



News Release

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UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE WEEKLY CLAIMS

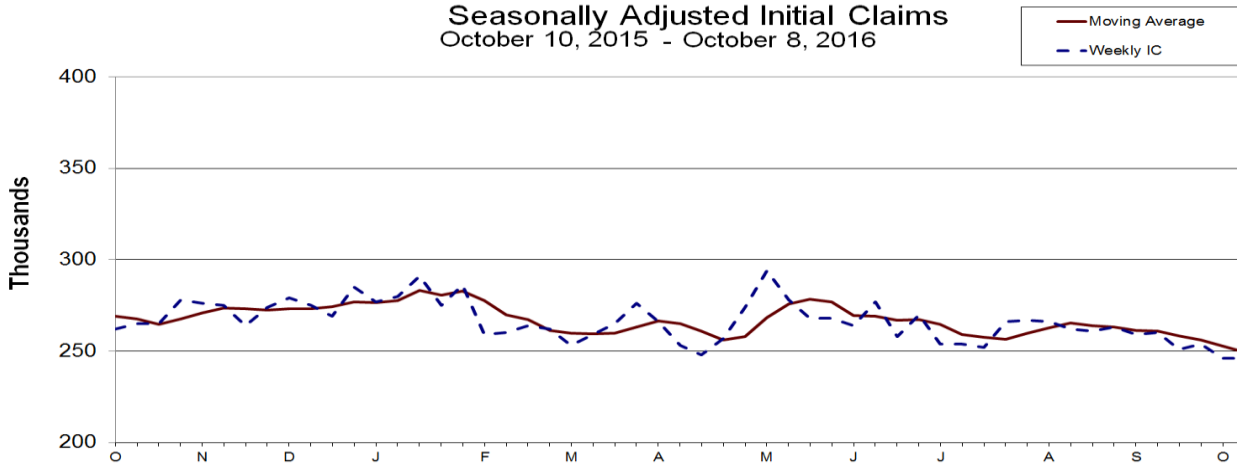
SEASONALLY ADJUSTED DATA

In the week ending October 8, the advance figure for seasonally adjusted **initial claims** was 246,000, unchanged from the previous week's revised level. The previous week's level was revised down by 3,000 from 249,000 to 246,000. The 4-week moving average was 249,250, a decrease of 3,500 from the previous week's revised average. This is the lowest level for this average since November 3, 1973 when it was 244,000. The previous week's average was revised down by 750 from 253,500 to 252,750.

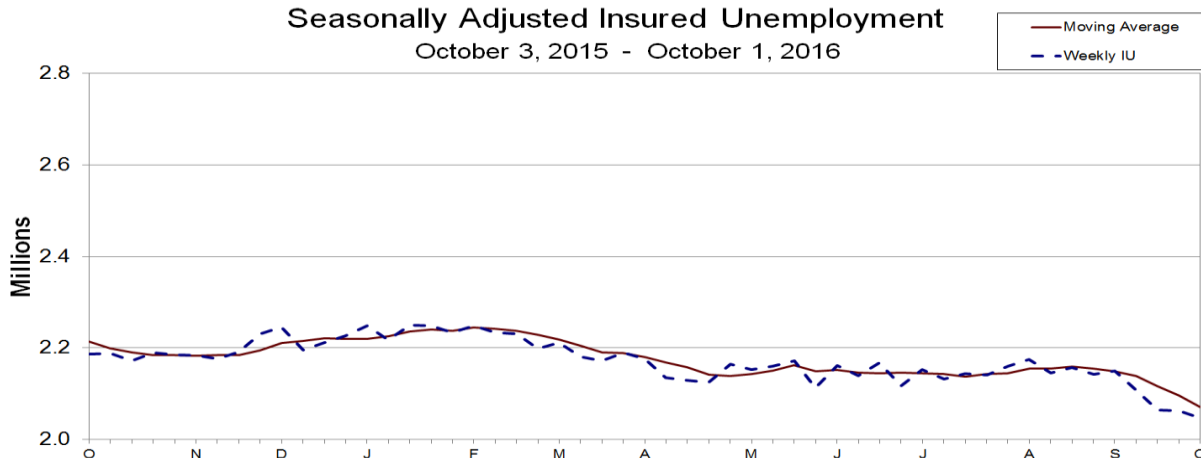
There were no special factors impacting this week's initial claims. This marks 84 consecutive weeks of initial claims below 300,000, the longest streak since 1970.

