



News Release

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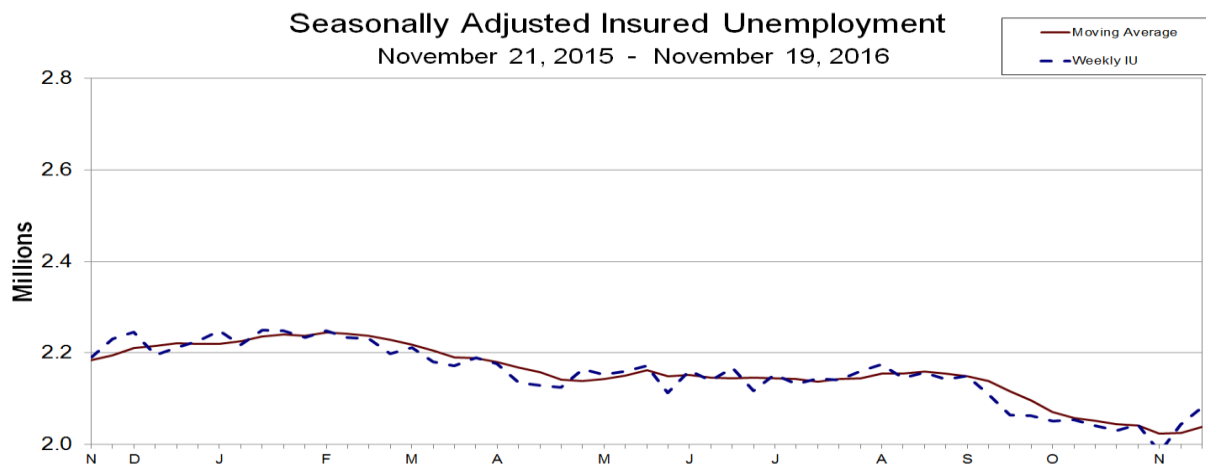
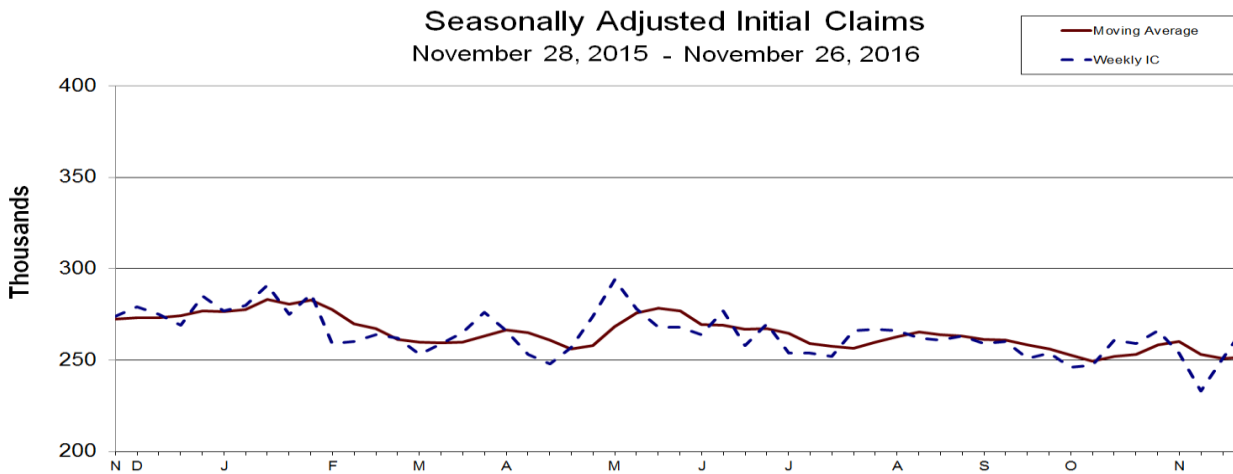
UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE WEEKLY CLAIMS

SEASONALLY ADJUSTED DATA

In the week ending November 26, the advance figure for seasonally adjusted **initial claims** was 268,000, an increase of 17,000 from the previous week's unrevised level of 251,000. The 4-week moving average was 251,500, an increase of 500 from the previous week's unrevised average of 251,000.

