



# News Release

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8:30 A.M. (Eastern) Thursday, August 25, 2016

## UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE WEEKLY CLAIMS

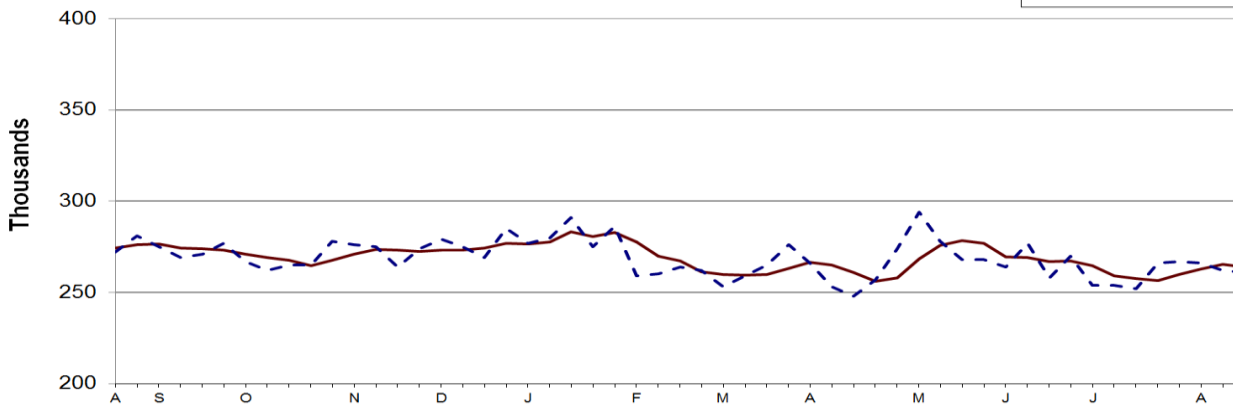
### SEASONALLY ADJUSTED DATA

In the week ending August 20, the advance figure for seasonally adjusted **initial claims** was 261,000, a decrease of 1,000 from the previous week's unrevised level of 262,000. The 4-week moving average was 264,000, a decrease of 1,250 from the previous week's unrevised average of 265,250.

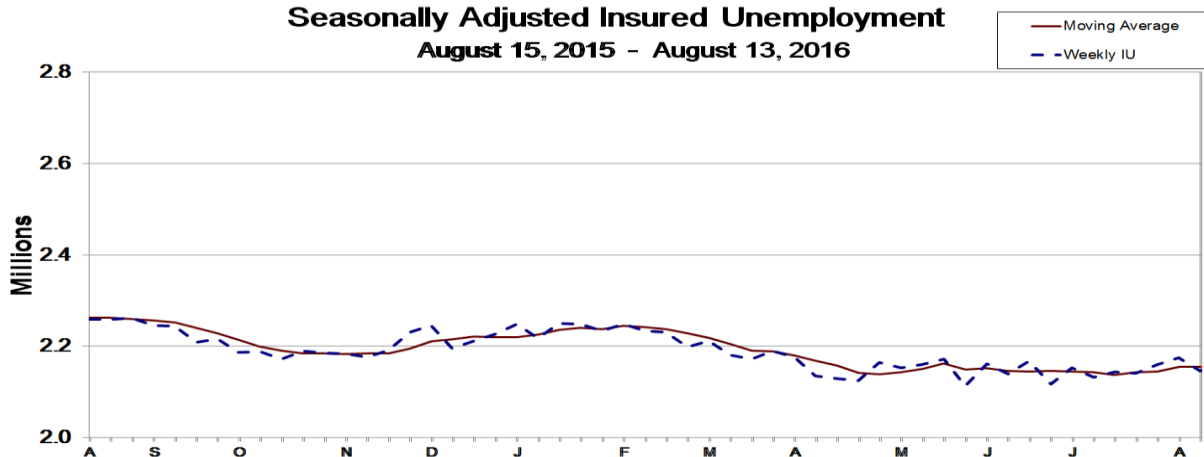
There were no special factors impacting this week's initial claims. This marks 77 consecutive weeks of initial claims below 300,000, the longest streak since 1970.

