



News Release

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8:30 A.M. (Eastern) Thursday, October 12, 2017

UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE WEEKLY CLAIMS

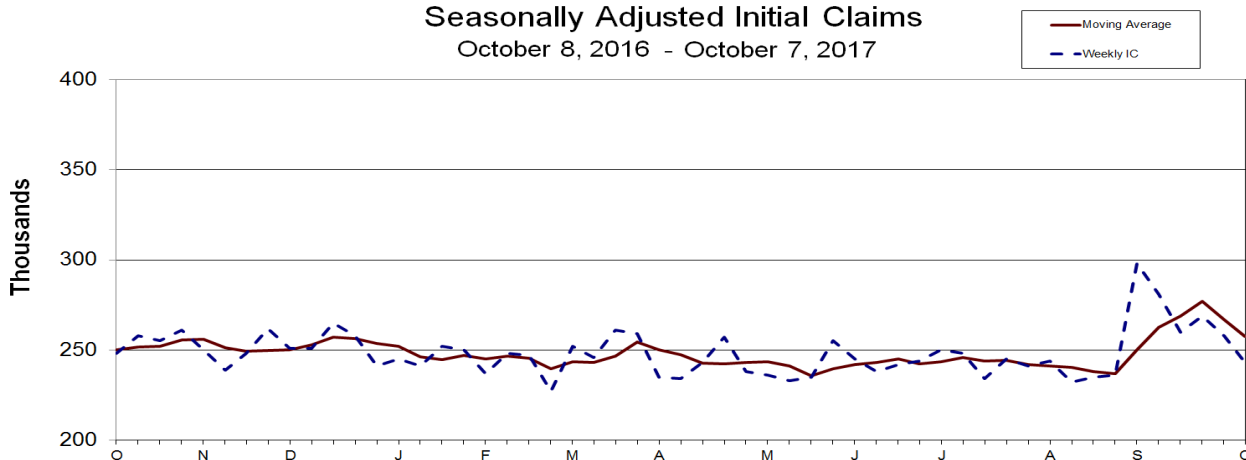
SEASONALLY ADJUSTED DATA

In the week ending October 7, the advance figure for seasonally adjusted **initial claims** was 243,000, a decrease of 15,000 from the previous week's revised level. The previous week's level was revised down by 2,000 from 260,000 to 258,000. The 4-week moving average was 257,500, a decrease of 9,500 from the previous week's revised average. The previous week's average was revised down by 1,250 from 268,250 to 267,000.

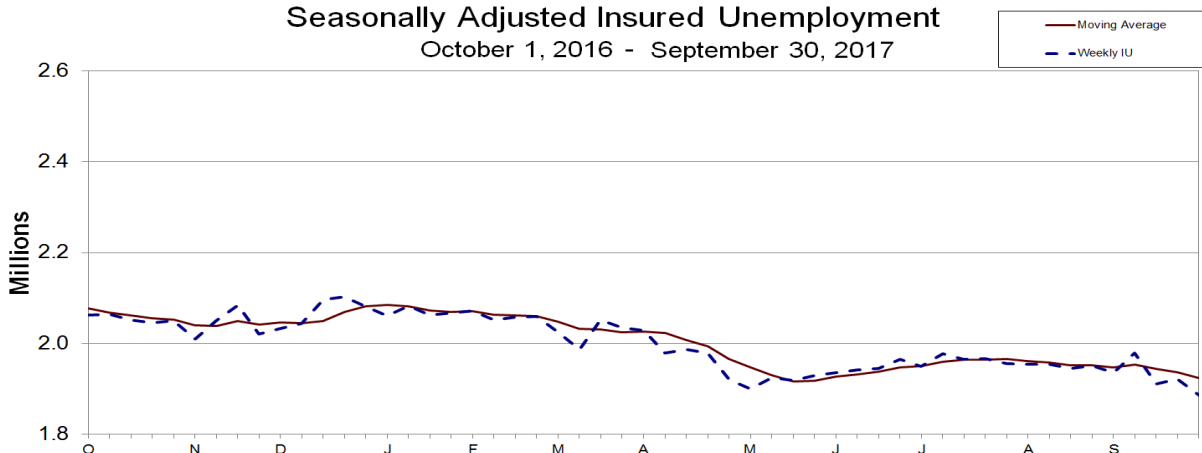
Hurricanes Harvey, Irma, and Maria impacted this week's claims.

