



News Release

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8:30 A.M. (Eastern) Thursday, August 4, 2016

UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE WEEKLY CLAIMS

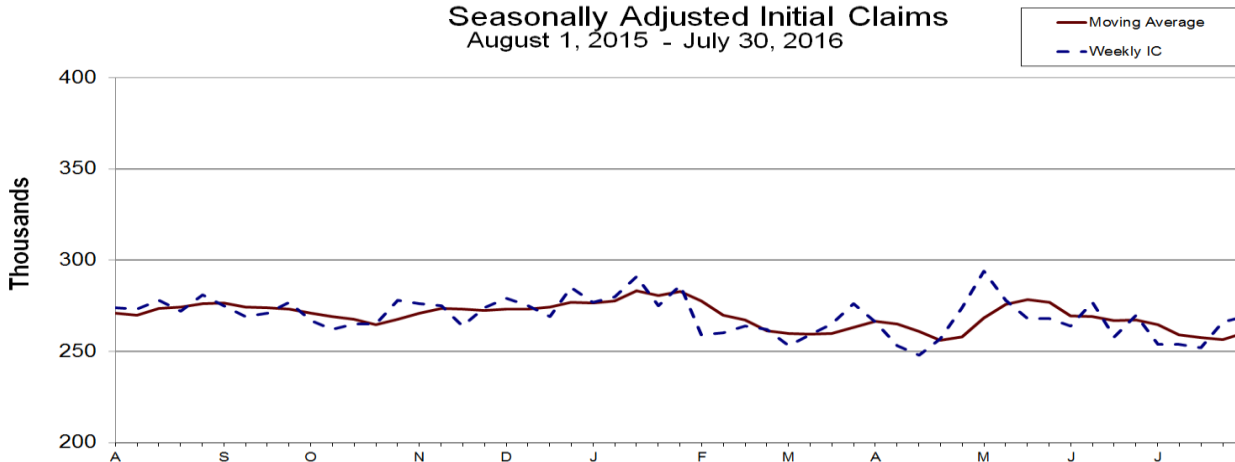
SEASONALLY ADJUSTED DATA

In the week ending July 30, the advance figure for seasonally adjusted **initial claims** was 269,000, an increase of 3,000 from the previous week's unrevised level of 266,000. The 4-week moving average was 260,250, an increase of 3,750 from the previous week's unrevised average of 256,500.

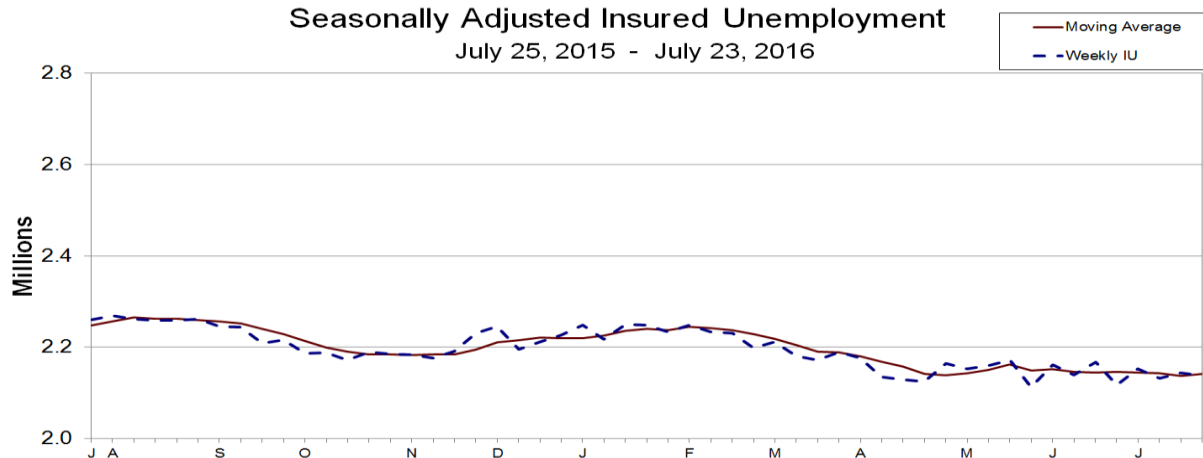
There were no special factors impacting this week's initial claims. This marks 74 consecutive weeks of initial claims below 300,000, the longest streak since 1973.