There were no special factors impacting this week's initial claims. This marks 91 consecutive weeks of initial claims below 300,000, the longest streak since 1970.

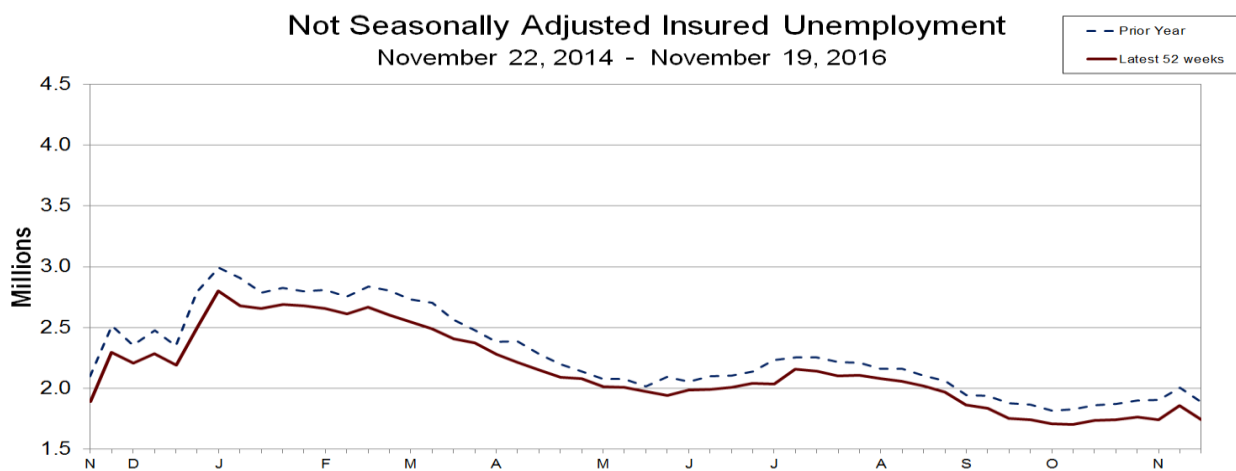
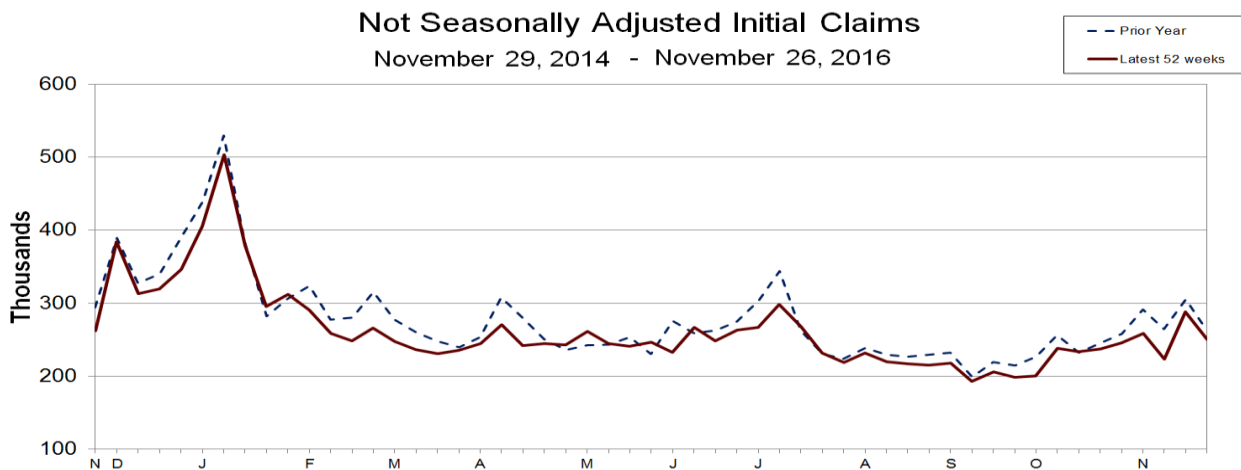
The advance seasonally adjusted **insured unemployment rate** was 1.5 percent for the week ending November 19, unchanged from the previous week's unrevised rate. The advance number for seasonally adjusted **insured unemployment** during the week ending November 19 was 2,081,000, an increase of 38,000 from the previous week's unrevised level of 2,043,000. The 4-week moving average was 2,037,500, an increase of 12,750 from the previous week's unrevised average of 2,024,750.