The advance seasonally adjusted **insured unemployment rate** was 1.5 percent for the week ending October 1, unchanged from the previous week's unrevised rate. The advance number for seasonally adjusted **insured unemployment** during the week ending October 1 was 2,046,000, a decrease of 16,000 from the previous week's revised level. This is the lowest level for insured unemployment since June 24, 2000 when it was 2,033,000. The previous week's level was revised up 4,000 from 2,058,000 to 2,062,000. The 4-week moving average was 2,070,000, a decrease of 25,750 from the previous week's revised average. This is the lowest level for this average since July 8, 2000 when it was 2,056,250. The previous week's average was revised up by 1,000 from 2,094,750 to 2,095,750.

Seasonally Adjusted Initial Claims
October 10, 2015 - October 8, 2016



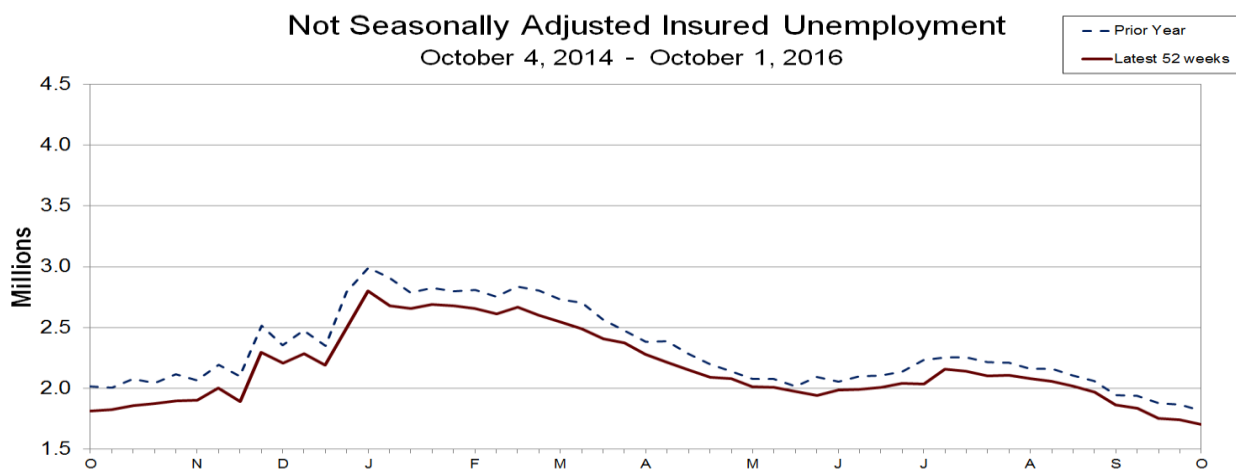
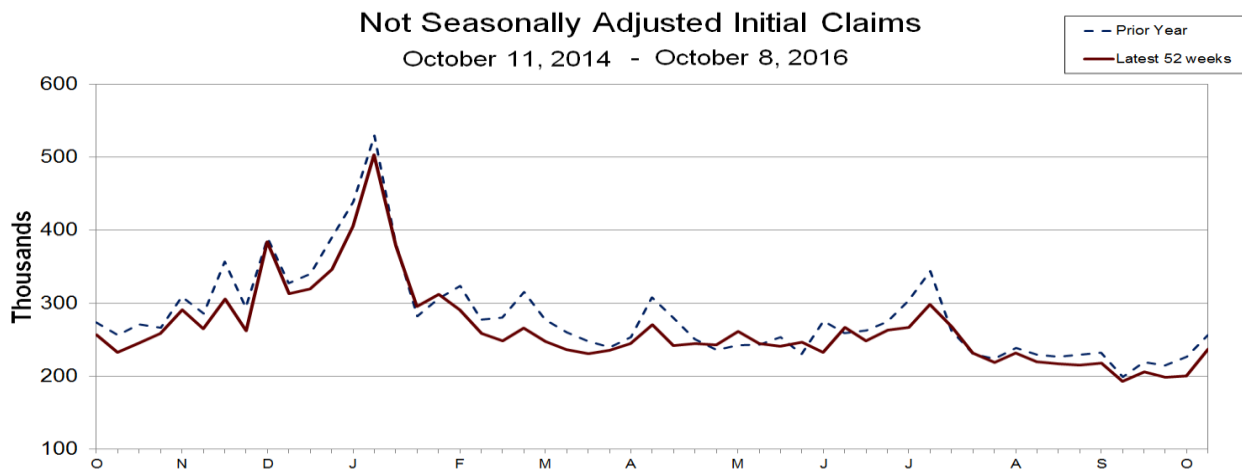
Seasonally Adjusted Insured Unemployment
October 3, 2015 - October 1, 2016



UNADJUSTED DATA

The advance number of actual initial claims under state programs, unadjusted, totaled 237,407 in the week ending October 8, an increase of 36,951 (or 18.4 percent) from the previous week. The seasonal factors had expected an increase of 36,603 (or 18.3 percent) from the previous week. There were 256,522 initial claims in the comparable week in 2015.

