1,558	17,653	20,065	-2,412
South Dakota	184	249	-65	1,448	1,679	-231
Tennessee	2,766	3,456	-690	22,831	24,017	-1,186
Texas	15,880	17,483	-1,603	198,419	192,200	6,219
Utah	1,126	1,151	-25	9,205	9,388	-183
Vermont	624	427	197	4,128	4,119	9
Virgin Islands	24	41	-17	608	684	-76
Virginia	3,152	3,316	-164	30,538	29,952	586
Washington	6,208	6,322	-114	44,963	44,793	170
West Virginia	1,342	1,458	-116	16,857	16,704	153
Wisconsin	4,799	6,185	-1,386	35,483	37,909	-2,426
Wyoming	405	358	47	5,589	6,300	-711
US Total	231,325	268,296	-36,971	2,137,129	2,159,673	-22,544

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 staff estimate.

**Denotes OUI staff estimate.

Seasonally Adjusted US Weekly UI Claims (in thousands)

Week Ending	Initial Claims	Change from		Insured Unemployment	Change from		IUR
		Prior Week	4-Week Average		Prior Week	4-Week Average	
July 18, 2015	263	-15	278.00	2,270	41	2,259.00	1.7
July 25, 2015	269	6	275.25	2,260	-10	2,248.00	1.7
August 1, 2015	274	5	271.00	2,269	9	2,257.00	1.7
August 8, 2015	273	-1	269.75	2,261	-8	2,265.00	1.7
August 15, 2015	278	5	273.50	2,259	-2	2,262.25	1.7
August 22, 2015	272	-6	274.25	2,259	0	2,262.00	1.7
August 29, 2015	281	9	276.00	2,261	2	2,260.00	1.7
September 5, 2015	275	-6	276.50	2,246	-15	2,256.25	1.7
September 12, 2015	269	-6	274.25	2,244	-2	2,252.50	1.7
September 19, 2015	271	2	274.00	2,208	-36	2,239.75	1.6
September 26, 2015	277	6	273.00	2,216	8	2,228.50	1.6
October 3, 2015	267	-10	271.00	2,186	-30	2,213.50	1.6
October 10, 2015	262	-5	269.25	2,188	2	2,199.50	1.6
October 17, 2015	265	3	267.75	2,171	-17	2,190.25	1.6
October 24, 2015	265	0	264.75	2,190	19	2,183.75	1.6
October 31, 2015	278	13	267.50	2,185	-5	2,183.50	1.6
November 7, 2015	276	-2	271.00	2,183	-2	2,182.25	1.6
November 14, 2015	275	-1	273.50	2,176	-7	2,183.50	1.6
November 21, 2015	264	-11	273.25	2,191	15	2,183.75	1.6
November 28, 2015	274	10	272.25	2,230	39	2,195.00	1.6
December 5, 2015	279	5	273.00	2,245	15	2,210.50	1.7
December 12, 2015	275	-4	273.00	2,195	-50	2,215.25	1.6
December 19, 2015	269	-6	274.25	2,212	17	2,220.50	1.6
December 26, 2015	285	16	277.00	2,226	14	2,219.50	1.6
January 2, 2016	277	-8	276.50	2,248	22	2,220.25	1.6
January 9, 2016	280	3	277.75	2,217	-31	2,225.75	1.6
January 16, 2016	291	11	283.25	2,250	33	2,235.25	1.7
January 23, 2016	275	-16	280.75	2,248	-2	2,240.75	1.6
January 30, 2016	286	11	283.00	2,234	-14	2,237.25	1.6
February 6, 2016	259	-27	277.75	2,249	15	2,245.25	1.7
February 13, 2016	260	1	270.00	2,233	-16	2,241.00	1.6
February 20, 2016	264	4	267.25	2,231	-2	2,236.75	1.6
February 27, 2016	262	-2	261.25	2,198	-33	2,227.75	1.6
March 5, 2016	253	-9	259.75	2,212	14	2,218.50	1.6
March 12, 2016	259	6	259.50	2,180	-32	2,205.25	1.6
March 19, 2016	265	6	259.75	2,172	-8	2,190.50	1.6
March 26, 2016	276	11	263.25	2,189	17	2,188.25	1.6
April 2, 2016	266	-10	266.50	2,176	-13	2,179.25	1.6
April 9, 2016	253	-13	265.00	2,135	-41	2,168.00	1.6
April 16, 2016	248	-5	260.75	2,129	-6	2,157.25	1.6
April 23, 2016	257	9	256.00	2,124	-5	2,141.00	1.6
April 30, 2016	274	17	258.00	2,165	41	2,138.25	1.6
May 7, 2016	294	20	268.25	2,153	-12	2,142.75	1.6
May 14, 2016	278	-16	275.75	2,160	7	2,150.50	1.6
May 21, 2016	268	-10	278.50	2,172	12	2,162.50	1.6
May 28, 2016	268	0	277.00	2,112	-60	2,149.25	1.5
June 4, 2016	264	-4	269.50	2,162	50	2,151.50	1.6
June 11, 2016	277	13	269.25	2,139	-23	2,146.25	1.6
June 18, 2016	258	-19	266.75	2,167	28	2,145.00	1.6
June 25, 2016	270	12	267.25	2,117	-50	2,146.25	1.5
July 2, 2016	254	-16	264.75	2,153	36	2,144.00	1.6
July 9, 2016	254	0	259.00	2,132	-21	2,142.25	1.5
July 16, 2016	252	-2	257.50	2,139	7	2,135.25	1.6
July 23, 2016	266	14	256.50				

