



# News Release

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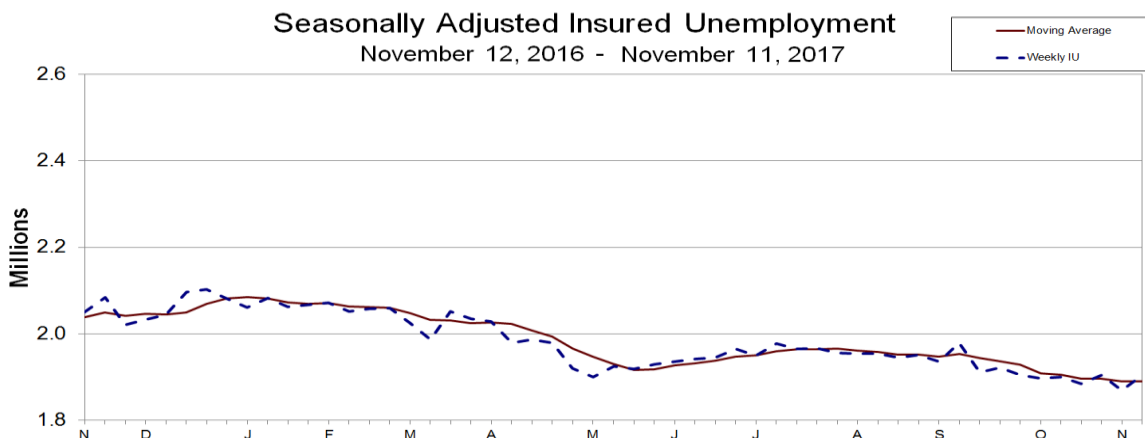
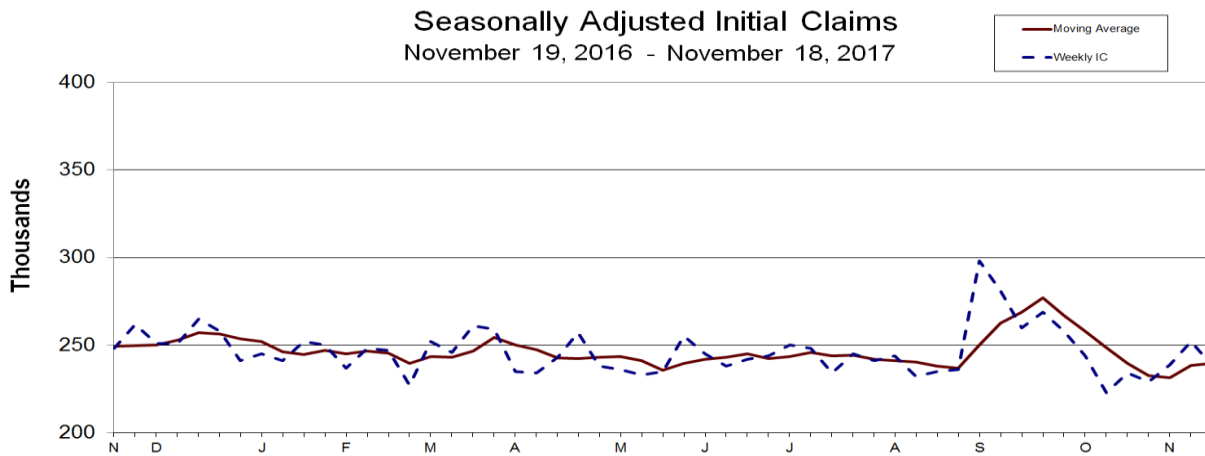
## UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE WEEKLY CLAIMS

### SEASONALLY ADJUSTED DATA

In the week ending November 18, the advance figure for seasonally adjusted **initial claims** was 239,000, a decrease of 13,000 from the previous week's revised level. The previous week's level was revised up by 3,000 from 249,000 to 252,000. The 4-week moving average was 239,750, an increase of 1,250 from the previous week's revised average. The previous week's average was revised up by 750 from 237,750 to 238,500.