The advance unadjusted insured unemployment rate was 1.2 percent during the week ending October 1, a decrease of 0.1 percentage point from the prior week. The advance unadjusted number for persons claiming UI benefits in state programs totaled 1,706,627, a decrease of 37,456 (or -2.1 percent) from the preceding week. The seasonal factors had expected a decrease of 24,739 (or -1.4 percent) from the previous week. A year earlier the rate was 1.3 percent and the volume was 1,816,410.



The total number of people claiming benefits in all programs for the week ending September 24 was 1,781,950, a decrease of 13,790 from the previous week. There were 1,916,540 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 September 24.

Initial claims for UI benefits filed by former Federal civilian employees totaled 849 in the week ending October 1, an increase of 5 from the prior week. There were 1,013 initial claims filed by newly discharged veterans, a decrease of 74 from the preceding week.

There were 8,372 former Federal civilian employees claiming UI benefits for the week ending September 24, a decrease of 780 from the previous week. Newly discharged veterans claiming benefits totaled 13,454, an increase of 83 from the prior week.

The highest insured unemployment rates in the week ending September 24 were in Alaska (2.7), Puerto Rico (2.6), the Virgin Islands (2.5), New Jersey (2.1), California (2.0), Connecticut (2.0), Pennsylvania (1.9), Massachusetts (1.7), West Virginia (1.7), and Illinois (1.6).

The largest increases in initial claims for the week ending October 1 were in Missouri (+1,717), Pennsylvania (+1,322), Ohio (+526), Illinois (+492), and Nevada (+404), while the largest decreases were in Michigan (-2,800), Georgia (-923), Texas (-371), Arkansas (-247), and Kentucky (-194).

UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE DATA FOR REGULAR STATE PROGRAMS

WEEK ENDING	October 8	October 1	Change	September 24	Prior Year¹
Initial Claims (SA)	246,000	246,000	0	254,000	262,000
Initial Claims (NSA)	237,407	200,456	+36,951	198,455	256,522
4-Wk Moving Average (SA)	249,250	252,750	-3,500	256,000	269,250
WEEK ENDING	October 1	September 24	Change	September 17	Prior Year¹
Insured Unemployment (SA)	2,046,000	2,062,000	-16,000	2,064,000	2,186,000
Insured Unemployment (NSA)	1,706,627	1,744,083	-37,456	1,756,097	1,816,410
4-Wk Moving Average (SA)	2,070,000	2,095,750	-25,750	2,115,750	2,213,500
Insured Unemployment Rate (SA)²	1.5%	1.5%	0.0	1.5%	1.6%
Insured Unemployment Rate (NSA)²	1.2%	1.3%	-0.1	1.3%	1.3%

INITIAL CLAIMS FILED IN FEDERAL PROGRAMS (UNADJUSTED)

WEEK ENDING	October 1	September 24	Change	Prior Year¹
Federal Employees (UCFE)	849	844	+5	2,036
Newly Discharged Veterans (UCX)	1,013	1,087	-74	1,484

PERSONS CLAIMING UI BENEFITS IN ALL PROGRAMS (UNADJUSTED)

WEEK ENDING	September 24	September 17	Change	Prior Year¹
Regular State	1,740,241	1,750,784	-10,543	1,866,583
Federal Employees	8,372	9,152	-780	11,112
Newly Discharged Veterans	13,454	13,371	+83	17,706
Extended Benefits³	0	0	0	0
State Additional Benefits⁴	6,843	6,770	+73	7,215
STC / Workshare⁵	13,040	15,663	-2,623	13,924
TOTAL	1,781,950	1,795,740	-13,790	1,916,540