UNADJUSTED DATA

The advance number of actual initial claims under state programs, unadjusted, totaled 250,377 in the week ending November 26, a decrease of 37,417 (or -13.0 percent) from the previous week. The seasonal factors had expected a decrease of 53,286 (or -18.5 percent) from the previous week. There were 262,628 initial claims in the comparable week in 2015.

The advance unadjusted insured unemployment rate was 1.3 percent during the week ending November 19, unchanged from the prior week. The advance unadjusted number for persons claiming UI benefits in state programs totaled 1,744,272, a decrease of 112,962 (or -6.1 percent) from the preceding week. The seasonal factors had expected a decrease of 145,064 (or -7.8 percent) from the previous week. A year earlier the rate was 1.4 percent and the volume was 1,891,197.



The total number of people claiming benefits in all programs for the week ending November 12 was 1,903,834, an increase of 123,175 from the previous week. There were 2,059,228 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 November 12.

Initial claims for UI benefits filed by former Federal civilian employees totaled 1,787 in the week ending November 19, an increase of 760 from the prior week. There were 989 initial claims filed by newly discharged veterans, an increase of 136 from the preceding week.

There were 14,576 former Federal civilian employees claiming UI benefits for the week ending November 12, an increase of 3,526 from the previous week. Newly discharged veterans claiming benefits totaled 13,319, an increase of 558 from the prior week.

The highest insured unemployment rates in the week ending November 12 were in Alaska (3.9), Puerto Rico (2.6), the Virgin Islands (2.6), New Jersey (2.4), California (2.2), Connecticut (2.1), Pennsylvania (2.0), Wyoming (1.9), and Nevada (1.8).

The largest increases in initial claims for the week ending November 19 were in California (+14,214), Illinois (+5,581), Pennsylvania (+3,612), Missouri (+3,178), and Texas (+2,736), while the largest decreases were in Tennessee (-122), and Rhode Island (-64).

UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE DATA FOR REGULAR STATE PROGRAMS

WEEK ENDING	November 26	November 19	Change	November 12	<u>Prior Year</u>¹
Initial Claims (SA)	268,000	251,000	+17,000	233,000	274,000
Initial Claims (NSA)	250,377	287,794	-37,417	223,770	262,628
4-Wk Moving Average (SA)	251,500	251,000	+500	253,000	272,250
WEEK ENDING	November 19	November 12	Change	November 5	<u>Prior Year</u>¹
Insured Unemployment (SA)	2,081,000	2,043,000	+38,000	1,983,000	2,191,000
Insured Unemployment (NSA)	1,744,272	1,857,234	-112,962	1,740,790	1,891,197
4-Wk Moving Average (SA)	2,037,500	2,024,750	+12,750	2,024,000	2,183,750
<u>Insured Unemployment Rate (SA)</u> ²	1.5%	1.5%	0.0	1.4%	1.6%
<u>Insured Unemployment Rate (NSA)</u> ²	1.3%	1.3%	0.0	1.3%	1.4%

INITIAL CLAIMS FILED IN FEDERAL PROGRAMS (UNADJUSTED)

WEEK ENDING	November 19	November 12	Change	<u>Prior Year</u>¹
Federal Employees (UCFE)	1,787	1,027	+760	1,760
Newly Discharged Veterans (UCX)	989	853	+136	1,258

PERSONS CLAIMING UI BENEFITS IN ALL PROGRAMS (UNADJUSTED)

