



News Release

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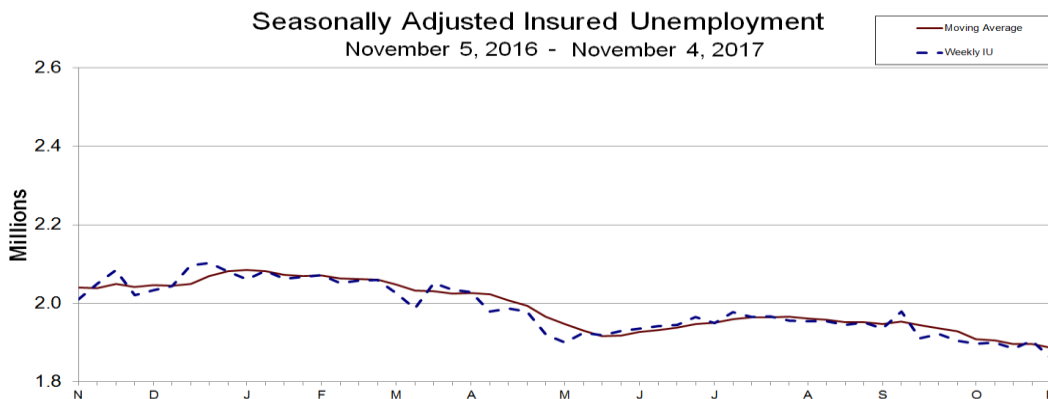
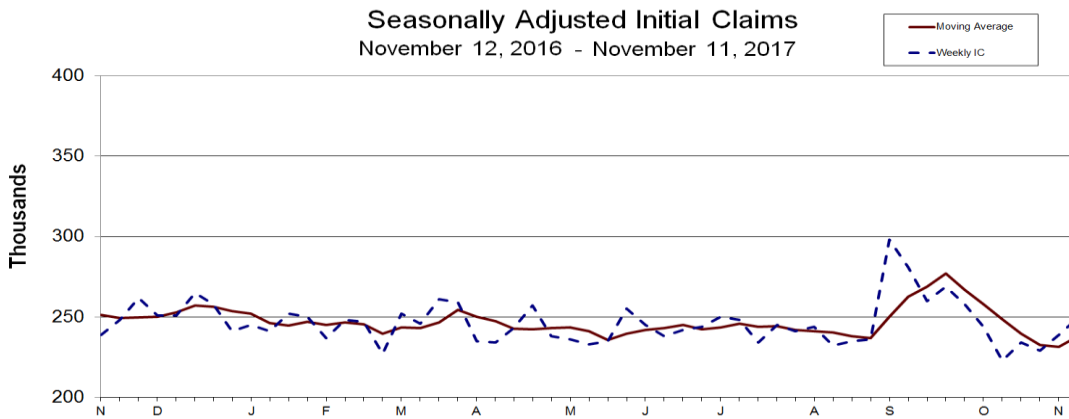
UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE WEEKLY CLAIMS

SEASONALLY ADJUSTED DATA

In the week ending November 11, the advance figure for seasonally adjusted **initial claims** was 249,000, an increase of 10,000 from the previous week's unrevised level of 239,000. The 4-week moving average was 237,750, an increase of 6,500 from the previous week's unrevised average of 231,250.

Claims taking procedures continue to be severely disrupted in the Virgin Islands. The ability to take claims has improved in Puerto Rico and they are now processing backlogged claims.

