



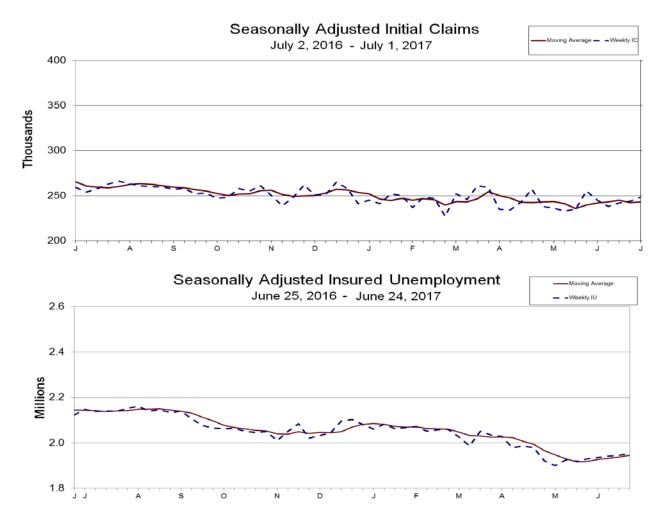
### TRANSMISSION OF MATERIALS IN THIS RELEASE IS EMBARGOED UNTIL 8:30 A.M. (Eastern) Thursday, July 6, 2017

## UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE WEEKLY CLAIMS

## SEASONALLY ADJUSTED DATA

In the week ending July 1, the advance figure for seasonally adjusted **initial claims** was 248,000, an increase of 4,000 from the previous week's unrevised level of 244,000. The 4-week moving average was 243,000, an increase of 750 from the previous week's unrevised average of 242,250.

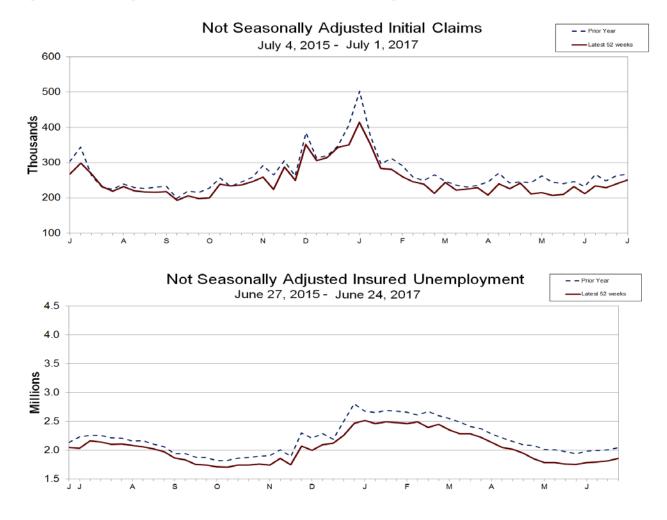
The advance seasonally adjusted **insured unemployment rate** was 1.4 percent for the week ending June 24, unchanged from the previous week's unrevised rate. The advance number for seasonally adjusted **insured unemployment** during the week ending June 24 was 1,956,000, an increase of 11,000 from the previous week's revised level. The previous week's level was revised down by 3,000 from 1,948,000 to 1,945,000. The 4-week moving average was 1,944,750, an increase of 6,750 from the previous week's revised average. The previous week's average was revised down by 750 from 1,938,750 to 1,938,000.



### UNADJUSTED DATA

The advance number of actual initial claims under state programs, unadjusted, totaled 250,433 in the week ending July 1, an increase of 10,703 (or 4.5 percent) from the previous week. The seasonal factors had expected an increase of 7,087 (or 3.0 percent) from the previous week. There were 267,437 initial claims in the comparable week in 2016.

The advance unadjusted insured unemployment rate was 1.3 percent during the week ending June 24, unchanged from the prior week. The advance unadjusted number for persons claiming UI benefits in state programs totaled 1,860,223, an increase of 47,194 (or 2.6 percent) from the preceding week. The seasonal factors had expected an increase of 36,961 (or 2.0 percent) from the previous week. A year earlier the rate was 1.5 percent and the volume was 2,044,616.