WEEK ENDING	November 12	November 5	Change	<u>Prior Year</u>¹
Regular State	1,852,220	1,736,727	+115,493	1,998,802
Federal Employees	14,576	11,050	+3,526	14,500
Newly Discharged Veterans	13,319	12,761	+558	17,608
<u>Extended Benefits</u> ³	0	0	0	0
<u>State Additional Benefits</u> ⁴	7,389	7,093	+296	7,443
<u>STC / Workshare</u> ⁵	16,330	13,028	+3,302	20,875
<u>TOTAL</u>	1,903,834	1,780,659	+123,175	2,059,228

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 November 26			Insured Unemployment For Week Ended November 19		
	Advance	Prior Wk	Change	Advance	Prior Wk	Change
Alabama	2,130	2,808	-678	17,966	19,351	-1,385
Alaska	1,471	1,790	-319	11,772	12,378	-606
Arizona	2,470	4,291	-1,821	22,328	28,057	-5,729
Arkansas	2,680	2,582	98	13,379	14,399	-1,020
California	42,700	53,669	-10,969	301,068	353,912	-52,844
Colorado	2,751	3,454	-703	24,256	25,535	-1,279
Connecticut	2,941	3,972	-1,031	34,621	34,479	142
Delaware	743	796	-53	5,150	5,184	-34
District of Columbia	466	410	56	7,682	8,378	-696
Florida	5,045	7,695	-2,650	33,196	44,383	-11,187
Georgia	4,115	6,798	-2,683	23,700	29,871	-6,171
Hawaii	971	1,369	-398	7,390	7,644	-254
Idaho	2,006	1,870	136	6,866	7,063	-197
Illinois	12,755	13,275	-520	91,202	95,733	-4,531
Indiana	3,433	4,293	-860	20,155	19,611	544
Iowa	4,467	3,593	874	17,526	16,094	1,432
Kansas	2,825	2,314	511	10,686	10,409	277
Kentucky	2,547	3,507	-960	17,989	19,103	-1,114
Louisiana	2,003	3,068	-1,065	23,145	23,066	79
Maine	781	1,075	-294	5,250	5,324	-74
Maryland	3,551	4,373	-822	29,973	33,386	-3,413
Massachusetts	6,586	6,512	74	57,010	59,300	-2,290
Michigan	9,404	10,582	-1,178	45,562	48,003	-2,441
Minnesota	8,477	6,462	2,015	41,070	35,687	5,383
Mississippi	1,343	1,833	-490	9,024	10,993	-1,969
Missouri	3,170	5,043	-1,873	20,644	21,843	-1,199
Montana	1,881	1,883	-2	7,646	7,494	152
Nebraska	1,467	1,026	441	4,411	4,152	259
Nevada	3,127	2,909	218	20,116	21,961	-1,845
New Hampshire	521	632	-111	3,585	3,928	-343
New Jersey	9,725	11,023	-1,298	87,540	92,313	-4,773
New Mexico	872	1,291	-419	11,174	11,741	-567
New York	15,557	17,524	-1,967	137,681	137,753	-72
North Carolina	2,607	4,214	-1,607	22,118	23,836	-1,718
North Dakota	2,249	1,298	951	4,877	2,994	1,883
Ohio	10,920	9,634	1,286	52,729	51,417	1,312
Oklahoma	1,546	3,001	-1,455	19,337	19,286	51
Oregon	4,023	5,803	-1,780	27,037	27,769	-732
Pennsylvania	18,745	18,312	433	104,675	109,825	-5,150
Puerto Rico	771	1,630	-859	19,818	23,240	-3,422
Rhode Island	1,197	957	240	7,440	7,258	182
South Carolina	1,636	3,199	-1,563	13,761	14,942	-1,181
South Dakota	452	462	-10	1,516	1,551	-35
Tennessee	2,316	2,712	-396	16,144	16,855	-711
Texas	10,891	18,565	-7,674	150,584	159,339	-8,755
Utah	1,475	1,676	-201	9,193	8,838	355
Vermont	1,413	692	721	3,746	3,602	144
Virgin Islands	9	28	-19	422	946	-524
Virginia	3,277	3,740	-463	23,446	23,320	126
Washington	8,373	8,953	-580	49,859	47,235	2,624
West Virginia	1,111	1,641	-530	11,768	11,598	170
Wisconsin	11,635	6,884	4,751	30,526	29,721	805
Wyoming	750	671	79	4,513	5,134	-621
US Total	250,377	287,794	-37,417	1,744,272	1,857,234	-112,962

