



# News Release

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8:30 A.M. (Eastern) Thursday, December 15, 2016

## UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE WEEKLY CLAIMS

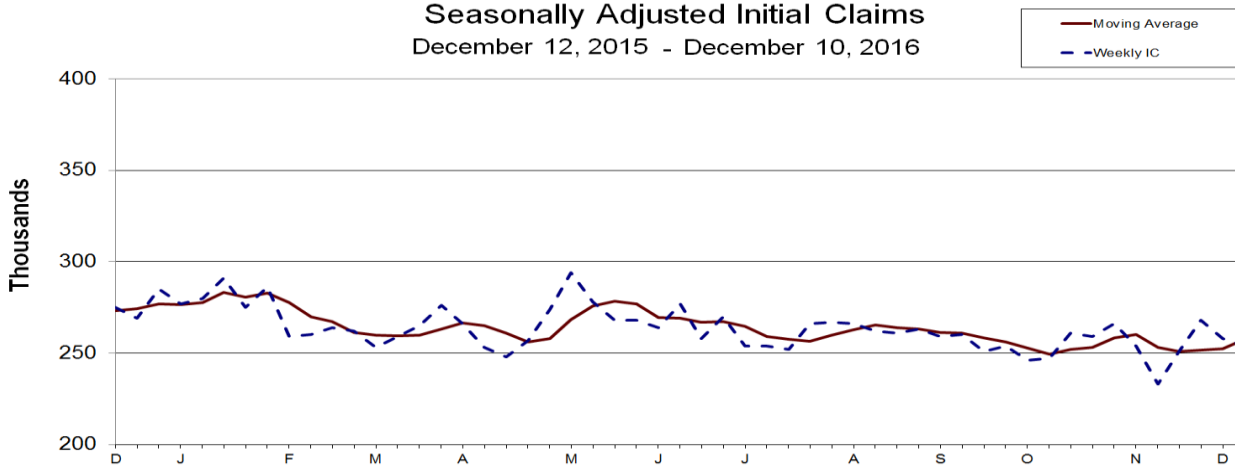
### SEASONALLY ADJUSTED DATA

In the week ending December 10, the advance figure for seasonally adjusted **initial claims** was 254,000, a decrease of 4,000 from the previous week's unrevised level of 258,000. The 4-week moving average was 257,750, an increase of 5,250 from the previous week's unrevised average of 252,500.

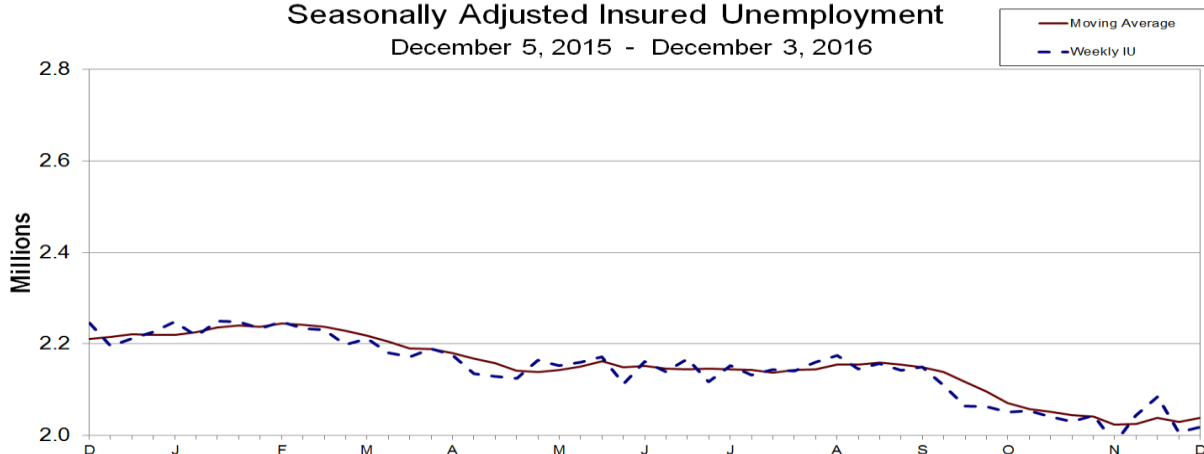
There were no special factors impacting this week's initial claims. This marks 93 consecutive weeks of initial claims below 300,000, the longest streak since 1970.