The advance seasonally adjusted **insured unemployment rate** was 1.6 percent for the week ending August 13, unchanged from the previous week's unrevised rate. The advance number for seasonally adjusted **insured unemployment** during the week ending August 13 was 2,145,000, a decrease of 30,000 from the previous week's unrevised level of 2,175,000. The 4-week moving average was 2,155,250, an increase of 250 from the previous week's unrevised average of 2,155,000.

Seasonally Adjusted Initial Claims  
August 22, 2015 - August 20, 2016



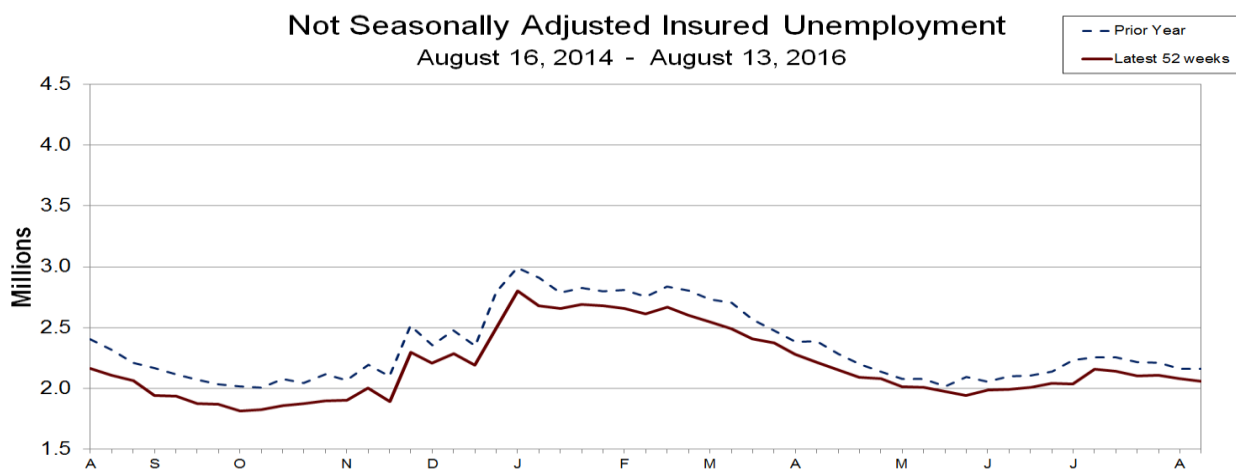
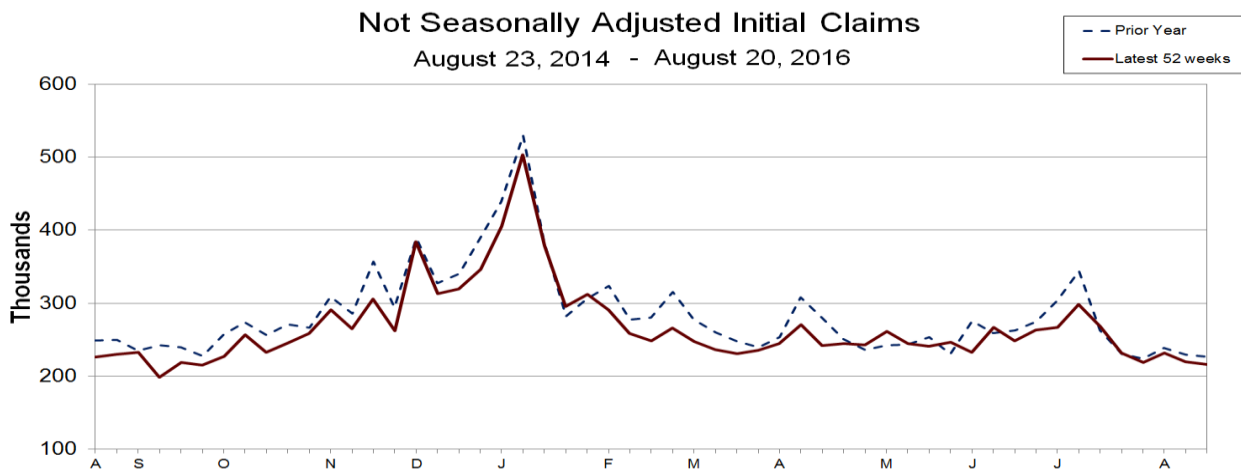
Seasonally Adjusted Insured Unemployment  
August 15, 2015 - August 13, 2016