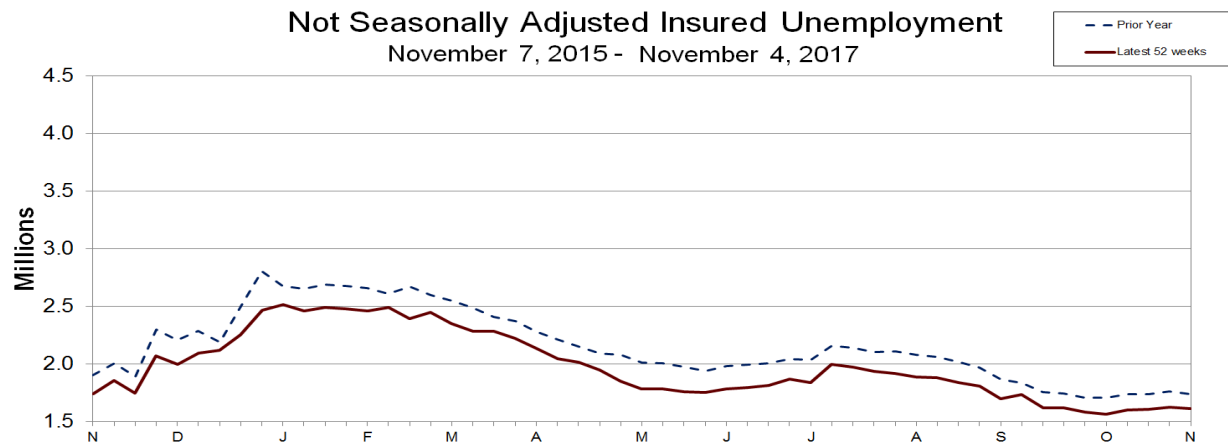
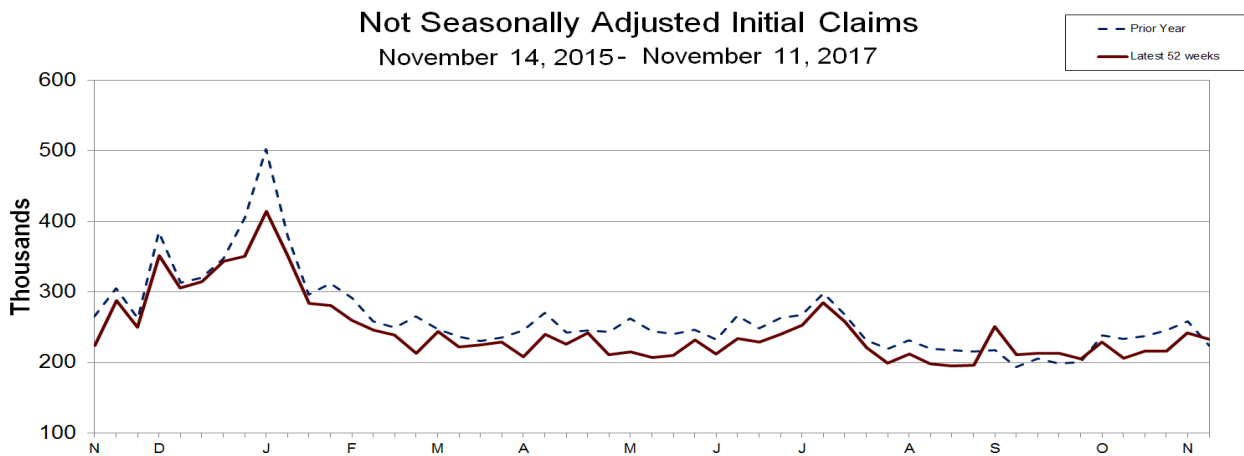
The advance seasonally adjusted **insured unemployment rate** was 1.3 percent for the week ending November 4, a decrease of 0.1 percentage point from the previous week's unrevised rate. The advance number for seasonally adjusted **insured unemployment** during the week ending November 4 was 1,860,000, a decrease of 44,000 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 up 3,000 from 1,901,000 to 1,904,000. The 4-week moving average was 1,887,000, a decrease of 9,000 from the previous week's revised average. This is the lowest level for this average since January 12, 1974 when it was 1,881,000. The previous week's average was revised up by 750 from 1,895,250 to 1,896,000.



UNADJUSTED DATA

The advance number of actual initial claims under state programs, unadjusted, totaled 233,060 in the week ending November 11, a decrease of 9,018 (or -3.7 percent) from the previous week. The seasonal factors had expected a decrease of 17,941 (or -7.4 percent) from the previous week. There were 223,770 initial claims in the comparable week in 2016.

The advance unadjusted insured unemployment rate was 1.1 percent during the week ending November 4, a decrease of 0.1 percentage point from the prior week. The advance unadjusted number for persons claiming UI benefits in state programs totaled 1,614,048, a decrease of 15,835 (or -1.0 percent) from the preceding week. The seasonal factors had expected an increase of 22,849 (or 1.4 percent) from the previous week. A year earlier the rate was 1.3 percent and the volume was 1,740,791.



The total number of people claiming benefits in all programs for the week ending October 28 was 1,664,651, an increase of 25,575 from the previous week. There were 1,806,847 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 October 28.

Initial claims for UI benefits filed by former Federal civilian employees totaled 1,588 in the week ending November 4, an increase of 539 from the prior week. There were 784 initial claims filed by newly discharged veterans, an increase of 43 from the preceding week.

There were 12,364 former Federal civilian employees claiming UI benefits for the week ending October 28, an increase of 2,054 from the previous week. Newly discharged veterans claiming benefits totaled 9,061, an increase of 228 from the prior week.