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 138,322,138 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 October 8			Insured Unemployment For Week Ended October 1		
	Advance	Prior Wk	Change	Advance	Prior Wk	Change
Alabama	2,842	2,488	354	18,175	19,501	-1,326
Alaska	2,012	1,251	761	8,296	8,567	-271
Arizona	4,461	3,987	474	26,623	30,668	-4,045
Arkansas	2,178	1,377	801	12,121	13,408	-1,287
California	43,855	38,281	5,574	327,110	314,645	12,465
Colorado	2,770	2,209	561	23,011	23,548	-537
Connecticut	3,243	2,800	443	34,015	33,036	979
Delaware	686	517	169	5,096	5,435	-339
District of Columbia	785	280	505	7,249	7,595	-346
Florida	6,932	7,275	-343	40,019	51,320	-11,301
Georgia	6,878	5,159	1,719	27,681	28,546	-865
Hawaii	1,303	1,056	247	7,284	7,074	210
Idaho	1,074	965	109	4,735	5,418	-683
Illinois	9,471	8,113	1,358	90,008	92,837	-2,829
Indiana	3,161	2,564	597	19,110	19,174	-64
Iowa	2,723	2,006	717	15,541	14,580	961
Kansas	1,913	1,560	353	10,186	10,652	-466
Kentucky	2,670	2,031	639	17,829	19,273	-1,444
*Louisiana	2,301	2,379	-78	22,984	25,211	-2,227
Maine	576	611	-35	3,770	4,116	-346
Maryland	3,628	3,286	342	29,358	32,492	-3,134
Massachusetts	5,101	4,554	547	54,333	56,106	-1,773
Michigan	6,934	5,540	1,394	37,488	47,509	-10,021
Minnesota	3,557	2,960	597	28,371	26,514	1,857
Mississippi	1,479	1,302	177	9,531	10,985	-1,454
Missouri	5,550	4,873	677	24,123	23,390	733
Montana	1,528	967	561	4,481	4,715	-234
Nebraska	685	533	152	3,629	3,646	-17
Nevada	3,075	2,415	660	18,500	20,098	-1,598
New Hampshire	501	481	20	3,397	3,712	-315
New Jersey	9,436	8,125	1,311	82,765	82,165	600
New Mexico	1,190	911	279	10,601	11,168	-567
New York	14,940	12,762	2,178	124,533	123,905	628
North Carolina	3,428	2,980	448	21,431	23,316	-1,885
North Dakota	646	393	253	3,316	2,340	976
Ohio	6,614	6,251	363	47,481	48,173	-692
Oklahoma	1,958	1,585	373	18,857	20,113	-1,256
Oregon	3,902	3,867	35	23,729	23,461	268
Pennsylvania	16,970	13,208	3,762	100,344	104,497	-4,153
Puerto Rico	1,819	1,621	198	23,448	22,528	920
Rhode Island	906	722	184	6,753	6,775	-22
South Carolina	2,153	2,281	-128	13,362	14,724	-1,362
South Dakota	307	239	68	1,033	1,046	-13
Tennessee	2,648	2,247	401	16,103	18,148	-2,045
Texas	16,900	14,323	2,577	161,895	163,680	-1,785
Utah	1,373	964	409	7,564	7,636	-72
Vermont	432	328	104	2,682	2,561	121
Virgin Islands	62	47	15	836	910	-74
*Virginia	3,116	2,777	339	25,089	23,823	1,266
Washington	7,832	5,367	2,465	39,901	38,703	1,198
West Virginia	1,278	835	443	11,600	11,470	130
Wisconsin	4,890	4,410	480	25,233	24,937	296
Wyoming	735	393	342	4,017	4,233	-216
US Total	237,407	200,456	36,951	1,706,627	1,744,083	-37,456

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.

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	
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	2,157	12	2,159.25	1.6
August 27, 2016	263	2	263.00	2,142	-15	2,154.75	1.6
September 3, 2016	259	-4	261.25	2,149	7	2,148.25	1.6
September 10, 2016	260	1	260.75	2,108	-41	2,139.00	1.5
September 17, 2016	251	-9	258.25	2,064	-44	2,115.75	1.5
September 24, 2016	254	3	256.00	2,062	-2	2,095.75	1.5
October 1, 2016	246	-8	252.75	2,046	-16	2,070.00	1.5
October 8, 2016	246	0	249.25				