The total number of people claiming benefits in all programs for the week ending June 17 was 1,844,632, an increase of 15,944 from the previous week. There were 2,047,327 persons claiming benefits in all programs in the comparable week in 2016.

No state was triggered "on" the Extended Benefits program during the week ending June 17.

Initial claims for UI benefits filed by former Federal civilian employees totaled 599 in the week ending June 24, a decrease of 64 from the prior week. There were 749 initial claims filed by newly discharged veterans, an increase of 16 from the preceding week.

There were 8,035 former Federal civilian employees claiming UI benefits for the week ending June 17, a decrease of 366 from the previous week. Newly discharged veterans claiming benefits totaled 10,356, an increase of 309 from the prior week.

The highest insured unemployment rates in the week ending June 17 were in Puerto Rico (3.2), Alaska (2.4), New Jersey (2.1), California (2.0), Connecticut (2.0), Pennsylvania (2.0), Illinois (1.8), Massachusetts (1.7), Nevada (1.7), and Rhode Island (1.6).

The largest increases in initial claims for the week ending June 24 were in New Jersey (+7,210), California (+4,144), Massachusetts (+2,367), Connecticut (+2,318), and New York (+1,596), while the largest decreases were in Pennsylvania (-2,769), Maryland (-1,683), Wisconsin (-1,387), Illinois (-719), and Georgia (-701).

### UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE DATA FOR REGULAR STATE PROGRAMS

WEEK ENDING	July 1	June 24	Change	June 17	Prior Year <sup>1</sup>
Initial Claims (SA)	248,000	244,000	+4,000	242,000	259,000
Initial Claims (NSA)	250,433	239,730	+10,703	228,869	267,437
4-Wk Moving Average (SA)	243,000	242,250	+750	245,000	265,250
WEEK ENDING	June 24	June 17	Change	June 10	<u>Prior</u> Year <sup>1</sup>
Insured Unemployment (SA)	1,956,000	1,945,000	+11,000	1,942,000	2,123,000
Insured Unemployment (NSA)	1,860,223	1,813,029	+47,194	1,796,743	2,044,616
4-Wk Moving Average (SA)	1,944,750	1,938,000	+6,750	1,931,500	2,145,000
Insured Unemployment Rate $(SA)^2$	1.4%	1.4%	0.0	1.4%	1.5%
Insured Unemployment Rate (NSA) <sup>2</sup>	1.3%	1.3%	0.0	1.3%	1.5%

### INITIAL CLAIMS FILED IN FEDERAL PROGRAMS (UNADJUSTED)

WEEK ENDING	June 24	June 17	Change	<b>Prior Year</b> <sup>1</sup>
Federal Employees (UCFE)	599	663	-64	605
Newly Discharged Veterans (UCX)	749	733	+16	1,043

### PERSONS CLAIMING UI BENEFITS IN ALL PROGRAMS (UNADJUSTED)

WEEK ENDING	June 17	June 10	Change	<b>Prior Year</b> <sup>1</sup>
Regular State	1,810,078	1,793,826	+16,252	2,003,351
Federal Employees	8,035	8,401	-366	7,210
Newly Discharged Veterans	10,356	10,047	+309	13,209
Extended Benefits <sup>3</sup>	0	0	0	0
State Additional Benefits <sup>4</sup>	6,642	6,641	+1	6,795
<u>STC / Workshare <sup>5</sup></u>	9,521	9,773	-252	16,762
TOTAL	1,844,632	1,828,688	+15,944	2,047,327

#### 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 139,505,637 as denominator.
- 3. Information on the EB program can be found here: <u>EB Program information</u>
- 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: <u>Extensions</u> and <u>Special Programs PDF</u>
- 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