The advance seasonally adjusted **insured unemployment rate** was 1.6 percent for the week ending July 23, unchanged from the previous week's unrevised rate. The advance number for seasonally adjusted **insured unemployment** during the week ending July 23 was 2,138,000, a decrease of 6,000 from the previous week's revised level. The previous week's level was revised up 5,000 from 2,139,000 to 2,144,000. The 4-week moving average was 2,141,750, an increase of 5,250 from the previous week's revised average. The previous week's average was revised up by 1,250 from 2,135,250 to 2,136,500.

Seasonally Adjusted Initial Claims
August 1, 2015 - July 30, 2016



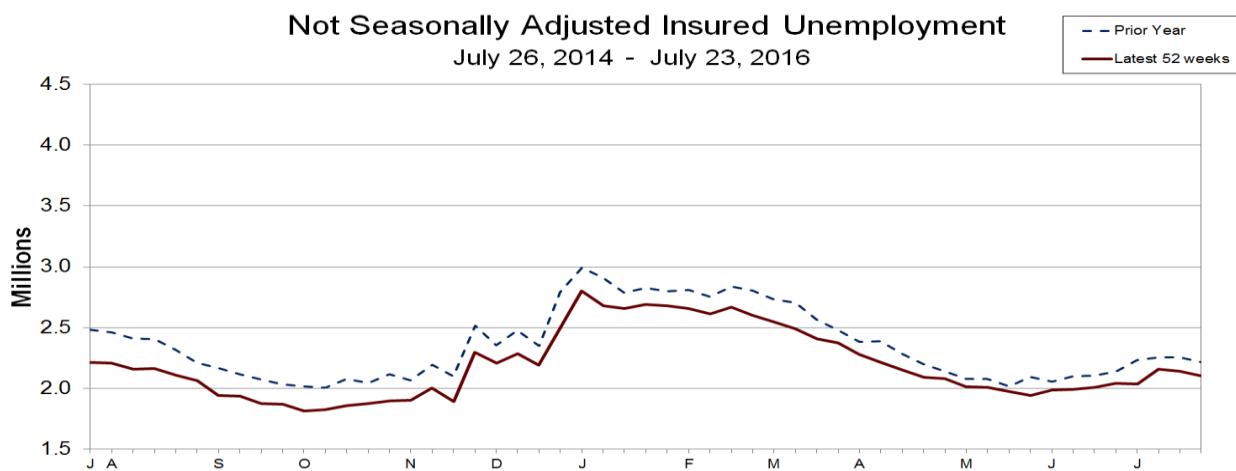
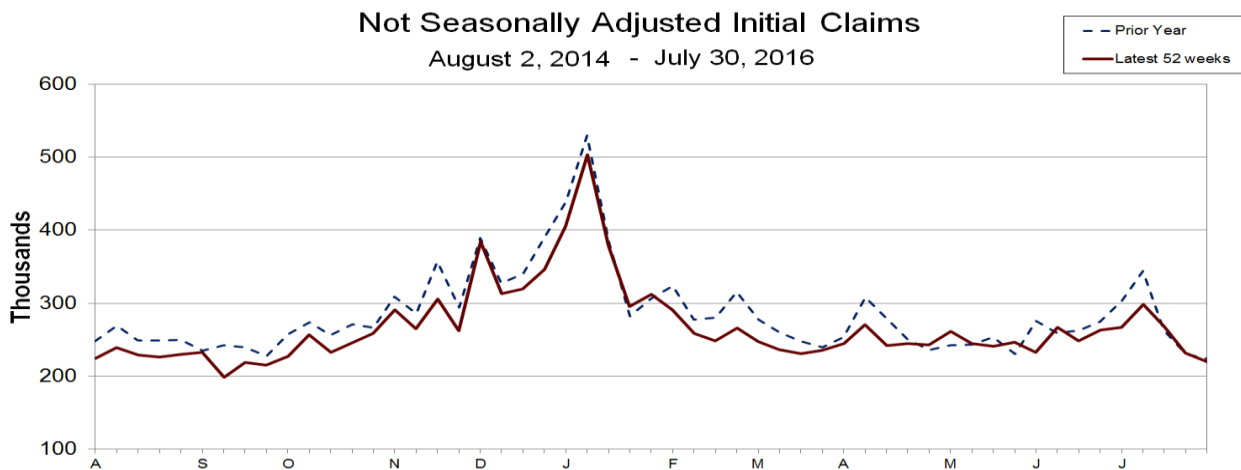
Seasonally Adjusted Insured Unemployment
July 25, 2015 - July 23, 2016