The advance seasonally adjusted **insured unemployment rate** was 1.5 percent for the week ending December 3, unchanged from the previous week's revised rate. The previous week's rate was revised up by 0.1 from 1.4 to 1.5 percent. The advance number for seasonally adjusted **insured unemployment** during the week ending December 3 was 2,018,000, an increase of 11,000 from the previous week's revised level. The previous week's level was revised up 2,000 from 2,005,000 to 2,007,000. The 4-week moving average was 2,038,000, an increase of 8,750 from the previous week's revised average. The previous week's average was revised up by 500 from 2,028,750 to 2,029,250.

Seasonally Adjusted Initial Claims  
December 12, 2015 - December 10, 2016



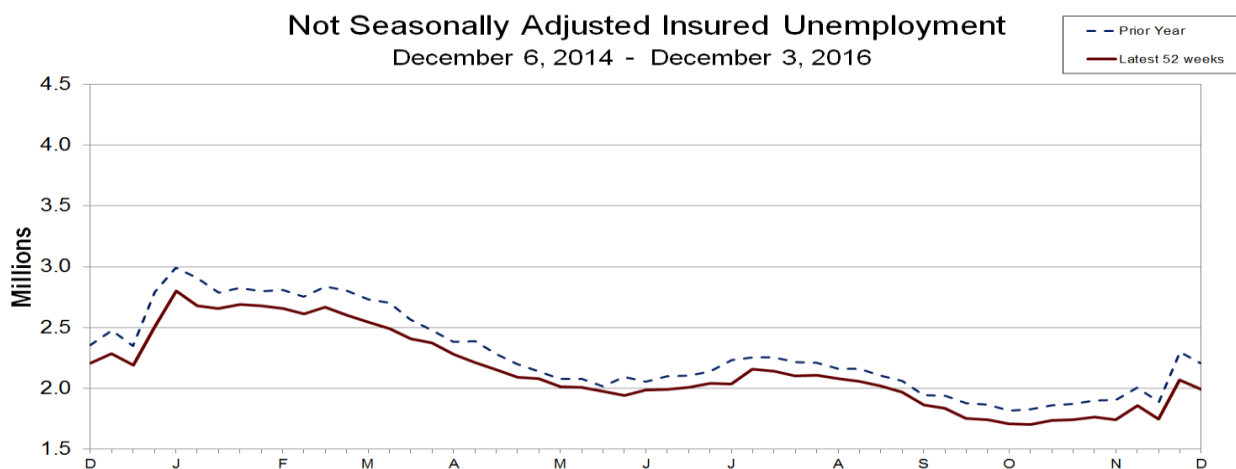
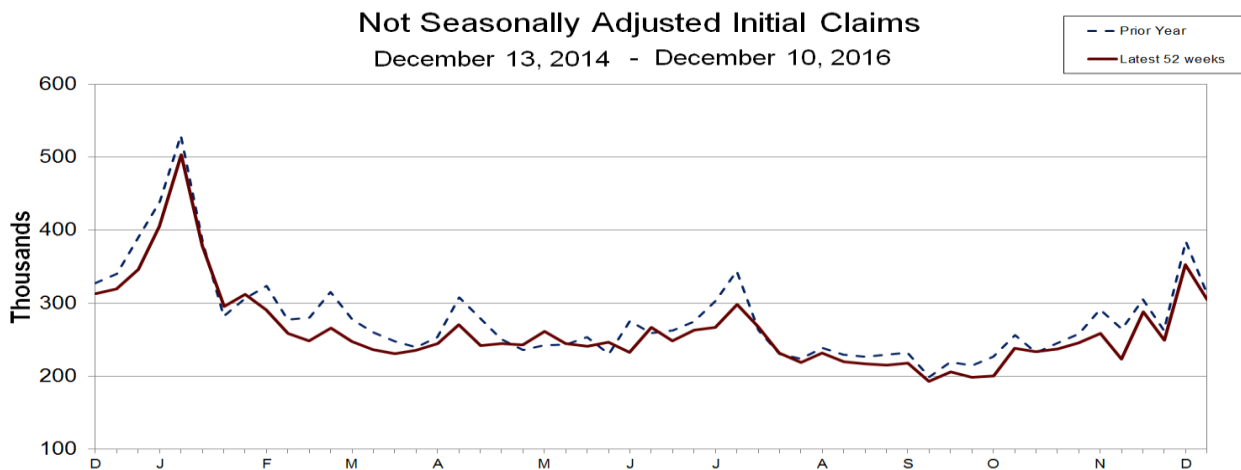
Seasonally Adjusted Insured Unemployment  
December 5, 2015 - December 3, 2016