The highest insured unemployment rates in the week ending October 28 were in Puerto Rico (4.3), Alaska (2.9), New Jersey (2.1), California (1.9), Connecticut (1.8), the Virgin Islands (1.8), Pennsylvania (1.7), Massachusetts (1.6), the District of Columbia (1.5), Illinois (1.5), Nevada (1.5) and Washington (1.5).

The largest increases in initial claims for the week ending November 4 were in Michigan (+3,806), Pennsylvania (+2,463), Puerto Rico (+2,157), Ohio (+1,538), and Illinois (+1,518), while the largest decreases were in Indiana (-732), Florida (-253), Iowa (-75), Connecticut (-39), and New Mexico (-6).

UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE DATA FOR REGULAR STATE PROGRAMS

WEEK ENDING	November 11	November 4	Change	October 28	<u>Prior Year</u>¹
Initial Claims (SA)	249,000	239,000	+10,000	229,000	239,000
Initial Claims (NSA)	233,060	242,078	-9,018	215,775	223,770
4-Wk Moving Average (SA)	237,750	231,250	+6,500	232,500	251,250
WEEK ENDING	November 4	October 28	Change	October 21	<u>Prior Year</u>¹
Insured Unemployment (SA)	1,860,000	1,904,000	-44,000	1,884,000	2,010,000
Insured Unemployment (NSA)	1,614,048	1,629,883	-15,835	1,607,185	1,740,791
4-Wk Moving Average (SA)	1,887,000	1,896,000	-9,000	1,896,000	2,039,250
<u>Insured Unemployment Rate (SA)</u> ²	1.3%	1.4%	-0.1	1.3%	1.5%
<u>Insured Unemployment Rate (NSA)</u> ²	1.1%	1.2%	-0.1	1.1%	1.3%

INITIAL CLAIMS FILED IN FEDERAL PROGRAMS (UNADJUSTED)

WEEK ENDING	November 4	October 28	Change	<u>Prior Year</u>¹
Federal Employees (UCFE)	1,588	1,049	+539	1,514
Newly Discharged Veterans (UCX)	784	741	+43	1,077

PERSONS CLAIMING UI BENEFITS IN ALL PROGRAMS (UNADJUSTED)

WEEK ENDING	October 28	October 21	Change	<u>Prior Year</u>¹
Regular State	1,627,491	1,604,572	+22,919	1,757,442
Federal Employees	12,364	10,310	+2,054	13,400
Newly Discharged Veterans	9,061	8,833	+228	13,438
<u>Extended Benefits</u> ³	0	0	0	0
<u>State Additional Benefits</u> ⁴	6,712	6,384	+328	7,068
<u>STC / Workshare</u> ⁵	9,023	8,977	+46	15,499
<u>TOTAL</u>	1,664,651	1,639,076	+25,575	1,806,847