The advance seasonally adjusted **insured unemployment rate** was 1.3 percent for the week ending September 30, a decrease of 0.1 percentage point from the previous week's unrevised rate. The advance number for seasonally adjusted **insured unemployment** during the week ending September 30 was 1,889,000, a decrease of 32,000 from the previous week's revised level. This is the lowest level for insured unemployment since December 29, 1973 when it was 1,805,000. The previous week's level was revised down by 17,000 from 1,938,000 to 1,921,000. The 4-week moving average was 1,925,000, a decrease of 11,500 from the previous week's revised average. The previous week's average was revised down by 10,500 from 1,947,000 to 1,936,500.

Seasonally Adjusted Initial Claims
October 8, 2016 - October 7, 2017



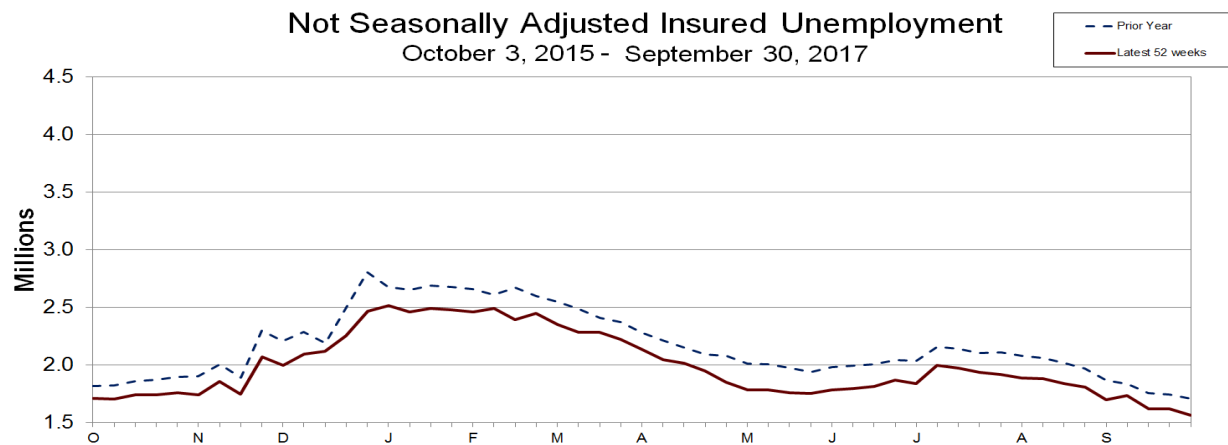
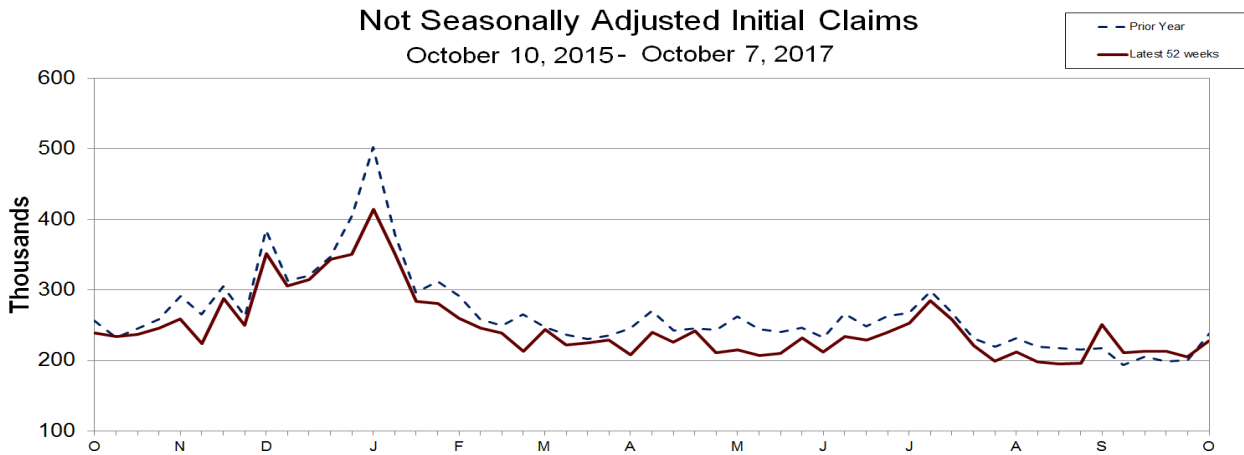
Seasonally Adjusted Insured Unemployment
October 1, 2016 - September 30, 2017