Claims taking procedures continue to be disrupted in the Virgin Islands. The ability to take claims has improved in Puerto Rico.

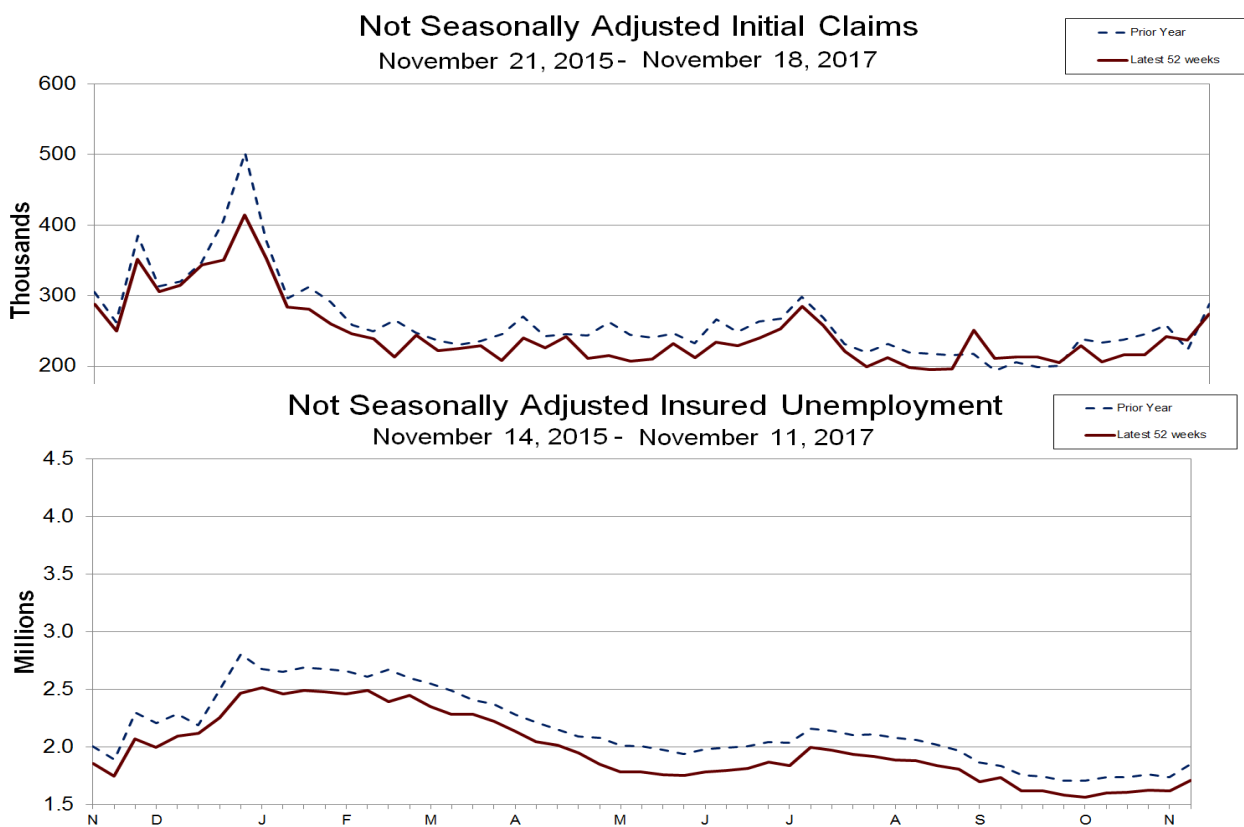
The advance seasonally adjusted **insured unemployment rate** was 1.4 percent for the week ending November 11, an increase of 0.1 percentage point from the previous week's unrevised rate. The advance number for seasonally adjusted **insured unemployment** during the week ending November 11 was 1,904,000, an increase of 36,000 from the previous week's revised level. The previous week's level was revised up 8,000 from 1,860,000 to 1,868,000. The 4-week moving average was 1,890,000, an increase of 1,000 from the previous week's revised average. The previous week's average was revised up by 2,000 from 1,887,000 to 1,889,000.