UNADJUSTED DATA

The advance number of actual initial claims under state programs, unadjusted, totaled 220,204 in the week ending July 30, a decrease of 11,485 (or -5.0 percent) from the previous week. The seasonal factors had expected a decrease of 13,566 (or -5.9 percent) from the previous week. There were 224,104 initial claims in the comparable week in 2015.

The advance unadjusted insured unemployment rate was 1.5 percent during the week ending July 23, a decrease of 0.1 percentage point from the prior week. The advance unadjusted number for persons claiming UI benefits in state programs totaled 2,102,079, a decrease of 39,372 (or -1.8 percent) from the preceding week. The seasonal factors had expected a decrease of 34,298 (or -1.6 percent) from the previous week. A year earlier the rate was 1.6 percent and the volume was 2,214,919.



The total number of people claiming benefits in all programs for the week ending July 16 was 2,179,817, a decrease of 18,043 from the previous week. There were 2,302,509 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 16.

Initial claims for UI benefits filed by former Federal civilian employees totaled 860 in the week ending July 23, a decrease of 88 from the prior week. There were 1,089 initial claims filed by newly discharged veterans, a decrease of 5 from the preceding week.

There were 7,560 former Federal civilian employees claiming UI benefits for the week ending July 16, a decrease of 128 from the previous week. Newly discharged veterans claiming benefits totaled 13,131, a decrease of 192 from the prior week.

The highest insured unemployment rates in the week ending July 16 were in Puerto Rico (3.3), Connecticut (2.7), New Jersey (2.7), Alaska (2.6), Pennsylvania (2.6), West Virginia (2.4), California (2.2), Rhode Island (2.2), Wyoming (2.1), Illinois (2.0), and Massachusetts (2.0).

The largest increases in initial claims for the week ending July 23 were in Michigan (+2,598), Illinois (+480), Ohio (+388), Vermont (+212), and Nevada (+68), while the largest decreases were in New York (-7,113), Georgia (-4,604), Oregon (-2,713), Alabama (-2,513), and Pennsylvania (-2,030).

UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE DATA FOR REGULAR STATE PROGRAMS

WEEK ENDING	July 30	July 23	Change	July 16	<u>Prior Year</u> ¹
Initial Claims (SA)	269,000	266,000	+3,000	252,000	274,000
Initial Claims (NSA)	220,204	231,689	-11,485	268,296	224,104
4-Wk Moving Average (SA)	260,250	256,500	+3,750	257,500	271,000
WEEK ENDING	July 23	July 16	Change	July 9	<u>Prior Year</u> ¹
Insured Unemployment (SA)	2,138,000	2,144,000	-6,000	2,132,000	2,260,000
Insured Unemployment (NSA)	2,102,079	2,141,451	-39,372	2,159,673	2,214,919
4-Wk Moving Average (SA)	2,141,750	2,136,500	+5,250	2,142,250	2,248,000
<u>Insured Unemployment Rate (SA)</u> ²	1.6%	1.6%	0.0	1.5%	1.7%
<u>Insured Unemployment Rate (NSA)</u> ²	1.5%	1.6%	-0.1	1.6%	1.6%

INITIAL CLAIMS FILED IN FEDERAL PROGRAMS (UNADJUSTED)