UNADJUSTED DATA

The advance number of actual initial claims under state programs, unadjusted, totaled 228,046 in the week ending October 7, an increase of 23,384 (or 11.4 percent) from the previous week. The seasonal factors had expected an increase of 37,118 (or 18.1 percent) from the previous week. There were 238,581 initial claims in the comparable week in 2016.

The advance unadjusted insured unemployment rate was 1.1 percent during the week ending September 30, a decrease of 0.1 percentage point from the prior week. The advance unadjusted number for persons claiming UI benefits in state programs totaled 1,570,107, a decrease of 52,791 (or -3.3 percent) from the preceding week. The seasonal factors had expected a decrease of 26,888 (or -1.7 percent) from the previous week. A year earlier the rate was 1.2 percent and the volume was 1,709,974.



The total number of people claiming benefits in all programs for the week ending September 23 was 1,652,447, a decrease of 1,390 from the previous week. There were 1,781,950 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 September 23.

Initial claims for UI benefits filed by former Federal civilian employees totaled 883 in the week ending September 30, an increase of 208 from the prior week. There were 667 initial claims filed by newly discharged veterans, an increase of 1 from the preceding week.

There were 8,045 former Federal civilian employees claiming UI benefits for the week ending September 23, a decrease of 282 from the previous week. Newly discharged veterans claiming benefits totaled 9,260, a decrease of 86 from the prior week.

The highest insured unemployment rates in the week ending September 23 were in Alaska (2.2), New Jersey (2.1), California (1.9), Connecticut (1.8), Massachusetts (1.6), Pennsylvania (1.6), the District of Columbia (1.5), Illinois (1.5), and Nevada (1.5).

The largest increases in initial claims for the week ending September 30 were in New York (+3,425), Ohio (+2,567), Missouri (+2,051), the Virgin Islands (+986), and Oklahoma (+510), while the largest decreases were in Florida (-3,575), Michigan (-3,485), Texas (-3,041), Kansas (-2,432), and Georgia (-1,987).

UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE DATA FOR REGULAR STATE PROGRAMS

WEEK ENDING	October 7	September 30	Change	September 23	<u>Prior Year</u>¹
Initial Claims (SA)	243,000	258,000	-15,000	269,000	248,000
Initial Claims (NSA)	228,046	204,662	+23,384	212,870	238,581
4-Wk Moving Average (SA)	257,500	267,000	-9,500	277,000	250,000
WEEK ENDING	September 30	September 23	Change	September 16	<u>Prior Year</u>¹
Insured Unemployment (SA)	1,889,000	1,921,000	-32,000	1,911,000	2,063,000
Insured Unemployment (NSA)	1,570,107	1,622,898	-52,791	1,622,705	1,709,974
4-Wk Moving Average (SA)	1,925,000	1,936,500	-11,500	1,944,000	2,077,500
<u>Insured Unemployment Rate (SA)</u> ²	1.3%	1.4%	-0.1	1.4%	1.5%
<u>Insured Unemployment Rate (NSA)</u> ²	1.1%	1.2%	-0.1	1.2%	1.2%

INITIAL CLAIMS FILED IN FEDERAL PROGRAMS (UNADJUSTED)

WEEK ENDING	September 30	September 23	Change	<u>Prior Year</u>¹
Federal Employees (UCFE)	883	675	+208	849
Newly Discharged Veterans (UCX)	667	666	+1	1,013

PERSONS CLAIMING UI BENEFITS IN ALL PROGRAMS (UNADJUSTED)

WEEK ENDING	September 23	September 16	Change	<u>Prior Year</u>¹
Regular State	1,620,361	1,619,851	+510	1,740,241
Federal Employees	8,045	8,327	-282	8,372
Newly Discharged Veterans	9,260	9,346	-86	13,454
<u>Extended Benefits</u> ³	0	0	0	0
<u>State Additional Benefits</u> ⁴	6,316	6,451	-135	6,843
<u>STC / Workshare</u> ⁵	8,465	9,862	-1,397	13,040
<u>TOTAL</u>	1,652,447	1,653,837	-1,390	1,781,950