Initial Claims Filed During Week Ended July
16

Insured Unemployment For Week Ended July 9
INSURED UNEMPLOYMENT

STATE	STATE	INITIAL CLAIMS CHANGE FROM						CHANGE FROM				ALL PROGRAMS EXCLUDING RAILROAD RETIREMENT
		LAST WEEK	YEAR AGO	UCFE 1	UCX 1	STATE	(%) 2	LAST WEEK	YEAR AGO	UCFE 1	UCX 1	
Alabama	6402	2851	2327	15	15	27635	1.5	4346	896	88	137	27860
Alaska	979	90	76	4	1	8902	2.8	576	1523	73	42	9017
Arizona	5408	-1045	299	23	6	37909	1.5	2973	-1196	269	140	38318
Arkansas	2207	-1299	-294	4	1	18645	1.6	1128	-4355	52	100	18797
California	44078	4941	-4812	261	200	358938	2.2	40166	2173	1259	2606	362803
Colorado	2199	-55	-51	10	28	26362	1.1	-663	-2364	146	566	27074
Connecticut	3788	-140	354	11	11	44355	2.7	1347	-149	56	121	44532
Delaware	982	277	294	5	0	6388	1.5	16	-637	14	16	6418
District of Columbia	427	37	17	5	3	8673	1.6	502	-453	254	9	8936
Florida	9365	-949	-1453	26	81	54844	0.7	2446	-13576	171	330	55345
Georgia	11900	4554	2915	39	66	39826	1.0	7259	-2968	214	435	40475
Hawaii	1244	-162	-27	4	15	7746	1.3	723	197	68	141	7955
Idaho	965	-113	-113	2	5	6733	1.0	308	-395	27	43	6803
Illinois	9850	-389	-617	15	18	114246	2.0	3264	-2563	346	340	114932
Indiana	3522	78	-330	8	8	22334	0.8	707	-468	59	93	22486
Iowa	2886	-47	687	4	1	19037	1.3	1137	-426	38	71	19146
Kansas	2567	-2163	673	31	15	14396	1.1	1667	-582	75	73	14544
Kentucky	5231	-1351	983	34	11	23264	1.3	988	-1736	135	310	23709
Louisiana	3062	-101	368	2	4	27611	1.5	461	-374	65	44	27720
Maine	850	153	20	3	2	5766	1.0	528	-864	28	26	5820
Maryland	3906	-121	229	28	10	38508	1.6	464	-3866	249	215	38972
Massachusetts	5194	-1166	154	6	14	67631	2.0	1306	-2906	152	286	68069
Michigan	8104	-9419	-1994	21	18	51890	1.3	23	-15880	89	178	52157
Minnesota	3877	-127	852	3	12	35323	1.3	1649	2241	66	124	35513
Mississippi	1864	-443	5	1	5	17785	1.6	1205	-575	100	53	17938
Missouri	5997	-4432	1198	13	11	30019	1.1	3818	-7925	81	89	30189
Montana	741	-91	41	6	2	6385	1.5	210	347	40	37	6462
Nebraska	765	-98	-50	4	2	5420	0.6	223	-2288	18	18	5456
Nevada	2510	-250	-330	4	3	23562	1.9	942	-3995	70	115	23747
New Hampshire	602	-134	-28	2	0	5187	0.8	79	-375	4	16	5207
New Jersey	9493	-1337	1514	18	18	107046	2.8	6357	-7305	224	377	107647
New Mexico	1134	61	86	7	5	13842	1.8	267	469	138	78	14058
New York	21300	-12012	3397	33	46	167393	1.9	6038	-6614	355	604	168352
North Carolina	3806	120	-219	12	29	28168	0.7	803	-7696	95	317	28580
North Dakota	479	-505	66	28	1	4713	1.1	514	1093	164	2	4879
Ohio	7289	-2550	-723	9	37	61371	1.2	3203	-898	110	319	61800
Oklahoma	1924	-192	140	5	15	24662	1.6	208	1051	54	141	24857
Oregon	6515	2722	1783	20	24	30309	1.7	3512	-1276	160	169	30638
Pennsylvania	16071	-3647	-491	84	52	139465	2.5	2118	-4202	477	467	140409
Puerto Rico	2597	-131	124	3	11	29169	3.3	1388	-4657	67	153	29389
Rhode Island	1151	-12	-221	4	2	10405	2.3	704	57	13	20	10438
South Carolina	4619	1242	615	7	10	20065	1.0	2516	768	49	31	20145
South Dakota	249	-221	56	8	1	1679	0.4	251	243	241	5	1925
Tennessee	3456	-800	-2806	1	2	24017	0.9	-1013	-8155	49	102	24168
Texas	17483	1408	1052	69	165	192200	1.7	9105	11135	526	2337	195063
Utah	1151	-78	68	12	2	9388	0.7	255	-832	119	25	9532
Vermont	427	-113	63	2	1	4119	1.4	-36	85	16	4	4139
Virgin Islands	41	-4	-4	0	0	684	1.8	122	-192	2	12	698
Virginia	3316	-671	-184	7	20	29952	0.8	1186	-17	231	440	30623
Washington	6322	-940	-426	18	78	44793	1.5	104	-735	172	790	45755
West Virginia	1458	36	100	0	2	16704	2.5	1548	844	32	59	16795
Wisconsin	6185	-1520	-27	6	4	37909	1.4	3581	-6672	61	64	38034
Wyoming	358	-119	-9	1	1	6300	2.3	106	1445	27	33	6360
Totals	268296	-30377	5347	948	1094	2159673	1.6	122635	-95600	7688	13323	2180684