WEEK ENDING	July 23	July 16	Change	<u>Prior Year</u> ¹
Federal Employees (UCFE)	860	948	-88	956
Newly Discharged Veterans (UCX)	1,089	1,094	-5	1,325

PERSONS CLAIMING UI BENEFITS IN ALL PROGRAMS (UNADJUSTED)

WEEK ENDING	July 16	July 9	Change	<u>Prior Year</u> ¹
Regular State	2,136,125	2,154,750	-18,625	2,251,501
Federal Employees	7,560	7,688	-128	10,308
Newly Discharged Veterans	13,131	13,323	-192	18,364
<u>Extended Benefits</u> ³	0	0	0	0
<u>State Additional Benefits</u> ⁴	6,499	6,819	-320	6,417
<u>STC / Workshare</u> ⁵	16,502	15,280	+1,222	15,919
<u>TOTAL</u>	2,179,817	2,197,860	-18,043	2,302,509

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 30			Insured Unemployment For Week Ended July 23		
	Advance	Prior Wk	Change	Advance	Prior Wk	Change
Alabama	2,759	3,889	-1,130	22,677	24,874	-2,197
Alaska	941	902	39	8,252	8,137	115
Arizona	4,220	4,820	-600	34,892	38,219	-3,327
Arkansas	1,609	1,971	-362	17,069	17,833	-764
California	43,521	42,549	972	367,051	350,989	16,062
Colorado	1,929	1,897	32	26,983	27,191	-208
Connecticut	3,094	3,393	-299	45,151	43,696	1,455
Delaware	522	487	35	6,649	6,532	117
District of Columbia	627	368	259	8,412	8,603	-191
Florida	7,893	8,482	-589	51,108	57,669	-6,561
Georgia	6,002	7,296	-1,294	30,967	33,948	-2,981
Hawaii	1,135	1,089	46	7,778	7,374	404
Idaho	871	853	18	5,718	6,395	-677
Illinois	8,944	10,330	-1,386	112,681	117,068	-4,387
Indiana	3,211	2,869	342	21,492	22,135	-643
Iowa	3,020	2,611	409	20,228	18,867	1,361
Kansas	2,595	2,012	583	13,979	14,530	-551
Kentucky	2,777	3,324	-547	22,791	23,364	-573
Louisiana	2,378	2,880	-502	27,877	27,743	134
Maine	566	780	-214	4,852	5,255	-403
Maryland	3,295	3,492	-197	35,179	38,403	-3,224
Massachusetts	4,729	4,902	-173	66,749	67,600	-851
Michigan	8,636	10,702	-2,066	50,273	67,482	-17,209
Minnesota	2,904	2,674	230	33,363	32,470	893
Mississippi	1,300	1,549	-249	15,169	17,192	-2,023
Missouri	3,803	4,112	-309	26,572	32,094	-5,522
Montana	522	617	-95	5,509	6,176	-667
Nebraska	680	665	15	5,061	5,008	53
Nevada	2,648	2,578	70	21,566	23,111	-1,545
New Hampshire	532	549	-17	4,637	5,004	-367
New Jersey	8,316	8,470	-154	105,907	104,984	923
New Mexico	855	1,076	-221	13,353	13,728	-375
New York	13,857	14,187	-330	160,250	159,472	778
North Carolina	3,672	3,648	24	26,558	27,926	-1,368
North Dakota	451	361	90	5,927	4,177	1,750
Ohio	6,851	7,677	-826	59,171	59,862	-691
Oklahoma	1,560	1,743	-183	23,235	24,488	-1,253
Oregon	2,725	3,802	-1,077	27,301	28,107	-806
Pennsylvania	13,974	14,041	-67	139,322	144,904	-5,582
Puerto Rico	935	1,885	-950	27,424	28,964	-1,540
Rhode Island	816	860	-44	10,105	10,063	42
South Carolina	2,638	3,146	-508	17,177	18,335	-1,158
South Dakota	191	211	-20	1,388	1,470	-82
Tennessee	2,371	2,928	-557	21,850	23,429	-1,579
Texas	15,424	15,838	-414	196,684	192,281	4,403
Utah	963	1,116	-153	9,138	9,179	-41
Vermont	354	639	-285	4,204	3,962	242
Virgin Islands	35	29	6	708	592	116
Virginia	3,440	2,885	555	29,703	29,427	276
Washington	6,441	5,908	533	45,631	43,124	2,507
West Virginia	1,170	1,410	-240	16,104	16,444	-340
Wisconsin	5,097	4,810	287	34,671	35,675	-1,004
Wyoming	405	377	28	5,583	5,896	-313
US Total	220,204	231,689	-11,485	2,102,079	2,141,451	-39,372