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 139,989,708 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 7			Insured Unemployment For Week Ended September 30		
	Advance	Prior Wk	Change	Advance	Prior Wk	Change
Alabama	2,546	2,111	435	16,078	15,926	152
Alaska	1,813	1,032	781	6,649	6,986	-337
Arizona	4,201	3,717	484	24,591	27,707	-3,116
Arkansas	2,071	1,247	824	10,624	11,459	-835
California	42,278	37,388	4,890	307,712	306,277	1,435
Colorado	2,291	1,891	400	19,045	19,038	7
Connecticut	2,904	2,754	150	30,787	30,170	617
Delaware	566	495	71	4,395	4,927	-532
District of Columbia	680	294	386	7,669	8,233	-564
Florida ^I	13,559	14,902	-1,343	46,661	47,483	-822
Georgia	7,059	6,143	916	26,530	27,121	-591
Hawaii	1,337	1,155	182	7,419	7,304	115
Idaho	1,004	859	145	4,015	4,161	-146
Illinois	9,414	7,457	1,957	85,335	87,872	-2,537
Indiana	2,814	2,098	716	13,700	13,409	291
Iowa	2,426	1,539	887	13,654	13,272	382
Kansas	1,766	1,595	171	11,238	11,573	-335
Kentucky	2,486	1,813	673	15,164	16,763	-1,599
Louisiana	2,185	2,138	47	17,014	19,808	-2,794
Maine	499	410	89	3,403	3,629	-226
Maryland	3,428	3,188	240	26,803	29,880	-3,077
Massachusetts	4,912	4,261	651	51,215	54,047	-2,832
Michigan	8,010	5,385	2,625	39,057	41,958	-2,901
Minnesota	3,287	2,505	782	25,713	24,961	752
Mississippi	1,177	1,015	162	8,094	9,357	-1,263
Missouri	4,165	6,353	-2,188	23,319	22,044	1,275
Montana	1,210	884	326	4,331	4,583	-252
Nebraska	794	655	139	3,857	4,058	-201
Nevada	2,887	1,954	933	17,047	19,007	-1,960
New Hampshire	435	451	-16	3,132	3,479	-347
New Jersey	8,352	7,397	955	80,027	80,391	-364
New Mexico	1,004	787	217	8,963	9,367	-404
New York	14,446	15,437	-991	120,011	123,715	-3,704
North Carolina	3,285	2,757	528	18,850	20,010	-1,160
North Dakota	489	268	221	2,150	1,754	396
Ohio	7,430	8,016	-586	46,371	44,533	1,838
Oklahoma	1,483	1,496	-13	13,411	13,975	-564
Oregon	4,077	3,426	651	22,546	23,132	-586
Pennsylvania	12,678	10,517	2,161	91,591	92,847	-1,256
Puerto Rico ^{1M}	118	328	-210	10,393	7,800	2,593
Rhode Island	788	691	97	6,312	6,296	16
South Carolina *	2,363	2,016	347	13,733	14,111	-378
South Dakota	189	185	4	942	910	32
Tennessee	2,665	2,186	479	16,765	18,145	-1,380
Texas ^H	16,567	17,063	-496	135,697	163,562	-27,865
Utah	1,434	939	495	6,707	6,795	-88
Vermont	329	292	37	2,367	2,190	177
Virgin Islands** ^{1M}	1,154	1,054	100	163	192	-29
Virginia**	2,791	2,596	195	23,722	22,800	922
Washington	6,477	4,998	1,479	43,943	43,157	786
West Virginia	977	615	362	8,077	7,864	213
Wisconsin	4,255	3,619	636	21,126	20,694	432
Wyoming	491	290	201	1,989	2,166	-177
US Total	228,046	204,662	23,384	1,570,107	1,622,898	-52,791

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 OUI staff estimate.

**Denotes state estimate.

^HAffected by Hurricane Harvey.

^IAffected by Hurricane Irma.

^MAffected by Hurricane Maria.