	Initial Clain	ns Filed During Wee	ek Ended July 1	Insured Unemployment For Week Ended June 24				
STATE	Advance	Prior Wk	Change	Advance	Prior Wk	Chang		
*Alabama	2,791	2,751	40	19,387	19,197	190		
*Alaska	1,203	1,145	58	7,508	7,636	-128		
Arizona	4,768	4,433	335	28,011	30,913	-2,902		
Arkansas	1,546	1,483	63	13,659	14,553	-894		
*California	46,118	46,687	-569	355,459	327,958	27,501		
*Colorado	1,861	1,581	280	23,835	22,792	1,043		
Connecticut	6,062	5,835	227	39,229	33,663	5,566		
Delaware	522	848	-326	6,218	5,812	406		
District of Columbia	693	543	150	8,282	8,339	-57		
Florida	8,095	8,299	-204	47,112	49,439	-2,327		
Georgia	5,053	4,893	160	28,080	29,530	-1,450		
Hawaii	1,123	1,304	-181	7,967	7,933	34		
Idaho	791	829	-38	5,222	5,521	-299		
Illinois	9,392	8,652	740	104,406	101,756	2,650		
Indiana	2,395	2,667	-272	14,880	16,189	-1,309		
Iowa	2,497	1,930	567	17,800	16,613	1,187		
Kansas	2,820	1,700	1,120	10,929	10,490	439		
Kentucky	4,540	2,048	2,492	18,270	18,809	-539		
*Louisiana	2,585	2,959	-374	23,750	23,886	-136		
Maine	666	628	38	4,565	4,668	-103		
Maryland	3,319	4,271	-952	33,233	35,087	-1,854		
Massachusetts	9,317	7,352	1,965	60,083	59,334	749		
Michigan	8,419	7,260	1,159	43,647	43,593	54		
Minnesota	3,035	2,842	193	31,630	30,090	1,540		
Mississippi	1,839	1,677	162	12,766	13,509	-743		
Missouri	7,433	3,902	3,531	26,675	27,111	-436		
Montana	681	670	11	5,316	5,587	-271		
Nebraska	751	761	-10	5,113	4,964	149		
Nevada	2,523	2,395	128	20,068	21,555	-1,487		
New Hampshire	863	802	61	3,744	3,754	-10		
New Jersey	16,355	16,664	-309	90,613	83,446	7,167		
New Mexico	763	866	-103	10,747	11,074	-327		
New York	18,134	15,212	2,922	136,949	133,678	3,271		
North Carolina	3,343	3,122	2,922	21,970	22,960	-990		
		367	59	3,297		-990 679		
North Dakota	426		262		2,618			
Ohio	6,333	6,071		54,436	54,647	-211		
Oklahoma	1,342	1,446	-104	15,329	15,782	-453		
Oregon	3,926	4,127	-201	25,947	25,021	926		
Pennsylvania	15,599	17,725	-2,126	123,938	115,193	8,745		
*Puerto Rico	1,802	1,654	148	22,070	27,971	-5,901		
Rhode Island	2,031	2,042	-11	8,302	7,238	1,064		
South Carolina	2,457	2,304	153	14,218	14,524	-306		
*South Dakota	177	167	10	1,279	1,262	17		
Tennessee	3,539	2,567	972	22,082	21,858	224		
Texas	14,283	15,407	-1,124	154,751	151,376	3,375		
Utah	1,055	934	121	7,702	7,888	-186		
Vermont	544	837	-293	3,777	3,320	457		
Virgin Islands	53	31	22	504	402	102		
Virginia	3,290	3,080	210	25,853	25,512	341		
Washington	5,977	5,582	395	46,048	44,643	1,405		
West Virginia	687	854	-167	10,887	10,103	784		
Wisconsin	4,359	5,263	-904	29,742	29,325	417		
Wyoming	257	261	-4	2,938	2,907	31		
US Total	250,433	239,730	10,703	1,860,223	_,> 0 .	47,194		

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)