## UNADJUSTED DATA

The advance number of actual initial claims under state programs, unadjusted, totaled 305,100 in the week ending December 10, a decrease of 47,434 (or -13.5 percent) from the previous week. The seasonal factors had expected a decrease of 43,036 (or -12.2 percent) from the previous week. There were 313,276 initial claims in the comparable week in 2015.

The advance unadjusted insured unemployment rate was 1.4 percent during the week ending December 3, a decrease of 0.1 percentage point from the prior week. The advance unadjusted number for persons claiming UI benefits in state programs totaled 1,993,398, a decrease of 77,973 (or -3.8 percent) from the preceding week. The seasonal factors had expected a decrease of 88,314 (or -4.3 percent) from the previous week. A year earlier the rate was 1.6 percent and the volume was 2,206,522.



The total number of people claiming benefits in all programs for the week ending November 26 was 2,117,437, an increase of 331,537 from the previous week. There were 2,353,792 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 26.

Initial claims for UI benefits filed by former Federal civilian employees totaled 1,592 in the week ending December 3, an increase of 683 from the prior week. There were 1,135 initial claims filed by newly discharged veterans, an increase of 551 from the preceding week.

There were 16,079 former Federal civilian employees claiming UI benefits for the week ending November 26, an increase of 4,539 from the previous week. Newly discharged veterans claiming benefits totaled 13,509, an increase of 1,473 from the prior week.

The highest insured unemployment rates in the week ending November 26 were in Alaska (4.5), Puerto Rico (2.7), New Jersey (2.5), California (2.4), Montana (2.3), the Virgin Islands (2.3), Connecticut (2.2), West Virginia (2.2), Pennsylvania (2.1), Wyoming (2.1), and Nevada (2.0).

The largest increases in initial claims for the week ending December 3 were in New York (+15,066), Pennsylvania (+11,873), California (+11,480), Texas (+9,317), and Georgia (+5,687), while the largest decreases were in Vermont (-202), Nebraska (-71), North Dakota (-51), and Kansas (-2).

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UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE DATA FOR REGULAR STATE PROGRAMS

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WEEK ENDING	December 10	December 3	Change	November 26	<u>Prior Year</u> <sup>1</sup>
Initial Claims (SA)	254,000	258,000	-4,000	268,000	275,000
Initial Claims (NSA)	305,100	352,534	-47,434	249,774	313,276
4-Wk Moving Average (SA)	257,750	252,500	+5,250	251,500	273,000
WEEK ENDING	December 3	November 26	Change	November 19	<u>Prior Year</u> <sup>1</sup>
Insured Unemployment (SA)	2,018,000	2,007,000	+11,000	2,084,000	2,245,000
Insured Unemployment (NSA)	1,993,398	2,071,371	-77,973	1,746,231	2,206,522
4-Wk Moving Average (SA)	2,038,000	2,029,250	+8,750	2,038,250	2,210,500
<u>Insured Unemployment Rate (SA)</u> <sup>2</sup>	1.5%	1.5%	0.0	1.5%	1.7%
<u>Insured Unemployment Rate (NSA)</u> <sup>2</sup>	1.4%	1.5%	-0.1	1.3%	1.6%

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INITIAL CLAIMS FILED IN FEDERAL PROGRAMS (UNADJUSTED)

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WEEK ENDING	December 3	November 26	Change	<u>Prior Year</u> <sup>1</sup>
Federal Employees (UCFE)	1,592	909	+683	1,714
Newly Discharged Veterans (UCX)	1,135	584	+551	1,407

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PERSONS CLAIMING UI BENEFITS IN ALL PROGRAMS (UNADJUSTED)