## UNADJUSTED DATA

The advance number of actual initial claims under state programs, unadjusted, totaled 216,594 in the week ending August 20, a decrease of 2,929 (or -1.3 percent) from the previous week. The seasonal factors had expected a decrease of 1,574 (or -0.7 percent) from the previous week. There were 226,649 initial claims in the comparable week in 2015.

The advance unadjusted insured unemployment rate was 1.5 percent during the week ending August 13, unchanged from the prior week. The advance unadjusted number for persons claiming UI benefits in state programs totaled 2,060,961, a decrease of 22,920 (or -1.1 percent) from the preceding week. The seasonal factors had expected an increase of 6,526 (or 0.3 percent) from the previous week. A year earlier the rate was 1.6 percent and the volume was 2,163,709.



The total number of people claiming benefits in all programs for the week ending August 6 was 2,122,964, a decrease of 25,731 from the previous week. There were 2,207,153 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 August 6.

Initial claims for UI benefits filed by former Federal civilian employees totaled 880 in the week ending August 13, a decrease of 352 from the prior week. There were 1,063 initial claims filed by newly discharged veterans, a decrease of 166 from the preceding week.

There were 8,410 former Federal civilian employees claiming UI benefits for the week ending August 6, an increase of 281 from the previous week. Newly discharged veterans claiming benefits totaled 13,294, an increase of 244 from the prior week.

The highest insured unemployment rates in the week ending August 6 were in Puerto Rico (3.3), Connecticut (2.7), New Jersey (2.7), Alaska (2.6), Pennsylvania (2.4), California (2.2), West Virginia (2.2), Rhode Island (2.1), Massachusetts (2.0), and Wyoming (2.0).

The largest increases in initial claims for the week ending August 13 were in Oregon (+1,321), Kentucky (+521), Virginia (+490), Oklahoma (+367), and Idaho (+104), while the largest decreases were in California (-1,677), Pennsylvania (-1,472), Ohio (-1,285), Puerto Rico (-800), and Wisconsin (-728).

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UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE DATA FOR REGULAR STATE PROGRAMS

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<b>WEEK ENDING</b>	<b>August 20</b>	<b>August 13</b>	<b>Change</b>	<b>August 6</b>	<b><u>Prior Year</u><sup>1</sup></b>
Initial Claims (SA)	261,000	262,000	-1,000	266,000	272,000
Initial Claims (NSA)	216,594	219,523	-2,929	231,535	226,649
4-Wk Moving Average (SA)	264,000	265,250	-1,250	262,750	274,250
<b>WEEK ENDING</b>	<b>August 13</b>	<b>August 6</b>	<b>Change</b>	<b>July 30</b>	<b><u>Prior Year</u><sup>1</sup></b>
Insured Unemployment (SA)	2,145,000	2,175,000	-30,000	2,160,000	2,259,000
Insured Unemployment (NSA)	2,060,961	2,083,881	-22,920	2,110,274	2,163,709
4-Wk Moving Average (SA)	2,155,250	2,155,000	+250	2,144,250	2,262,250
<u>Insured Unemployment Rate (SA)</u> <sup>2</sup>	1.6%	1.6%	0.0	1.6%	1.7%
<u>Insured Unemployment Rate (NSA)</u> <sup>2</sup>	1.5%	1.5%	0.0	1.5%	1.6%