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	
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	2,050	-12	2,071.00	1.5
October 8, 2016	247	1	249.50	2,054	4	2,057.50	1.5
October 15, 2016	261	14	252.00	2,040	-14	2,051.50	1.5
October 22, 2016	259	-2	253.25	2,030	-10	2,043.50	1.5
October 29, 2016	266	7	258.25	2,043	13	2,041.75	1.5
November 5, 2016	254	-12	260.00	1,983	-60	2,024.00	1.4
November 12, 2016	233	-21	253.00	2,043	60	2,024.75	1.5
November 19, 2016	251	18	251.00	2,081	38	2,037.50	1.5
November 26, 2016	268	17	251.50				

Initial Claims Filed During Week Ended November 19

Insured Unemployment For Week Ended November 12

STATE	INITIAL CLAIMS CHANGE FROM					STATE	(%) ²	CHANGE FROM				ALL PROGRAMS EXCLUDING RAILROAD RETIREMENT
	STATE	LAST WEEK	YEAR AGO	UCFE ¹	UCX ¹			LAST WEEK	YEAR AGO	UCFE ¹	UCX ¹	
Alabama	2808	217	-205	9	12	19351	1.0	-234	-2092	76	146	19573
Alaska	1790	159	26	17	3	12378	3.9	1543	-311	198	24	12600
Arizona	4291	917	218	27	11	28057	1.1	2294	-45	167	148	28372
Arkansas	2582	796	-1020	10	6	14399	1.2	508	-5602	66	101	14566
California	53669	14214	-123	518	158	353912	2.2	42643	2730	2950	2739	359601
Colorado	3454	1395	-429	44	36	25535	1.0	2286	-2607	349	509	26393
Connecticut	3972	1392	523	8	10	34479	2.1	2101	74	75	117	34671
Delaware	796	241	92	1	0	5184	1.2	435	-684	13	18	5215
District of Columbia	410	72	78	12	0	8378	1.5	198	170	273	4	8655
Florida	7695	466	-589	30	63	44383	0.6	54	-11258	354	293	45030
Georgia	6798	1583	-823	68	43	29871	0.7	2037	-5201	389	444	30704
Hawaii	1369	439	237	6	9	7644	1.3	659	1283	66	133	7843
Idaho	1870	522	-386	59	3	7063	1.1	343	-218	104	36	7203
Illinois	13275	5581	-1313	12	18	95733	1.7	5722	-10950	427	338	96498
Indiana	4293	1346	-221	12	4	19611	0.7	966	-1561	100	94	19805
Iowa	3593	1400	-1289	4	6	16094	1.1	971	-1104	44	65	16203
Kansas	2314	562	-379	12	11	10409	0.8	469	-2867	66	72	10547
Kentucky	3507	504	-65	29	10	19103	1.1	-2683	-739	355	295	19753
Louisiana	3068	682	664	0	0	23066	1.2	-51	1465	62	54	23182
Maine	1075	168	-225	4	2	5324	0.9	391	-979	31	15	5370
Maryland	4373	1298	202	29	17	33386	1.4	617	-3544	346	197	33929
Massachusetts	6512	514	-182	28	24	59300	1.7	1265	-1809	375	249	59924
Michigan	10582	2268	171	37	14	48003	1.2	4400	-6948	210	230	48443
Minnesota	6462	1094	-2074	12	4	35687	1.3	3763	-3170	81	111	35879
Mississippi	1833	442	-211	7	2	10993	1.0	649	-1315	89	48	11130
Missouri	5043	3178	114	15	1	21843	0.8	278	-6029	585	91	22519
Montana	1883	597	-266	78	2	7494	1.7	857	-1358	288	36	7818
Nebraska	1026	230	-253	0	4	4152	0.4	154	-976	20	13	4185
Nevada	2909	207	-120	30	7	21961	1.8	1284	-1435	154	91	22206
New Hampshire	632	104	-98	2	1	3928	0.6	148	-560	10	6	3944
New Jersey	11023	947	679	25	16	92313	2.4	6737	-2111	318	425	93056
New Mexico	1291	134	-196	34	2	11741	1.5	476	-844	262	74	12077