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WEEK ENDING	November 26	November 19	Change	<u>Prior Year</u> <sup>1</sup>
Regular State	2,067,695	1,742,073	+325,622	2,294,316
Federal Employees	16,079	11,540	+4,539	16,107
Newly Discharged Veterans	13,509	12,036	+1,473	17,875
<u>Extended Benefits</u> <sup>3</sup>	0	0	0	0
<u>State Additional Benefits</u> <sup>4</sup>	7,572	7,009	+563	7,867
<u>STC / Workshare</u> <sup>5</sup>	12,582	13,242	-660	17,627
<u>TOTAL</u>	2,117,437	1,785,900	+331,537	2,353,792

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 December 10			Insured Unemployment For Week Ended December 3		
	Advance	Prior Wk	Change	Advance	Prior Wk	Change
Alabama	2,866	4,033	-1,167	18,490	21,198	-2,708
Alaska	1,695	1,665	30	12,457	14,217	-1,760
Arizona	3,832	4,258	-426	22,340	26,283	-3,943
Arkansas	2,311	2,949	-638	14,605	16,654	-2,049
California	51,201	53,810	-2,609	372,183	383,139	-10,956
Colorado	3,830	3,334	496	25,944	26,443	-499
Connecticut	4,065	4,520	-455	37,925	35,942	1,983
Delaware	662	1,044	-382	5,687	6,577	-890
District of Columbia	605	398	207	7,977	8,624	-647
Florida	7,725	7,564	161	34,154	47,651	-13,497
Georgia	7,330	10,041	-2,711	28,810	34,035	-5,225
Hawaii	1,254	1,680	-426	7,677	8,080	-403
Idaho	2,541	2,492	49	8,369	8,996	-627
Illinois	19,923	17,013	2,910	108,765	105,144	3,621
Indiana	5,150	4,660	490	22,374	22,111	263
Iowa	6,310	5,342	968	22,529	20,334	2,195
Kansas	3,351	2,643	708	11,566	11,994	-428
Kentucky	3,265	3,167	98	19,403	19,848	-445
Louisiana	2,812	3,109	-297	23,798	23,357	441
Maine	1,295	1,716	-421	6,522	6,471	51
Maryland	3,796	5,121	-1,325	32,397	35,748	-3,351
Massachusetts	8,178	8,172	6	63,829	65,327	-1,498
Michigan	12,172	12,089	83	53,518	57,502	-3,984
Minnesota	7,641	10,954	-3,313	56,207	52,498	3,709
Mississippi	1,378	2,122	-744	9,728	12,008	-2,280
Missouri	4,844	5,147	-303	23,813	25,985	-2,172
Montana	2,384	2,128	256	9,417	9,871	-454
Nebraska	1,663	1,412	251	5,371	5,489	-118
Nevada	3,119	3,374	-255	21,637	24,423	-2,786
New Hampshire	717	785	-68	4,015	4,330	-315
New Jersey	11,048	12,284	-1,236	96,276	96,758	-482
New Mexico	1,021	1,287	-266	11,599	12,488	-889
New York	17,408	30,401	-12,993	151,587	159,965	-8,378
North Carolina	4,493	4,426	67	23,168	24,180	-1,012
North Dakota	2,222	1,857	365	7,434	5,527	1,907
Ohio	10,813	10,836	-23	60,598	58,704	1,894
Oklahoma	1,762	1,793	-31	18,519	20,010	-1,491
Oregon	5,086	6,833	-1,747	29,408	31,577	-2,169
Pennsylvania	20,608	30,480	-9,872	129,167	117,498	11,669
Puerto Rico	1,289	1,573	-284	19,895	23,477	-3,582
Rhode Island	1,094	1,243	-149	8,209	8,139	70
South Carolina	3,021	4,558	-1,537	14,627	16,439	-1,812
South Dakota	657	747	-90	2,494	2,150	344
Tennessee	3,296	3,662	-366	17,139	18,359	-1,220
Texas	15,441	20,194	-4,753	152,684	175,613	-22,929
Utah	2,114	2,556	-442	11,138	9,886	1,252
Vermont	653	1,218	-565	4,722	4,905	-183
Virgin Islands	13	46	-33	548	856	-308
Virginia	4,069	4,471	-402	25,589	25,388	201
Washington	9,398	9,724	-326	55,832	54,210	1,622
West Virginia	2,175	2,143	32	15,155	14,762	393
Wisconsin	8,523	12,637	-4,114	41,021	44,549	-3,528
Wyoming	981	823	158	5,082	5,652	-570
US Total	305,100	352,534	-47,434	1,993,398	2,071,371	-77,973