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INITIAL CLAIMS FILED IN FEDERAL PROGRAMS (UNADJUSTED)

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<b>WEEK ENDING</b>	<b>August 13</b>	<b>August 6</b>	<b>Change</b>	<b><u>Prior Year</u><sup>1</sup></b>
Federal Employees (UCFE)	880	1,232	-352	861
Newly Discharged Veterans (UCX)	1,063	1,229	-166	1,395

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PERSONS CLAIMING UI BENEFITS IN ALL PROGRAMS (UNADJUSTED)

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<b>WEEK ENDING</b>	<b>August 6</b>	<b>July 30</b>	<b>Change</b>	<b><u>Prior Year</u><sup>1</sup></b>
Regular State	2,078,581	2,104,841	-26,260	2,156,570
Federal Employees	8,410	8,129	+281	10,554
Newly Discharged Veterans	13,294	13,050	+244	18,191
<u>Extended Benefits</u> <sup>3</sup>	0	0	0	0
<u>State Additional Benefits</u> <sup>4</sup>	5,914	6,583	-669	6,041
<u>STC / Workshare</u> <sup>5</sup>	16,765	16,092	+673	15,797
<u>TOTAL</u>	2,122,964	2,148,695	-25,731	2,207,153

**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 August 20			Insured Unemployment For Week Ended August 13		
	Advance	Prior Wk	Change	Advance	Prior Wk	Change
Alabama	2,441	2,739	-298	20,744	23,018	-2,274
Alaska	1,311	1,025	286	8,082	8,226	-144
Arizona	3,931	4,194	-263	32,868	37,503	-4,635
Arkansas	2,069	1,930	139	15,546	17,048	-1,502
California	39,127	41,738	-2,611	356,882	354,052	2,830
Colorado	1,983	2,063	-80	26,582	25,423	1,159
Connecticut	3,245	3,644	-399	45,903	44,138	1,765
Delaware	467	574	-107	6,728	6,554	174
District of Columbia	568	351	217	8,466	8,795	-329
Florida	7,746	8,082	-336	52,439	57,087	-4,648
Georgia	5,185	5,937	-752	29,001	32,006	-3,005
Hawaii	1,034	1,043	-9	7,002	6,937	65
Idaho	950	1,073	-123	5,638	6,250	-612
Illinois	8,817	8,870	-53	111,658	109,157	2,501
Indiana	2,975	2,946	29	20,626	21,487	-861
Iowa	1,961	1,715	246	18,942	18,861	81
Kansas	1,770	1,964	-194	12,472	13,082	-610
Kentucky	2,316	2,756	-440	21,329	21,509	-180
Louisiana	4,554	2,704	1,850	26,093	27,351	-1,258
Maine	530	550	-20	4,867	5,114	-247
Maryland	3,078	4,044	-966	36,090	38,970	-2,880
Massachusetts	4,800	4,789	11	66,870	68,489	-1,619
Michigan	8,720	6,218	2,502	54,109	54,752	-643
Minnesota	2,924	2,756	168	32,497	30,543	1,954
Mississippi	1,318	1,560	-242	12,834	15,680	-2,846
Missouri	3,871	4,150	-279	32,016	42,552	-10,536
Montana	576	599	-23	5,264	5,747	-483
Nebraska	715	667	48	4,664	4,765	-101
Nevada	2,527	2,318	209	20,288	22,122	-1,834
New Hampshire	559	574	-15	4,511	4,918	-407
New Jersey	8,709	8,713	-4	106,826	104,728	2,098
New Mexico	909	943	-34	12,635	13,339	-704
New York	14,241	14,301	-60	158,793	158,526	267
North Carolina	3,674	3,409	265	25,414	27,115	-1,701
North Dakota	927	322	605	5,092	3,907	1,185
Ohio	6,534	6,477	57	55,926	57,752	-1,826
Oklahoma	1,841	2,366	-525	22,850	22,994	-144
Oregon	3,725	4,711	-986	26,629	27,551	-922
Pennsylvania	14,502	14,134	368	141,583	134,072	7,511
Puerto Rico	2,081	1,811	270	26,187	28,773	-2,586
Rhode Island	1,102	786	316	9,855	9,645	210
South Carolina	2,368	2,364	4	16,804	18,046	-1,242
South Dakota	164	204	-40	1,346	1,215	131
Tennessee	2,306	2,511	-205	18,387	20,786	-2,399
Texas	15,565	15,596	-31	191,107	182,994	8,113
Utah	1,030	1,029	1	8,639	8,793	-154
Vermont	377	550	-173	4,165	3,888	277
Virgin Islands	31	53	-22	632	648	-16
Virginia	3,080	4,002	-922	30,014	28,462	1,552
Washington	5,621	5,602	19	44,544	43,599	945
West Virginia	897	1,048	-151	14,227	14,826	-599
Wisconsin	4,433	4,626	-193	33,384	34,647	-1,263
Wyoming	409	392	17	4,911	5,439	-528
US Total	216,594	219,523	-2,929	2,060,961	2,083,881	-22,920