Initial Claims Filed During Week Ended October 1

Insured Unemployment For Week Ended September 24

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	2488	15	-321	12	12	19501	1.1	-117	-1112	93	131	19725
Alaska	1251	-2	13	6	5	8567	2.7	440	587	75	38	8680
Arizona	3987	42	-174	4	9	30668	1.2	-675	-1861	95	145	30908
Arkansas	1377	-247	-974	6	4	13408	1.2	-455	-4891	54	88	13550
California	38281	260	-4250	196	202	314645	2.0	-7962	-15327	1656	2681	318982
Colorado	2209	255	-625	13	29	23548	1.0	559	-1135	111	498	24157
Connecticut	2800	92	-157	8	9	33036	2.0	-437	368	52	108	33196
Delaware	517	-25	-142	2	3	5435	1.3	715	-245	11	17	5463
District of Columbia	280	8	-82	4	2	7595	1.4	-153	-562	243	5	7843
Florida	7275	20	-934	25	41	51320	0.6	-169	-11856	166	336	51822
Georgia	5159	-923	-1722	28	52	28546	0.7	-1325	-7219	186	390	29122
Hawaii	1056	-130	-54	5	9	7074	1.2	-18	230	50	125	7249
Idaho	965	75	3	1	6	5418	0.8	30	-279	16	38	5472
Illinois	8113	492	-1185	14	14	92837	1.6	-443	-7333	353	342	93532
Indiana	2564	104	-575	7	12	19174	0.7	-287	-1115	45	77	19296
Iowa	2006	-10	-135	0	2	14580	1.0	-302	-1512	36	57	14673
Kansas	1560	-185	-131	3	10	10652	0.8	-273	-2096	54	81	10787
Kentucky	2031	-194	-777	22	9	19273	1.1	591	-425	208	255	19736
Louisiana	2379	-64	38	0	2	25211	1.3	-391	2114	62	52	25325
Maine	611	25	-92	2	2	4116	0.7	-121	-403	18	27	4161
Maryland	3286	-49	-398	29	10	32492	1.3	55	-2028	280	226	32998
Massachusetts	4554	42	-390	19	20	56106	1.7	220	-191	251	262	56619
Michigan	5540	-2800	-111	16	23	47509	1.2	7007	3675	94	167	47770
Minnesota	2960	146	-90	2	8	26514	1.0	-133	-1411	47	118	26679
Mississippi	1302	-26	-193	6	5	10985	1.0	-458	-1059	34	46	11065
Missouri	4873	1717	963	46	9	23390	0.9	-744	-3902	515	88	23993
Montana	967	65	-220	17	2	4715	1.1	182	-232	38	36	4789
Nebraska	533	-69	-587	2	3	3646	0.4	-61	-1194	14	9	3669
Nevada	2415	404	169	5	4	20098	1.6	-127	-5371	51	96	20245
New Hampshire	481	41	-18	1	0	3712	0.6	-34	-365	8	13	3733
New Jersey	8125	182	-310	13	25	82165	2.1	-959	-5897	222	404	82791
New Mexico	911	-27	-239	19	1	11168	1.4	150	-119	105	62	11335
New York	12762	130	-2226	26	42	123905	1.4	-2015	-12753	437	620	124962
North Carolina	2980	17	-962	11	16	23316	0.6	-374	-4923	115	312	23743
North Dakota	393	159	54	0	1	2340	0.5	-41	18	9	4	2353
Ohio	6251	526	-582	20	34	48173	0.9	-1513	-832	127	302	48602
Oklahoma	1585	49	-245	4	7	20113	1.3	473	-567	66	136	20315
Oregon	3867	30	7	23	16	23461	1.3	-453	-2985	131	170	23762
Pennsylvania	13208	1322	-2683	81	44	104497	1.9	1489	-9545	513	462	105472
Puerto Rico	1621	392	-99	2	14	22528	2.6	775	-7394	41	153	22722
Rhode Island	722	3	-122	2	1	6775	1.5	-252	-67	12	18	6805
South Carolina	2281	101	-184	4	18	14724	0.8	-144	-495	49	126	14899
South Dakota	239	96	47	2	1	1046	0.3	-45	108	22	4	1072
Tennessee	2247	76	-724	7	9	18148	0.7	696	-4031	106	289	18543
Texas	14323	-371	-2160	62	176	163680	1.4	-2282	-182	744	2444	166868
Utah	964	-92	-166	26	6	7636	0.6	-136	-698	188	26	7850
Vermont	328	-25	-24	2	1	2561	0.9	-77	-116	9	5	2575
Virgin Islands	47	-21	2	0	0	910	2.5	196	-164	0	4	914
Virginia	2777	146	-763	8	18	23823	0.7	-335	-1168	211	465	24499
Washington	5367	107	-1086	29	57	38703	1.3	-403	-3199	211	772	39686
West Virginia	835	2	-153	1	3	11470	1.7	-534	-782	31	45	11546
Wisconsin	4410	94	-877	6	5	24937	0.9	-1127	-4936	73	57	25067
Wyoming	393	26	-74	0	0	4233	1.5	-217	282	34	22	4289
Totals	200456	2001	-26720	849	1013	1744083	1.3	-12014	-126595	8372	13454	1765909

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 OCTOBER 1, 2016

STATES WITH AN INCREASE OF MORE THAN 1,000

State	Change	State Supplied Comment
MO	+1,717	Layoffs in the manufacturing, and administrative, support, waste management and remediation service industries.
PA	+1,322	No comment.

STATES WITH A DECREASE OF MORE THAN 1,000

State	Change	State Supplied Comment
MI	-2,800	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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