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	Initial Claims	Change from		Insured Unemployment	Change from		IUR
		Prior Week	4-Week Average		Prior Week	4-Week Average	
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	2,144	12	2,136.50	1.6
July 23, 2016	266	14	256.50	2,138	-6	2,141.75	1.6
July 30, 2016	269	3	260.25				

Initial Claims Filed During Week Ended July
23

Insured Unemployment For Week Ended July 16
INSURED UNEMPLOYMENT

STATE	INITIAL CLAIMS							CHANGE FROM				ALL PROGRAMS EXCLUDING RAILROAD RETIREMENT
	STATE	LAST WEEK	YEAR AGO	UCFE 1	UCX 1	STATE	(%) 2	LAST WEEK	YEAR AGO	UCFE 1	UCX 1	
Alabama	3889	-2513	798	15	14	24874	1.4	-2761	-651	83	132	25089
Alaska	902	-77	40	0	0	8137	2.6	-765	659	46	26	8209
Arizona	4820	-588	354	20	13	38219	1.5	310	-1767	268	155	38642
Arkansas	1971	-236	-436	6	2	17833	1.5	-812	-4534	49	102	17984
California	42549	-1529	-2479	224	221	350989	2.2	-7949	-22859	1203	2662	354854
Colorado	1897	-302	-195	7	32	27191	1.1	829	-297	117	512	27820
Connecticut	3393	-395	449	7	12	43696	2.7	-659	113	51	147	43894
Delaware	487	-495	-160	3	1	6532	1.5	144	-437	9	15	6556
District of Columbia	368	-59	0	5	0	8603	1.6	-70	-555	250	10	8863
Florida	8482	-883	-1528	30	64	57669	0.7	2825	-13904	140	335	58144
Georgia	7296	-4604	1001	28	54	33948	0.8	-5878	-5685	190	425	34563
Hawaii	1089	-155	-145	5	23	7374	1.2	-372	-449	44	124	7542
Idaho	853	-112	-51	1	4	6395	1.0	-338	-566	30	44	6469
Illinois	10330	480	596	12	15	117068	2.0	2822	-5276	363	416	117847
Indiana	2869	-653	-270	10	9	22135	0.8	-199	314	68	96	22299
Iowa	2611	-275	560	1	7	18867	1.2	-170	288	38	61	18966
Kansas	2012	-555	-363	26	18	14530	1.1	134	719	85	89	14704
Kentucky	3324	-1907	681	27	8	23364	1.3	100	1158	185	233	23782
Louisiana	2880	-182	370	2	5	27743	1.5	132	-126	66	42	27851
Maine	780	-70	123	1	1	5255	0.9	-511	-996	22	22	5299
Maryland	3492	-414	22	24	23	38403	1.6	-105	-3466	254	194	38851
Massachusetts	4902	-292	232	12	24	67600	2.0	-31	-2710	165	282	68047
Michigan	10702	2598	4607	5	18	67482	1.6	15592	6751	99	171	67752
Minnesota	2674	-1203	-159	0	5	32470	1.2	-2853	121	46	125	32641
Mississippi	1549	-315	-369	5	3	17192	1.6	-593	-643	82	47	17321
Missouri	4112	-1885	-57	40	2	32094	1.2	2075	-4346	95	73	32262
Montana	617	-124	-20	4	3	6176	1.4	-209	12	38	36	6250
Nebraska	665	-100	-64	3	1	5008	0.5	-412	-2321	16	15	5039
Nevada	2578	68	95	5	9	23111	1.9	-451	-3942	69	113	23293
New Hampshire	549	-53	-14	1	0	5004	0.8	-183	-455	3	12	5019
New Jersey	8470	-1023	471	22	26	104984	2.7	-2062	-9850	224	357	105565
New Mexico	1076	-58	82	5	3	13728	1.8	-114	484	162	71	13961
New York	14187	-7113	-1236	23	49	159472	1.8	-7921	-9354	362	588	160422
North Carolina	3648	-158	-300	7	27	27926	0.7	-242	-8300	103	313	28342
North Dakota	361	-118	-59	11	2	4177	1.0	-536	551	181	9	4367
Ohio	7677	388	1105	13	26	59862	1.2	-1509	-1060	104	339	60305
Oklahoma	1743	-181	133	7	7	24488	1.6	-174	942	58	145	24691
Oregon	3802	-2713	25	19	16	28107	1.6	-2202	-2505	163	167	28437
Pennsylvania	14041	-2030	-596	62	49	144904	2.6	5439	-4909	415	481	145800
Puerto Rico	1885	-712	-13	1	6	28964	3.3	-205	-5826	78	131	29173
Rhode Island	860	-291	75	0	4	10063	2.2	-342	-394	15	14	10092
South Carolina	3146	-1473	436	7	15	18335	1.0	-1730	-417	48	131	18514
South Dakota	211	-38	30	21	1	1470	0.4	-209	-5	259	13	1742
Tennessee	2928	-528	-1705	4	3	23429	0.8	-588	-7350	52	81	23562
Texas	15838	-1645	-432	85	161	192281	1.7	81	4951	494	2155	194930
Utah	1116	-35	141	9	7	9179	0.7	-209	-605	119	26	9324
Vermont	639	212	220	0	1	3962	1.3	-157	-35	14	4	3980
Virgin Islands	29	-12	-8	0	0	592	1.6	-92	-216	6	2	600
Virginia	2885	-431	64	11	18	29427	0.8	-525	105	243	483	30153
Washington	5908	-414	-145	18	63	43124	1.4	-1669	-2179	169	763	44056
West Virginia	1410	-48	-35	0	4	16444	2.4	-260	1461	32	53	16529
Wisconsin	4810	-1375	-547	6	6	35675	1.3	-2234	-7298	59	69	35803
Wyoming	377	19	51	0	4	5896	2.1	-404	799	26	20	5942
Totals	231689	-36607	1375	860	1089	2141451	1.6	-18222	-116860	7560	13131	2162142