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	
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	2,141	-3	2,142.50	1.6
July 30, 2016	267	1	259.75	2,160	19	2,144.25	1.6
August 6, 2016	266	-1	262.75	2,175	15	2,155.00	1.6
August 13, 2016	262	-4	265.25	2,145	-30	2,155.25	1.6
August 20, 2016	261	-1	264.00				

## Initial Claims Filed During Week Ended August

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## Insured Unemployment For Week Ended August 6

## INSURED UNEMPLOYMENT

STATE	STATE	INITIAL CLAIMS CHANGE FROM				STATE	UCFE (%) <sup>2</sup>	CHANGE FROM				ALL PROGRAMS EXCLUDING RAILROAD RETIREMENT
		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	2739	-244	57	8	21	23018	1.3	-572	-1223	88	144	23250
Alaska	1025	28	180	1	5	8226	2.6	36	986	72	41	8339
Arizona	4194	-234	47	5	18	37503	1.5	-417	-1376	119	163	37785
Arkansas	1930	-30	-145	5	6	17048	1.5	-429	-4437	39	108	17195
California	41738	-1677	-2462	215	192	354052	2.2	2802	-115	1721	2664	358437
Colorado	2063	-194	-9	7	37	25423	1.0	-1190	-2283	140	530	26093
Connecticut	3644	-79	314	7	6	44138	2.7	350	197	69	108	44315
Delaware	574	-47	-70	4	5	6554	1.5	170	-402	8	10	6572
District of Columbia	351	-40	-23	8	1	8795	1.6	-127	-426	245	11	9051
Florida	8082	-460	-1140	22	54	57087	0.7	-995	-13150	183	341	57611
Georgia	5937	-296	-480	31	50	32006	0.8	-147	-5283	193	409	32608
Hawaii	1043	-144	-161	5	12	6937	1.1	-567	-231	91	139	7167
Idaho	1073	104	-42	2	6	6250	1.0	-70	-393	27	42	6319
Illinois	8870	-585	-321	12	12	109157	1.9	-4131	-3349	393	362	109912
Indiana	2946	-697	-220	3	4	21487	0.7	-651	256	54	94	21635
Iowa	1715	-520	-371	3	4	18861	1.2	-105	-257	31	57	18949
Kansas	1964	-170	-1273	6	9	13082	1.0	-62	93	62	88	13232
Kentucky	2756	521	-190	11	8	21509	1.2	-759	-606	232	264	22005
Louisiana	2704	-245	160	5	3	27351	1.4	-247	922	65	54	27470
Maine	550	-79	-94	2	4	5114	0.9	36	-802	25	21	5160
Maryland	4044	-170	498	26	22	38970	1.6	242	-3018	266	203	39439
Massachusetts	4789	-399	-110	10	15	68489	2.0	1441	-721	156	288	68933
Michigan	6218	-434	-802	11	28	54752	1.3	-2440	3400	109	188	55049
Minnesota	2756	-134	-89	5	6	30543	1.1	-848	-1227	41	119	30703
Mississippi	1560	9	-229	5	6	15680	1.4	-1059	-1134	64	42	15786
Missouri	4150	-338	-472	82	11	42552	1.6	1841	7604	289	123	42964
Montana	599	-61	-175	0	1	5747	1.3	-50	18	42	27	5816
Nebraska	667	9	-199	1	4	4765	0.5	-136	-1716	21	21	4807