		Change from			Change from		
	Initial	Prior	4-Week	Insured	Prior	4-Week	
Week Ending	Claims	Week	Average	Unemployment	Week	Average	IUR
June 25, 2016	267	5	266.75	2,123	-35	2,145.00	1.5
July 2, 2016	259	-8	265.25	2,125	24	2,143.00	1.6
July 9, 2016	254	-5	260.50	2,138	-9	2,141.50	1.6
July 16, 2016	258	-5	259.50	2,130	2	2,137.00	1.6
July 23, 2016	258	5	259.50	2,140	-1	2,141.00	1.6
July 30, 2016	265	3	260.25	2,152	13	2,142.25	1.6
August 6, 2016	263	-3	262.50	2,152	9	2,142.23	1.6
August 13, 2016	261	-3	262.50	2,101	-22	2,148.00	1.6
-	260		263.23	2,139	-22	2,147.73	
August 20, 2016		-1					1.6
August 27, 2016	260	0	261.00	2,133	-13	2,144.75	1.5
September 3, 2016	257	-3	259.50	2,139	6	2,139.25	1.6
September 10, 2016	258	1	258.75	2,105	-34	2,130.75	1.5
September 17, 2016	252	-6	256.75	2,076	-29	2,113.25	1.5
September 24, 2016	253	1	255.00	2,066	-10	2,096.50	1.5
October 1, 2016	247	-6	252.50	2,063	-3	2,077.50	1.5
October 8, 2016	248	1	250.00	2,064	1	2,067.25	1.5
October 15, 2016	258	10	251.50	2,052	-12	2,061.25	1.5
October 22, 2016	255	-3	252.00	2,045	-7	2,056.00	1.5
October 29, 2016	261	6	255.50	2,050	5	2,052.75	1.5
November 5, 2016	250	-11	256.00	2,010	-40	2,039.25	1.5
November 12, 2016	239	-11	251.25	2,050	40	2,038.75	1.5
November 19, 2016	248	9	249.50	2,084	34	2,048.50	1.5
November 26, 2016	262	14	249.75	2,020	-64	2,041.00	1.5
December 3, 2016	251	-11	250.00	2,033	13	2,046.75	1.5
December 10, 2016	251	0	253.00	2,044	11	2,045.25	1.5
December 17, 2016	265	14	257.25	2,097	53	2,048.50	1.5
December 24, 2016	258	-7	256.25	2,102	5	2,069.00	1.5
December 31, 2016	241	-17	253.75	2,081	-21	2,081.00	1.5
January 7, 2017	245	4	252.25	2,061	-20	2,085.25	1.5
January 14, 2017	241	-4	246.25	2,083	22	2,081.75	1.5
January 21, 2017	252	11	244.75	2,063	-20	2,072.00	1.5
January 28, 2017	250	-2	247.00	2,067	4	2,068.50	1.5
February 4, 2017	237	-13	245.00	2,071	4	2,071.00	1.5
February 11, 2017	248	11	246.75	2,052	-19	2,063.25	1.5
February 18, 2017	247	-1	245.50	2,057	5	2,061.75	1.5
February 25, 2017	227	-20	239.75	2,059	2	2,059.75	1.5
March 4, 2017	252	26 25	243.50	2,025	-34	2,048.25	1.5
March 11, 2017	232	-6	243.00	1,987	-38	2,032.00	1.4
March 18, 2017	240	15	246.50	2,052	65	2,030.75	1.5
March 25, 2017	259	-2	254.50	2,032	-17	2,030.75	1.5
April 1, 2017	235	-24	254.50	2,033	-17		1.5
April 8, 2017	233	-24 -1	230.23 247.25	1,978	-50	2,025.50 2,023.25	
							1.4
April 15, 2017	243	9	242.75	1,987	9	2,007.00	1.4
April 22, 2017	257	14	242.25	1,979	-8	1,993.00	1.4
April 29, 2017	238	-19	243.00	1,920	-59	1,966.00	1.4
May 6, 2017	236	-2	243.50	1,899	-21	1,946.25	1.4
May 13, 2017	233	-3	241.00	1,924	25	1,930.50	1.4
May 20, 2017	235	2	235.50	1,919	-5	1,915.50	1.4
May 27, 2017	255	20	239.75	1,929	10	1,917.75	1.4
June 3, 2017	245	-10	242.00	1,936	7	1,927.00	1.4
June 10, 2017	238	-7	243.25	1,942	6	1,931.50	1.4
June 17, 2017	242	4	245.00	1,945	3	1,938.00	1.4
June 24, 2017	244	2	242.25	1,956	11	1,944.75	1.4
July 1, 2017	248	4	243.00				