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 23, 2016

STATES WITH AN INCREASE OF MORE THAN 1,000

State	Change	State Supplied Comment
MI	+2,598	Layoffs in the manufacturing industry.

STATES WITH A DECREASE OF MORE THAN 1,000

State	Change	State Supplied Comment
NY	-7,113	Fewer layoffs in the transportation and warehousing, manufacturing, and educational service industries.
GA	-4,604	Fewer layoffs in the manufacturing, administrative, support, waste management and remediation service, retail trade, and construction industries.
OR	-2,713	No comment.
AL	-2,513	Fewer layoffs in the transportation and warehousing, professional, scientific, and technical service, construction, and manufacturing industries.
PA	-2,030	Fewer layoffs in the administrative, support, waste management and remediation service, transportation and warehousing, accommodation and food service, and manufacturing industries.
KY	-1,907	No comment.
MO	-1,885	Fewer layoffs in the manufacturing, transportations and warehousing, and administrative, support, waste management and remediation service industries.
TX	-1,645	No comment.
CA	-1,529	No comment.
SC	-1,473	No comment.
WI	-1,375	No comment.
MN	-1,203	No comment.
NJ	-1,023	Fewer layoffs in the construction, educational service, health care and social assistance, accommodation and food service, and transportation and warehousing 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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U.S. Department of Labor
Employment and Training Administration
Washington, D.C. 20210
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Program Contacts:
Brenda Loya (202) 693-3760
Tony Sznoluch (202) 693-3176
Media Contact: (202) 693-4676