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 JULY 16, 2016

STATES WITH AN INCREASE OF MORE THAN 1,000

State	Change	State Supplied Comment
CA	+4,941	Layoffs in the service industry.
GA	+4,554	Layoffs in the manufacturing, administrative, support, waste management and remediation service, retail trade, construction, accommodation and food service, and health care and social assistance industries.
AL	+2,851	Layoffs in the transportation and warehousing, and manufacturing industries.
OR	+2,722	No comment.
TX	+1,408	Layoffs in the manufacturing, finance and insurance, and retail trade industries.
SC	+1,242	No comment.

STATES WITH A DECREASE OF MORE THAN 1,000

State	Change	State Supplied Comment
NY	-12,012	Fewer layoffs in the transportation and warehousing, educational service, and health care and social assistance industries.
MI	-9,419	Fewer layoffs in the manufacturing industry.
MO	-4,432	Fewer layoffs in the manufacturing, administrative, support, waste management and remediation service, and accommodation and food service industries.
PA	-3,647	Fewer layoffs in the administrative, support, waste management and remediation service, transportation and warehousing, accommodation and food service, and manufacturing industries.
OH	-2,550	No comment.
KS	-2,163	No comment.
WI	-1,520	No comment.
KY	-1,351	No comment.
NJ	-1,337	Fewer layoffs in the manufacturing, trade, transportation and warehousing, educational service, professional, scientific, and technical service, and accommodation and food service industries.
AR	-1,299	No comment.
MA	-1,166	No comment.
AZ	-1,045	No comment.

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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