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 140,510,815 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 11			Insured Unemployment For Week Ended November 4		
	Advance	Prior Wk	Change	Advance	Prior Wk	Change
Alabama	1,972	2,505	-533	15,934	15,718	216
Alaska	1,831	1,646	185	9,341	8,861	480
Arizona	3,064	4,159	-1,095	20,661	24,756	-4,095
Arkansas	1,400	1,915	-515	11,361	11,956	-595
California	45,412	43,653	1,759	291,122	312,899	-21,777
Colorado	1,972	2,197	-225	19,718	19,865	-147
Connecticut	2,705	2,756	-51	31,058	30,020	1,038
Delaware	555	634	-79	4,750	4,861	-111
District of Columbia	566	450	116	7,770	8,267	-497
Florida	7,285	8,596	-1,311	39,573	47,073	-7,500
Georgia	4,505	5,915	-1,410	23,918	26,536	-2,618
Hawaii	1,004	1,239	-235	7,421	7,488	-67
Idaho	1,525	1,353	172	4,665	4,658	7
Illinois	9,192	10,456	-1,264	87,149	87,017	132
Indiana	2,774	2,524	250	14,257	13,662	595
Iowa	2,727	2,314	413	13,344	12,928	416
Kansas	1,668	1,742	-74	9,209	9,389	-180
Kentucky	2,196	2,263	-67	15,519	15,911	-392
Louisiana	1,965	2,321	-356	16,529	18,818	-2,289
Maine	873	838	35	4,099	3,897	202
Maryland	3,112	4,007	-895	27,996	30,786	-2,790
Massachusetts	6,196	6,002	194	54,742	54,438	304
Michigan	7,876	10,695	-2,819	39,888	43,032	-3,144
Minnesota	6,842	4,809	2,033	31,721	26,903	4,818
Mississippi	923	1,208	-285	7,956	8,871	-915
Missouri	3,014	3,511	-497	20,403	21,631	-1,228
Montana	2,061	1,938	123	6,491	5,574	917
Nebraska	787	717	70	3,917	3,728	189
Nevada	3,200	2,767	433	17,910	18,934	-1,024
New Hampshire	444	532	-88	3,221	3,526	-305
New Jersey	10,386	9,415	971	80,575	80,833	-258
New Mexico	854	1,059	-205	9,310	8,939	371
New York	18,215	14,924	3,291	129,427	123,559	5,868
North Carolina	3,186	3,082	104	18,415	19,586	-1,171
North Dakota	924	599	325	2,665	1,879	786
Ohio	7,356	8,307	-951	46,262	43,971	2,291
Oklahoma	1,088	2,613	-1,525	14,318	13,756	562
Oregon	4,074	4,173	-99	24,430	24,269	161
Pennsylvania	11,970	14,417	-2,447	90,659	94,627	-3,968
Puerto Rico ^{1M}	6,565	8,281	-1,716	39,298	37,635	1,663
Rhode Island	1,060	886	174	6,538	6,225	313
South Carolina	2,304	2,300	4	16,475	16,628	-153
South Dakota	295	305	-10	1,203	1,076	127
Tennessee	1,972	2,420	-448	16,513	17,686	-1,173
Texas	14,416	14,937	-521	137,358	124,127	13,231
Utah	1,376	1,373	3	7,476	7,318	158
Vermont	530	677	-147	2,878	2,553	325
Virgin Islands ^{*1M}	97	199	-102	562	687	-125
Virginia	2,759	2,818	-59	23,200	22,582	618
Washington	6,799	6,700	99	48,998	46,213	2,785
West Virginia	997	1,047	-50	8,929	8,311	618
Wisconsin	5,634	5,309	325	24,310	22,752	1,558
Wyoming	557	575	-18	2,606	2,668	-62
US Total	233,060	242,078	-9,018	1,614,048	1,629,883	-15,835

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 estimate.

¹Affected 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	
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	1,904	-17	1,928.75	1.4
October 7, 2017	244	-14	257.75	1,896	-8	1,908.00	1.3
October 14, 2017	223	-21	248.50	1,900	4	1,905.25	1.4
October 21, 2017	234	11	239.75	1,884	-16	1,896.00	1.3
October 28, 2017	229	-5	232.50	1,904	20	1,896.00	1.4
November 4, 2017	239	10	231.25	1,860	-44	1,887.00	1.3
November 11, 2017	249	10	237.75				