# Initial Claims Filed During Week Ended June 24

	Initial Cla	aims Filed	During We	ek Ende	d June				1			Wheel Frederic 17
		INITIA	24 AL CLAIM	s								or Week Ended June 17 IPLOYMENT
		CHANG		5				CHANG	E FROM	SUKLI	J OI LI	
		LAST	YEAR	UCFE			<u>(%)</u>	LAST	YEAR	UCFE		ALL PROGRAMS EXCLUDING RAILROAD
STATE	STATE	WEEK	AGO	1	1	STATE	2	WEEK	AGO		UCX <sup>1</sup>	RETIREMENT
Alabama	2751	96	-55	10	10	19197	1.0	71	-3420	66	109	19372
Alaska	1145	16	261	2	3	7636	2.4	-834	-1869	59	27	7722
Arizona	4433	-301	-230	24	3	30913	1.2	210	-3618	210	94	31217
Arkansas	1483	-412	-365	5	6		1.2	288	-4015	71	65	14689
California	46687	4144	-3047	107	144	327958		-485	-14766	1165	2149	331272
Colorado	1581	-347	-506	8	22	22792	0.9	-256	-5012	103	418	23313
Connecticut	5835	2318	-1044	6	8	33663	2.0	312	-5688	77	95	33835
Delaware	848	-312	119	1	0	5812	1.3	673	-533	18	12	5842
District of Columbia	543	104	-76	13	3	8339	1.5	83	672	819	11	9169
Florida	8299	-639	-749	18	51	49439	0.6	2501	-2784	151	237	49827
Georgia	4893	-701	-1578	20	34	29530	0.7	-370	-2427	183	285	29998
Hawaii	1304	174	178	2	15	7933	1.3	157	805	52	112	8097
Idaho	829	-101	-120	3	2	5521	0.8	-147	-941	27	20	5568
Illinois	8652	-719	-455	11	14	101756	1.8	-2046	-11130	360	243	102359
Indiana	2667	-74	-180	2	5	16189	0.6	280	-5799	50	42	16281
Iowa	1930	18	-239	1	0	16613	1.1	167	-1505	44	56	16713
Kansas	1700	-12	-628	3	8	10490	0.8	80	-2643	36	51	10577
Kentucky	2048	13	-516	9	2	18809	1.0	222	-3289	95	161	19065
Louisiana	2959	37	-7	4	9	23886	1.3	394	-3053	47	60	23993
Maine	628	80	-203	1	1	4668	0.8	-255	-670	18	19	4705
Maryland	4271	-1683	-1273	14	15	35087	1.4	2551	-411	343	181	35611
Massachusetts	7352	2367	-1313	20	18	59334	1.7	859	-1315	146	183	59663
Michigan	7260	1216	-1467	13	15	43593	1.0	-1869	-2564	105	132	43830
Minnesota	2842	-255	-219	3	6	30090	1.1	-137	-2583	43	87	30220
Mississippi	1677	130	-129	4	3	13509	1.2	189	-2356	84	51	13644
Missouri	3902	208	76	1	4	27111	1.0	-274	1567	101	57	27269
Montana	670	-198	-117	3	4	5587	1.3	283	-767	59	31	5677
Nebraska	761	-4	8	5	3	4964	0.5	-15	-34	14	10	4988
Nevada	2395	-564	-114	1	5	21555	1.7	838	-864	67	109	21731
New Hampshire	802	299	-355	0	0	3754	0.6	32	-655	6	3	3763
New Jersey	16664	7210	-1490	9	16	83446	2.1	52	-3246	133	291	83870
New Mexico	866	-41	-208	3	0	11074	1.4	37	-2724	118	62	11254
New York	15212	1596	-332	35	36	133678		-59	-5823	342	478	134498
North Carolina	3122	-95	-513	7	14	22960	0.6	398	-4302	88	224	23272
North Dakota	367	-3	-77	9	1	2618	0.6	12	-1682	129	3	2750
Ohio Ohio	6071	7	1	6	30 6	54647	1.0 1.0	362	-4119	67 71	256 112	54970
Oklahoma	1446	-129 490	-457	6 18	0 16	15782 25021		178 178	-8857 -2517	71 185	140	15965 25346
Oregon	4127 17725	-2769	-597 -1204	74	10 39	115193		7629	-2317	185 391	331	115915
Pennsylvania Puerto Rico	1654	-2709	-1204	6	39 9	27971	2.0 3.2	-144	-17557	85	75	28131
Rhode Island	2042	1173	-127	1	9	7238	5.2 1.6	-144 -77	-626	83 22	33	7293
South Carolina	2042 2304	-188	-245	3	14	14524	0.7	259	-1738	60	33 105	1295
South Dakota	2304 167	-100	-243	12	0	14524	0.7	-52	-1738	212	6	1480
Tennessee	2567	-11	-33 -456	12	3	21858	0.3	-52 161	-2311	393	58	22309
Texas	15407	-130	-430 -1774	42	109	151376	1.3	1456	-39678	432	1843	153651
Utah	934	-180	-109	25	109	7888	0.6	-113	-1422	432 73	34	7995
Vermont	837	378	208	1	1	3320	1.1	27	-1422	8	6	3334
Virgin Islands	31	2	-10	0	0	402	1.1	-76	-192	0	8	410
Virginia	3080	2 90	-372	8	0 24	402 25512	0.7	-76 804	-192	324	8 416	26252
Washington	5582	90 192	-372	° 5	24 10	44643	1.4	-708	2010	524 176	410 677	45496
West Virginia	3382 854	-148	-729 -56	5 1	4	44645 10103	1.4 1.5	-708 -479	-6336	39	32	10174
Wisconsin	834 5263	-148 -1387	-56	2	4	29325	1.5	-479 3197	-5332	39 49	52 41	29415
Wyoming	261	-1387	-330 -178	2	2 0	29323 2907	1.1 1.1	-258	-3552 -3657	49 19	41 15	29415
Totals	239730	-20 10861	-178 -23932	2 599	0 749	1813029		-238 16286	-3637 -196050		10356	1831420
iotais	237130	10001	-23932	599	/47	1013029	1.3	10200	-190030	0033	10350	1031420