New York	17524	1772	-2206	35	49	137753	1.5	4706	-11181	630	616	138999
North Carolina	4214	297	-392	23	24	23836	0.6	-508	-3642	128	271	24235
North Dakota	1298	652	210	3	0	2994	0.7	382	-46	9	4	3007
Ohio	9634	2183	90	12	29	51417	1.0	1576	-4664	214	295	51926
Oklahoma	3001	1498	0	12	14	19286	1.2	-920	-1854	79	150	19515
Oregon	5803	1813	-622	126	25	27769	1.6	2165	-3313	481	166	28416
Pennsylvania	18312	3612	-2166	142	47	109825	2.0	8325	-12675	1202	506	111533
Puerto Rico	1630	639	143	3	8	23240	2.6	780	-4339	66	144	23450
Rhode Island	957	-64	74	3	2	7258	1.6	567	-341	18	22	7298
South Carolina	3199	620	-596	10	23	14942	0.8	256	-2317	46	133	15121
South Dakota	462	175	-99	5	1	1551	0.4	221	99	21	3	1575
Tennessee	2712	-122	-853	5	5	16855	0.6	129	-5511	214	60	17129
Texas	18565	2736	419	44	163	159339	1.4	11520	-10024	1218	2312	162869
Utah	1676	191	-237	55	3	8838	0.7	422	-1319	299	30	9167
Vermont	692	150	-103	2	1	3602	1.2	417	-248	13	6	3621
Virgin Islands	28	8	-7	0	1	946	2.6	404	158	0	8	954
Virginia	3740	955	-14	19	21	23320	0.7	653	-2400	338	496	24154
Washington	8953	1472	-1088	79	66	47235	1.5	1419	-4598	451	734	48420
West Virginia	1641	703	-136	3	4	11598	1.7	618	-3274	33	50	11681
Wisconsin	6884	932	-2480	13	4	29721	1.1	1546	-6307	119	63	29903
Wyoming	671	133	-104	14	0	5134	1.9	486	-400	94	34	5262
Totals	287794	64024	-17630	1787	989	1857234	1.3	116444	-148791	14576	13319	1885129

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 19, 2016

STATES WITH AN INCREASE OF MORE THAN 1,000

State	Change	State Supplied Comment
CA	14,214	No comment.
IL	5,581	Layoffs in the construction, administrative, support, waste management and remediation service, wholesale trade, and retail trade industries.
PA	3,612	No comment.
MO	3,178	Layoffs in the health care and social assistance, administrative, support, waste management and remediation service, and manufacturing industries.
TX	2,736	No comment.
MI	2,268	Layoffs in the construction industry.
OH	2,183	Layoffs in the manufacturing industry.
OR	1,813	No comment.
NY	1,772	Layoffs in the transportation and warehousing, construction, and educational services industries.
GA	1,583	Layoffs in the retail trade, administrative, support, waste management and remediation service, and construction industries.
OK	1,498	No comment.
WA	1,472	Layoffs in the mining, quarrying, and oil and gas extraction, manufacturing, real estate and rental and leasing, and educational services industries.
IA	1,400	Layoffs in the construction and manufacturing industries.
CO	1,395	No comment.
IN	1,346	Layoffs in the manufacturing industry.
MD	1,298	No comment.
MN	1,094	No comment.

STATES WITH A DECREASE OF MORE THAN 1,000

State	Change	State Supplied Comment
None		

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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