Initial Claims Filed During Week Ended November 4 INITIAL CLAIMS								Insured Unemployment For Week Ended October 28 INSURED UNEMPLOYMENT				
STATE	STATE	CHANGE FROM				STATE	CHANGE FROM	STATE	YEAR	CHANGE FROM		ALL PROGRAMS EXCLUDING RAILROAD RETIREMENT
		LAST WEEK	YEAR AGO	UCFE ₁	UCX ₁					LAST WEEK	YEAR AGO	
							(%) ₂					
Alabama	2505	194	-530	14	12	15718	0.8	8	-3577	60	85	15863
Alaska	1646	165	-208	15	4	8861	2.9	506	-1745	149	20	9030
Arizona	4159	399	-25	22	2	24756	0.9	-726	-3229	147	72	24975
Arkansas	1915	278	-319	5	1	11956	1.0	-221	-1973	42	75	12073
California	43653	370	-3692	342	149	312899	1.9	10548	-7713	2242	1916	317057
Colorado	2197	261	-516	53	20	19865	0.8	791	-4923	207	292	20364
Connecticut	2756	-39	-465	5	7	30020	1.8	205	-2969	57	85	30162
Delaware	634	105	24	3	1	4861	1.1	497	-494	17	15	4893
District of Columbia	450	96	7	9	1	8267	1.5	-18	110	392	12	8671
Florida	8596	-253	920	30	36	47073	0.6	723	3230	223	226	47522
Georgia	5915	1087	-194	37	41	26536	0.6	31	-2748	278	242	27056
Hawaii	1239	8	0	1	9	7488	1.2	182	324	66	99	7653
Idaho	1353	249	-326	52	4	4658	0.7	219	-1810	70	13	4741
Illinois	10456	1518	230	14	13	87017	1.5	1628	-4266	415	203	87635
Indiana	2524	-732	-537	6	11	13662	0.5	-823	-5230	52	50	13764
Iowa	2314	-75	-291	7	2	12928	0.8	262	-2467	44	37	13009
Kansas	1742	268	-402	1	1	9389	0.7	167	-977	100	47	9536
Kentucky	2263	269	-1078	11	3	15911	0.9	58	-3000	423	142	16476
Louisiana	2321	74	-383	8	7	18818	1.0	433	-4698	51	34	18903
Maine	838	116	-179	5	1	3897	0.7	219	-618	13	16	3926
Maryland	4007	402	-9	35	10	30786	1.2	342	-2206	342	149	31277
Massachusetts	6002	672	-889	28	15	54438	1.6	950	-2936	281	161	54880
Michigan	10695	3806	1653	51	15	43032	1.0	4701	940	133	121	43286
Minnesota	4809	1268	27	9	3	26903	1.0	1000	-2021	73	88	27064
Mississippi	1208	26	-526	2	2	8871	0.8	70	-1919	45	44	8960
Missouri	3511	302	-252	16	1	21631	0.8	649	-5938	491	50	22172
Montana	1938	852	501	102	5	5574	1.3	141	-951	158	34	5766
Nebraska	717	104	-112	3	1	3728	0.4	-61	-476	16	11	3755
Nevada	2767	374	158	23	6	18934	1.5	147	-1567	100	82	19116
New Hampshire	532	71	-36	3	1	3526	0.5	13	-266	5	3	3534
New Jersey	9415	851	-847	25	35	80833	2.1	-116	-5204	226	316	81375
New Mexico	1059	-6	-290	23	1	8939	1.1	-217	-2280	220	65	9224
New York	14924	1112	-2246	36	27	123559	1.4	983	-6465	625	460	124644
North Carolina	3082	305	-1613	8	17	19586	0.5	-104	-5506	101	167	19854
North Dakota	599	250	33	4	1	1879	0.5	72	-559	4	5	1888
Ohio	8307	1538	-230	20	16	43971	0.8	297	-4476	161	242	44374
Oklahoma	2613	1310	-287	10	5	13756	0.9	-94	-5351	78	101	13935
Oregon	4173	448	-856	157	19	24269	1.3	407	-1596	301	97	24667
Pennsylvania	14417	2463	-1934	119	35	94627	1.7	2898	-9457	1164	367	96158
Puerto Rico	8281	2157	6572	1	1	37635	4.3	12748	14550	34	29	37698
Rhode Island	886	184	-149	2	1	6225	1.3	43	-473	21	19	6265
South Carolina	2300	0	-817	5	12	16628	0.8	-203	1875	89	30	16747
South Dakota	305	57	-38	5	1	1076	0.3	56	-169	13	3	1092
Tennessee	2420	112	-433	10	4	17686	0.6	583	60	418	110	18214
Texas	14937	514	-3061	107	158	124127	1.1	-19505	-32349	1082	1476	126685
Utah	1373	312	-155	41	4	7318	0.5	80	-750	331	20	7669
Vermont	677	195	-56	2	1	2553	0.8	151	-504	7	7	2567
Virgin Islands	199	18	175	0	0	687	1.8	-120	-207	0	0	687
Virginia	2818	86	-219	16	23	22582	0.6	-159	-330	331	404	23317
Washington	6700	659	-1400	45	31	46213	1.5	735	2108	299	635	47147
West Virginia	1047	127	-193	4	5	8311	1.3	294	-3076	39	34	8384
Wisconsin	5309	1188	-958	20	2	22752	0.8	1005	-4974	83	26	22861
Wyoming	575	188	-79	16	1	2668	1.0	223	-2026	45	24	2737
Totals	242078	26303	-16530	1588	784	1629883	1.2	22698	-133272	12364	9061	1651308

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 4, 2017

STATES WITH AN INCREASE OF MORE THAN 1,000

State	Change	State Supplied Comment
MI	+3,806	Layoffs in the wholesale trade industry.
PA	+2,463	Layoffs in the construction, administrative and support and waste management and remediation service, and arts, entertainment, and recreation industries.
PR	+2,157	No comment.
OH	+1,538	Layoffs in the manufacturing industry.
IL	+1,518	Layoffs in the construction, administrative and support and waste management and remediation service, wholesale trade, and retail trade industries.
OK	+1,310	No comment.
MN	+1,268	Layoffs in the construction industry.
WI	+1,188	Layoffs in the accommodation and food service, administrative and support and waste management and remediation service, and construction industries.
NY	+1,112	Layoffs in the construction, accommodation and food service, and manufacturing industries.
GA	+1,087	Layoffs in the manufacturing, and administrative and support and waste management and remediation service industries.

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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