Seasonally Adjusted US Weekly UI Claims (in thousands)

Week Ending	Change from			Insured Unemployment	Change from		IUR
	Initial Claims	Prior Week	4-Week Average		Prior Week	4-Week Average	
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	25	243.50	2,025	-34	2,048.25	1.5
March 11, 2017	246	-6	243.00	1,987	-38	2,032.00	1.4
March 18, 2017	261	15	246.50	2,052	65	2,030.75	1.5
March 25, 2017	259	-2	254.50	2,035	-17	2,024.75	1.5
April 1, 2017	235	-24	250.25	2,028	-7	2,025.50	1.5
April 8, 2017	234	-1	247.25	1,978	-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	1,965	20	1,947.00	1.4
July 1, 2017	250	6	243.50	1,949	-16	1,950.25	1.4
July 8, 2017	248	-2	246.00	1,977	28	1,959.00	1.4
July 15, 2017	234	-14	244.00	1,965	-12	1,964.00	1.4
July 22, 2017	245	11	244.25	1,967	2	1,964.50	1.4
July 29, 2017	241	-4	242.00	1,956	-11	1,966.25	1.4
August 5, 2017	244	3	241.00	1,954	-2	1,960.50	1.4
August 12, 2017	232	-12	240.50	1,954	0	1,957.75	1.4
August 19, 2017	235	3	238.00	1,945	-9	1,952.25	1.4
August 26, 2017	236	1	236.75	1,951	6	1,951.00	1.4
September 2, 2017	298	62	250.25	1,935	-16	1,946.25	1.4
September 9, 2017	281	-17	262.50	1,979	44	1,952.50	1.4
September 16, 2017	260	-21	268.75	1,911	-68	1,944.00	1.4
September 23, 2017	269	9	277.00	1,921	10	1,936.50	1.4
September 30, 2017	258	-11	267.00	1,889	-32	1,925.00	1.3
October 7, 2017	243	-15	257.50				