## UNADJUSTED DATA

The advance number of actual initial claims under state programs, unadjusted, totaled 274,200 in the week ending November 18, an increase of 37,608 (or 15.9 percent) from the previous week. The seasonal factors had expected an increase of 52,772 (or 22.3 percent) from the previous week. There were 287,794 initial claims in the comparable week in 2016.

The advance unadjusted insured unemployment rate was 1.2 percent during the week ending November 11, unchanged from the prior week. The advance unadjusted number for persons claiming UI benefits in state programs totaled 1,713,749, an increase of 92,077 (or 5.7 percent) from the preceding week. The seasonal factors had expected an increase of 59,785 (or 3.7 percent) from the previous week. A year earlier the rate was 1.3 percent and the volume was 1,857,234.



The total number of people claiming benefits in all programs for the week ending November 4 was 1,653,027, a decrease of 11,624 from the previous week. There were 1,780,659 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 November 4.

Initial claims for UI benefits filed by former Federal civilian employees totaled 1,090 in the week ending November 11, a decrease of 498 from the prior week. There were 680 initial claims filed by newly discharged veterans, a decrease of 104 from the preceding week.

There were 10,844 former Federal civilian employees claiming UI benefits for the week ending November 4, a decrease of 1,520 from the previous week. Newly discharged veterans claiming benefits totaled 8,420, a decrease of 641 from the prior week.

The highest insured unemployment rates in the week ending November 4 were in Puerto Rico (4.7), the Virgin Islands (4.7), Alaska (3.1), New Jersey (2.0), Connecticut (1.8), California (1.7), Massachusetts (1.6), and Pennsylvania (1.6).

The largest increases in initial claims for the week ending November 11 were in New York (+3,025), Minnesota (+1,621), California (+1,241), New Jersey (+1,076), and Pennsylvania (+463), while the largest decreases were in Michigan (-2,641), Puerto Rico (-1,591), Illinois (-1,342), Oklahoma (-1,254), and Georgia (-1,166).

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UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE DATA FOR REGULAR STATE PROGRAMS

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<b>WEEK ENDING</b>	<b>November 18</b>	<b>November 11</b>	<b>Change</b>	<b>November 4</b>	<b><u>Prior Year</u><sup>1</sup></b>
Initial Claims (SA)	239,000	252,000	-13,000	239,000	248,000
Initial Claims (NSA)	274,200	236,592	+37,608	242,078	287,794
4-Wk Moving Average (SA)	239,750	238,500	+1,250	231,250	249,500
<b>WEEK ENDING</b>	<b>November 11</b>	<b>November 4</b>	<b>Change</b>	<b>October 28</b>	<b><u>Prior Year</u><sup>1</sup></b>
Insured Unemployment (SA)	1,904,000	1,868,000	+36,000	1,904,000	2,050,000
Insured Unemployment (NSA)	1,713,749	1,621,672	+92,077	1,629,883	1,857,234
4-Wk Moving Average (SA)	1,890,000	1,889,000	+1,000	1,896,000	2,038,750
<u>Insured Unemployment Rate (SA)</u> <sup>2</sup>	1.4%	1.3%	+0.1	1.4%	1.5%
<u>Insured Unemployment Rate (NSA)</u> <sup>2</sup>	1.2%	1.2%	0.0	1.2%	1.3%

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INITIAL CLAIMS FILED IN FEDERAL PROGRAMS (UNADJUSTED)

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<b>WEEK ENDING</b>	<b>November 11</b>	<b>November 4</b>	<b>Change</b>	<b><u>Prior Year</u><sup>1</sup></b>
Federal Employees (UCFE)	1,090	1,588	-498	1,027
Newly Discharged Veterans (UCX)	680	784	-104	853

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PERSONS CLAIMING UI BENEFITS IN ALL PROGRAMS (UNADJUSTED)