Figures Appearing In columns showing Over-The-Week Changes reflect all revisions in data for prior week submitted by State agencies.

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. 1.

2. Rate is not seasonally adjusted. The source of US total covered employment is BLS.

# UNADJUSTED INITIAL CLAIMS FOR WEEK ENDED JUNE 24, 2017

### STATES WITH AN INCREASE OF MORE THAN 1,000

State	Change	State Supplied Comment
NJ	+7,210	Layoffs in the educational service, transportation and warehousing, accommodation and food
		service, and public administration industries.
CA	+4,144	Layoffs in the service industry.
MA	+2,367	Layoffs in the transportation and warehousing, educational service, accommodation and food
		service, and public administration industries.
CT	+2,318	Layoffs in the educational service industry.
NY	+1,596	Layoffs in the accommodation and food service, health care and social assistance, and
		transportation and warehousing industries.
MI	+1,216	No comment.
RI	+1,173	Layoffs in the educational service industry.

# STATES WITH A DECREASE OF MORE THAN 1,000

<b>State</b> PA	0	<b>State Supplied Comment</b> Fewer layoffs in the transportation and warehousing, accommodation and food service, health care and social assistance, and retail trade industries.
MD WI	,	No comment. 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

U.S. Department of Labor news materials are accessible at <u>http://www.dol.gov</u>. The Departments <u>Reasonable Accommodation</u> <u>Resource Center</u> 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 Release Number: USDL 17-953-NAT 
 Program Contacts:

 Brenda Loya
 (202) 693-3760

 Tony Sznoluch
 (202) 693-3176

 Media Contact:
 (202) 693-4676