Initial Claims Filed During Week Ended September 30 INITIAL CLAIMS							Insured Unemployment For Week Ended September 23 INSURED UNEMPLOYMENT					
STATE	STATE	CHANGE FROM				STATE	CHANGE FROM (%)	CHANGE FROM				ALL PROGRAMS EXCLUDING RAILROAD RETIREMENT
		LAST WEEK	YEAR AGO	UCFE 1	UCX 1			LAST WEEK	YEAR AGO	UCFE 1	UCX 1	
Alabama	2111	-141	-377	5	7	15926	0.9	-524	-3575	54	85	16065
Alaska	1032	-16	-219	8	0	6986	2.2	524	-1581	57	19	7062
Arizona	3717	21	-270	7	1	27707	1.1	-981	-2961	90	90	27887
Arkansas	1247	-33	-130	6	3	11459	1.0	-238	-1949	40	81	11580
California	37388	-1983	-893	249	124	306277	1.9	-3865	-8368	1620	2024	309921
Colorado	1891	282	-318	13	20	19038	0.8	2	-4510	107	252	19397
Connecticut	2754	1	-46	9	13	30170	1.8	-202	-2866	52	72	30294
Delaware	495	45	-22	4	2	4927	1.1	760	-508	19	18	4964
District of Columbia	294	-16	14	11	1	8233	1.5	40	638	425	16	8674
Florida	14902	-3575	7627	25	58	47483	0.6	370	-3837	177	198	47858
Georgia	6143	-1987	984	24	36	27121	0.7	-993	-1425	139	262	27522
Hawaii	1155	57	99	3	11	7304	1.2	161	230	72	102	7478
Idaho	859	-24	-106	5	3	4161	0.6	195	-1257	19	7	4187
Illinois	7457	-92	-656	11	7	87872	1.5	-745	-4965	376	218	88466
Indiana	2098	-19	-466	4	6	13409	0.5	-223	-5765	45	47	13501
Iowa	1539	-65	-467	4	4	13272	0.9	-207	-1308	43	40	13355
Kansas	1595	-2432	35	9	2	11573	0.9	2067	921	74	40	11687
Kentucky	1813	47	-218	22	0	16763	0.9	920	-2510	137	102	17002
Louisiana	2138	-19	-241	5	5	19808	1.1	152	-5403	48	25	19881
Maine	410	-80	-201	1	0	3629	0.6	-79	-487	10	17	3656
Maryland	3188	105	-98	35	18	29880	1.2	-205	-2612	317	160	30357
Massachusetts	4261	-423	-293	13	12	54047	1.6	312	-2059	119	180	54346
Michigan	5385	-3485	-155	22	12	41958	1.0	1209	-5551	89	113	42160
Minnesota	2505	117	-455	2	7	24961	0.9	162	-1553	48	96	25105
Mississippi	1015	-15	-287	3	2	9357	0.9	-342	-1628	23	41	9421
Missouri	6353	2051	1480	54	1	22044	0.8	1922	-1346	283	37	22364
Montana	884	-12	-83	9	7	4583	1.0	283	-132	41	28	4652
Nebraska	655	21	122	2	0	4058	0.4	4	412	10	12	4080
Nevada	1954	-112	-461	3	5	19007	1.5	-162	-1091	66	71	19144
New Hampshire	451	3	-30	1	2	3479	0.5	-60	-233	3	5	3487
New Jersey	7397	-326	-728	13	23	80391	2.1	-907	-1774	187	302	80880
New Mexico	787	-13	-124	7	3	9367	1.2	172	-1801	93	64	9524
New York	15437	3425	2675	27	31	123715	1.4	2083	-190	344	500	124559
North Carolina	2757	-82	-223	8	9	20010	0.5	-375	-3306	83	165	20258
North Dakota	268	21	-125	1	0	1754	0.4	-36	-586	14	2	1770
Ohio	8016	2567	1765	16	20	44533	0.8	-3808	-3640	111	228	44872
Oklahoma	1496	510	-89	10	7	13975	0.9	-318	-6138	66	88	14129
Oregon	3426	106	-441	11	11	23132	1.3	-225	-329	97	121	23350
Pennsylvania	10517	-188	-2691	67	31	92847	1.6	-1865	-11650	405	357	93609
Puerto Rico	328	16	-1293	0	0	7800	0.9	-128	-14728	92	66	7958
Rhode Island	691	-107	-31	3	1	6296	1.4	-81	-479	24	21	6341
South Carolina	2016	-406	-265	8	9	14111	0.7	-157	-613	87	6	14204
South Dakota	185	29	-54	0	4	910	0.2	-21	-136	21	6	937
Tennessee	2186	31	-61	9	2	18145	0.6	574	-3	406	130	18681
Texas	17063	-3041	2740	53	97	163562	1.4	6859	-118	695	1527	165784
Utah	939	23	-25	43	2	6795	0.5	-88	-841	159	24	6978
Vermont	292	-6	-36	2	1	2190	0.7	-44	-371	5	6	2201
Virgin Islands	1054	986	1007	0	2	192	0.5	164	-718	4	1	197
Virginia	2596	-55	-181	12	18	22800	0.6	-207	-1023	252	398	23450
Washington	4998	-228	-369	11	18	43157	1.4	-966	4454	183	711	44051
West Virginia	615	35	-220	1	0	7864	1.2	-273	-3606	37	35	7936
Wisconsin	3619	266	-791	12	9	20694	0.7	-434	-4243	51	30	20775
Wyoming	290	24	-103	0	0	2166	0.8	17	-2067	26	14	2206
Totals	204662	-8192	4206	883	667	1622898	1.2	193	-121185	8045	9260	1640203

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 SEPTEMBER 30, 2017

STATES WITH AN INCREASE OF MORE THAN 1,000

State	Change	State Supplied Comment
NY	+3,425	Layoffs in the transportation and warehousing, accommodation and food service, and public administration industries.
OH	+2,567	Layoffs in the manufacturing and transportation and warehousing industries.
MO	+2,051	Layoffs in the manufacturing, information, and retail trade industries.

STATES WITH A DECREASE OF MORE THAN 1,000

State	Change	State Supplied Comment
FL	-3,575	Fewer layoffs in the agriculture, forestry, fishing, and hunting, construction, manufacturing, retail trade, and service industries.
MI	-3,485	Fewer layoffs in the wholesale trade industry.
TX	-3,041	No comment.
KS	-2,432	No comment.
GA	-1,987	Fewer layoffs in the manufacturing, administrative and support and waste management and remediation service, construction, and accommodation and food service industries.
CA	-1,983	Fewer layoffs in the service industry.

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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