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	
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	2,084	41	2,038.25	1.5
November 26, 2016	268	17	251.50	2,007	-77	2,029.25	1.5
December 3, 2016	258	-10	252.50	2,018	11	2,038.00	1.5
December 10, 2016	254	-4	257.75				

Initial Claims Filed During Week Ended December 3 INITIAL CLAIMS							Insured Unemployment For Week Ended November 26 INSURED UNEMPLOYMENT					ALL PROGRAMS EXCLUDING RAILROAD RETIREMENT
STATE	CHANGE FROM STATE LAST WEEK		YEAR AGO		STATE	( %) 2	CHANGE FROM LAST WEEK		YEAR AGO		UCFE 1	
	STATE	LAST WEEK	UCFE	UCX			LAST WEEK	YEAR AGO	UCFE	UCX		
Alabama	4033	1709	388	11	11	21198	1.1	1932	-1523	64	129	21391
Alaska	1665	419	-117	12	3	14217	4.5	2163	-119	222	37	14476
Arizona	4258	1601	328	30	2	26283	1.0	1423	-1509	197	131	26611
Arkansas	2949	111	-732	14	9	16654	1.4	2342	-6574	83	85	16822
California	53810	11480	-2161	380	175	383139	2.4	87464	-42342	3463	2807	389409
Colorado	3334	631	-584	43	45	26443	1.1	2637	-4214	382	518	27343
Connecticut	4520	1584	-367	14	11	35942	2.2	2895	-1217	81	117	36140
Delaware	1044	276	-143	1	2	6577	1.5	1723	-808	11	15	6603
District of Columbia	398	127	41	6	0	8624	1.6	538	44	276	3	8903
Florida	7564	2198	-669	28	67	47651	0.6	8513	-10695	358	288	48297
Georgia	10041	5687	-3600	28	55	34035	0.8	8704	-10239	455	407	34897
Hawaii	1680	731	-22	5	18	8080	1.3	985	929	82	128	8290
Idaho	2492	382	-768	71	4	8996	1.4	1439	25	175	44	9215
Illinois	17013	4395	-2287	15	27	105144	1.8	15162	-17476	454	384	105982
Indiana	4660	1251	-1016	8	8	22111	0.8	2014	-1329	109	79	22299
Iowa	5342	1382	-1217	7	2	20334	1.3	4277	-3613	44	63	20441
Kansas	2643	-2	-598	3	15	11994	0.9	1746	-2751	70	74	12138
Kentucky	3167	612	-1102	20	1	19848	1.1	1663	-2925	267	283	20398
Louisiana	3109	1080	695	0	1	23357	1.2	373	1856	56	52	23465
Maine	1716	883	-308	4	1	6471	1.1	1114	-1194	28	15	6514
Maryland	5121	1348	35	35	26	35748	1.5	2752	-4548	352	196	36296
Massachusetts	8172	1510	-1065	22	10	65327	1.9	7555	-3466	390	255	65972
Michigan	12089	2457	-878	39	32	57502	1.4	10248	-5648	240	239	57981
Minnesota	10954	2845	767	9	8	52498	1.9	14405	-167	101	122	52721
Mississippi	2122	485	-207	16	3	12008	1.1	1457	-1901	93	51	12152
Missouri	5147	1712	-1723	36	3	25985	1.0	3726	-6211	643	73	26701
Montana	2128	254	-238	85	8	9871	2.3	2058	-1790	430	33	10334
Nebraska	1412	-71	-562	1	4	5489	0.6	1132	-596	24	17	5530
Nevada	3374	257	-267	14	7	24423	2.0	3009	-3420	185	94	24702
New Hampshire	785	179	-169	2	2	4330	0.7	403	-713	15	8	4353
New Jersey	12284	2471	-1	14	21	96758	2.5	11327	-7019	312	404	97474
New Mexico	1287	339	-72	32	4	12488	1.6	1060	-1146	284	82	12854
New York	30401	15066	600	37	42	159965	1.8	23706	-9415	637	600	161202
North Carolina	4426	1974	-902	11	18	24180	0.6	963	-4532	134	243	24557
North Dakota	1857	-51	342	5	2	5527	1.3	2024	868	16	3	5546
Ohio	10836	65	-1825	16	45	58704	1.1	6345	-6035	218	321	59243
Oklahoma	1793	263	-202	14	9	20010	1.3	58	-2719	77	143	20230
Oregon	6833	2853	-1301	96	19	31577	1.8	4591	-3752	580	156	32313
Pennsylvania	30480	11873	-2121	99	63	117498	2.1	14308	-16255	1287	498	119283
Puerto Rico	1573	648	-178	5	6	23477	2.7	1962	-4933	89	150	23716
Rhode Island	1243	63	-37	3	1	8139	1.8	822	-83	13	28	8180
South Carolina	4558	2842	-863	4	17	16439	0.9	1967	-2948	52	136	16627
South Dakota	747	258	22	10	0	2150	0.5	600	22	34	5	2189
Tennessee	3662	1202	-1602	11	2	18359	0.7	1817	-5350	410	217	18986
Texas	20194	9317	-1509	61	225	175613	1.5	27757	-7034	1203	2324	179140
Utah	2556	1122	142	68	1	9886	0.8	745	-1314	240	36	10162
Vermont	1218	-202	-55	2	3	4905	1.6	1371	-311	15	5	4925
Virgin Islands	46	32	15	0	1	856	2.3	436	78	0	8	864
Virginia	4471	1394	-416	29	12	25388	0.7	2720	-2544	326	514	26228
Washington	9724	1637	-1062	80	63	54210	1.8	6292	-5585	480	741	55431
West Virginia	2143	918	-581	2	2	14762	2.2	3398	-3292	39	51	14852
Wisconsin	12637	974	-1734	17	15	44549	1.6	14125	-10009	114	67	44730
Wyoming	823	189	-71	17	4	5652	2.1	894	-604	169	30	5851
Totals	352534	102760	-31957	1592	1135	2071371	1.5	325140	-228046	16079	13509	2100959