Nevada	2318	-36	-304	9	6	22122	1.8	-248	-4292	77	125	22324
New Hampshire	574	-28	-57	1	1	4918	0.8	6	-376	3	16	4937
New Jersey	8713	-445	414	17	24	104728	2.7	-387	-6995	190	380	105298
New Mexico	943	-145	-54	0	1	13339	1.7	-144	595	132	66	13537
New York	14301	-341	-1191	33	53	158526	1.8	178	-8271	333	600	159459
North Carolina	3409	-385	-292	11	18	27115	0.7	-442	-7564	105	313	27533
North Dakota	322	-80	49	2	0	3907	0.9	64	462	178	5	4090
Ohio	6477	-1285	288	9	36	57752	1.1	188	-325	103	314	58169
Oklahoma	2366	367	641	12	10	22994	1.5	-592	478	60	133	23187
Oregon	4711	1321	636	18	14	27551	1.6	485	-2618	164	165	27880
Pennsylvania	14134	-1472	-471	57	32	134072	2.4	-5404	-3780	489	487	135048
Puerto Rico	1811	-800	-393	4	9	28773	3.3	-1889	-5448	84	122	28979
Rhode Island	786	-187	-215	1	6	9645	2.1	-194	-293	13	18	9676
South Carolina	2364	-261	-315	6	20	18046	0.9	-67	-871	55	135	18236
South Dakota	204	-8	34	4	0	1215	0.3	-214	-177	230	3	1448
Tennessee	2511	-197	-694	3	4	20786	0.7	-1310	-6404	54	76	20916
Texas	15596	-590	-25	106	170	182994	1.6	-5301	5773	632	2251	185887
Utah	1029	8	-121	37	1	8793	0.7	-152	-547	115	27	8935
Vermont	550	27	131	2	2	3888	1.3	41	-66	10	7	3905
Virgin Islands	53	18	5	0	0	648	1.8	22	-180	4	12	664
Virginia	4002	490	807	8	27	28462	0.8	-310	-715	266	475	29203
Washington	5602	-562	-243	31	62	43599	1.4	-2181	-1773	154	761	44514
West Virginia	1048	-79	-93	1	3	14826	2.2	-154	-92	39	55	14920
Wisconsin	4626	-728	-510	5	12	34647	1.3	-198	-6538	59	63	34769
Wyoming	392	-8	66	1	2	5439	2.0	-106	919	16	24	5479
Totals	219523	-12012	-9728	880	1063	2083881	1.5	-26393	-77771	8410	13294	2105585

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 AUGUST 13, 2016**

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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>
OR	+1,321	No comment.

STATES WITH A DECREASE OF MORE THAN 1,000

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<b>State</b>	<b>Change</b>	<b>State Supplied Comment</b>
CA	-1,677	No comment.
PA	-1,472	Layoffs in the administrative, support, waste management and remediation service, health care and social assistance, professional, scientific and technical service, and manufacturing industries.
OH	-1,285	No comment.

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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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