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<b>WEEK ENDING</b>	<b>November 4</b>	<b>October 28</b>	<b>Change</b>	<b><u>Prior Year</u><sup>1</sup></b>
Regular State	1,619,260	1,627,491	-8,231	1,736,727
Federal Employees	10,844	12,364	-1,520	11,050
Newly Discharged Veterans	8,420	9,061	-641	12,761
<u>Extended Benefits</u> <sup>3</sup>	1	0	+1	0
<u>State Additional Benefits</u> <sup>4</sup>	6,184	6,712	-528	7,093
<u>STC / Workshare</u> <sup>5</sup>	8,318	9,023	-705	13,028
<u>TOTAL</u>	1,653,027	1,664,651	-11,624	1,780,659

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 18			Insured Unemployment For Week Ended November 11		
	Advance	Prior Wk	Change	Advance	Prior Wk	Change
Alabama	2,506	2,209	297	16,089	15,797	292
Alaska	2,063	1,442	621	10,212	9,492	720
Arizona	3,898	3,259	639	22,600	22,932	-332
Arkansas	2,378	1,602	776	11,639	12,007	-368
California	51,486	44,894	6,592	331,280	284,449	46,831
Colorado	2,438	1,972	466	20,793	19,401	1,392
Connecticut	3,800	2,713	1,087	32,939	29,819	3,120
Delaware	653	577	76	4,977	4,551	426
District of Columbia	656	369	287	7,947	8,457	-510
Florida	7,956	7,610	346	42,494	44,045	-1,551
Georgia	5,738	4,749	989	25,944	25,132	812
Hawaii	1,509	996	513	7,819	7,145	674
Idaho	1,794	1,618	176	8,285	4,951	3,334
Illinois	13,053	9,114	3,939	90,943	86,702	4,241
Indiana	2,989	2,637	352	14,841	13,845	996
Iowa	4,140	2,372	1,768	14,370	12,570	1,800
Kansas	1,863	1,617	246	9,477	9,367	110
Kentucky	2,593	2,219	374	15,875	15,721	154
Louisiana	2,360	2,281	79	16,487	18,414	-1,927
Maine	913	923	-10	4,593	4,164	429
Maryland	4,041	3,368	673	28,875	30,898	-2,023
Massachusetts	5,443	6,272	-829	54,278	55,435	-1,157
Michigan	10,155	8,054	2,101	43,873	41,535	2,338
Minnesota	7,047	6,430	617	37,280	30,537	6,743
Mississippi	1,278	1,148	130	8,052	8,789	-737
Missouri	6,851	3,273	3,578	21,317	20,606	711
Montana	1,735	2,115	-380	7,861	6,467	1,394
Nebraska	911	796	115	4,110	3,785	325
Nevada	3,397	3,082	315	19,133	19,173	-40
New Hampshire	537	483	54	3,249	3,548	-299
New Jersey	10,735	10,491	244	89,933	78,814	11,119
New Mexico	1,094	856	238	9,931	9,507	424
New York	18,063	17,949	114	133,361	128,473	4,888
North Carolina	3,450	3,048	402	18,792	19,740	-948
North Dakota	1,206	756	450	3,433	2,096	1,337
Ohio	8,352	7,179	1,173	47,567	45,977	1,590
Oklahoma	1,500	1,359	141	13,567	14,822	-1,255
Oregon	5,164	4,072	1,092	26,949	24,480	2,469
Pennsylvania	17,361	14,880	2,481	103,261	92,210	11,051
Puerto Rico <sup>*1M</sup>	6,944	6,690	254	33,530	40,736	-7,206
Rhode Island	1,009	1,058	-49	6,629	6,311	318
South Carolina	2,580	2,441	139	17,223	16,506	717
South Dakota	352	328	24	1,431	1,143	288
Tennessee	2,355	2,163	192	16,490	16,859	-369
Texas	15,594	14,719	875	125,921	136,990	-11,069
Utah	1,621	1,355	266	7,877	7,590	287
Vermont	646	539	107	3,310	2,690	620
Virgin Islands <sup>*1M</sup>	116	106	10	2,619	1,735	884
Virginia	3,466	2,530	936	23,844	22,348	1,496
Washington	8,715	6,696	2,019	51,850	47,422	4,428
West Virginia	1,273	1,078	195	9,803	8,473	1,330
Wisconsin	5,845	5,638	207	25,564	24,270	1,294
Wyoming	578	467	111	3,232	2,746	486
US Total	274,200	236,592	37,608	1,713,749	1,621,672	92,077

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.