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.

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**UNADJUSTED INITIAL CLAIMS FOR WEEK ENDED DECEMBER 3, 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>
NY	+15,066	Layoffs in the construction, transportation and warehousing, and accommodation and food service industries.
PA	+11,873	Layoffs in the transportation and warehousing and administrative, support, waste management and remediation service industries.
CA	+11,480	Layoffs in the agriculture, forestry, fishing and hunting industry.
TX	+9,317	Layoffs in the administrative, support, waste management and remediation service, manufacturing, and educational service industries.
GA	+5,687	Layoffs in the administrative, support, waste management and remediation service, construction, and accommodation and food service industries.
IL	+4,395	No comment.
OR	+2,853	No comment.
MN	+2,845	No comment.
SC	+2,842	No comment.
NJ	+2,471	Layoffs in the professional, scientific and technical service, construction, and administrative, support, waste management and remediation service industries.
MI	+2,457	Layoffs in the construction industry.
FL	+2,198	Layoffs in the agriculture, forestry, fishing and hunting, manufacturing, construction, and retail trade industries.
NC	+1,974	Layoffs in the accommodation and food service, manufacturing, and administrative, support, waste management and remediation service industries.
MO	+1,712	Layoffs in the administrative, support, waste management and remediation service, construction, and retail trade industries.
AL	+1,709	Layoffs in the manufacturing industry.
WA	+1,637	Layoffs in the transportation and warehousing, real estate and rental and leasing, arts, entertainment, and recreation, and transportation and warehousing industries.
AZ	+1,601	No comment.
CT	+1,584	No comment.
MA	+1,510	Layoffs in the transportation and warehousing, construction, and administrative, support, waste management and remediation service industries.
VA	+1,394	Layoffs in the manufacturing and professional, scientific and technical service industries.
IA	+1,382	Layoffs in the manufacturing and construction industries.
MD	+1,348	No comment.
IN	+1,251	No comment.
TN	+1,202	Layoffs in the administrative, support, waste management and remediation service, manufacturing, construction, and accommodation and food service industries.
UT	+1,122	No comment.
LA	+1,080	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>
		None.

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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](#)

U.S. Department of Labor news materials are accessible at <http://www.dol.gov>. The Department's [Reasonable Accommodation Resource Center](#) converts Departmental information and documents into alternative formats, which include Braille and large print. For alternative format requests, please contact the Department at (202) 693-7828 (voice) or (800) 877-8339 (federal relay).

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