<sup>I</sup>Affected by Hurricane Irma.

<sup>M</sup>Affected by Hurricane Maria.

## 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 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	1,868	-36	1,889.00	1.3
November 11, 2017	252	13	238.50	1,904	36	1,890.00	1.4
November 18, 2017	239	-13	239.75				

Initial Claims Filed During Week Ended November 11 INITIAL CLAIMS							Insured Unemployment For Week Ended November 4 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	2209	-296	-382	9	11	15797	0.8	79	-3788	52	88	15937
Alaska	1442	-204	-189	11	1	9492	3.1	631	-1343	139	21	9652
Arizona	3259	-900	-115	16	2	22932	0.9	-1824	-2832	153	56	23141
Arkansas	1602	-313	-184	6	5	12007	1.0	51	-1884	49	73	12129
California	44894	1241	5439	236	102	284449	1.7	-28450	-26820	1746	1673	287868
Colorado	1972	-225	-87	26	20	19401	0.8	-464	-3848	174	240	19815
Connecticut	2713	-43	133	7	8	29819	1.8	-201	-2559	46	88	29953
Delaware	577	-57	22	1	1	4551	1.0	-310	-198	10	11	4572
District of Columbia	369	-81	31	9	1	8457	1.5	190	277	376	10	8843
Florida	7610	-986	381	23	47	44045	0.5	-3028	-284	180	171	44396
Georgia	4749	-1166	-466	32	38	25132	0.6	-1404	-2702	286	222	25640
Hawaii	996	-243	66	4	6	7145	1.2	-343	160	76	90	7311
Idaho	1618	265	270	34	0	4951	0.7	293	-1769	108	12	5071
Illinois	9114	-1342	1420	13	8	86702	1.5	-315	-3309	375	232	87309
Indiana	2637	113	-310	4	9	13845	0.5	183	-4800	63	53	13961
Iowa	2372	58	179	5	4	12570	0.8	-358	-2553	43	38	12651
Kansas	1617	-125	-135	6	2	9367	0.7	-22	-573	106	44	9517
Kentucky	2219	-44	-784	9	1	15721	0.9	-190	-6065	261	121	16103
Louisiana	2281	-40	-105	1	2	18414	1.0	-404	-4703	42	36	18492
Maine	923	85	16	2	0	4164	0.7	267	-769	18	21	4203
Maryland	3368	-639	293	54	12	30898	1.2	112	-1871	350	140	31388
Massachusetts	6272	270	274	23	12	55435	1.6	997	-2600	301	173	55909
Michigan	8054	-2641	-260	28	17	41535	1.0	-1497	-2068	140	101	41776
Minnesota	6430	1621	1062	10	9	30537	1.1	3634	-1387	77	97	30711
Mississippi	1148	-60	-243	5	1	8789	0.8	-82	-1555	31	36	8856
Missouri	3273	-238	1408	14	6	20606	0.8	-1025	-959	443	56	21105
Montana	2115	177	829	54	2	6467	1.5	893	-170	209	30	6707
Nebraska	796	79	0	2	0	3785	0.4	57	-213	12	12	3809
Nevada	3082	315	380	13	6	19173	1.5	239	-1504	108	72	19353
New Hampshire	483	-49	-45	2	1	3548	0.6	22	-232	10	7	3565
New Jersey	10491	1076	415	16	10	78814	2.0	-2019	-6762	202	300	79316
New Mexico	856	-203	-301	7	3	9507	1.2	568	-1758	247	77	9831
New York	17949	3025	2197	47	43	128473	1.4	4914	-4574	611	457	129541
North Carolina	3048	-34	-869	14	10	19740	0.5	154	-4604	83	169	19992
North Dakota	756	157	110	2	1	2096	0.5	217	-516	5	4	2105
Ohio	7179	-1128	-272	13	21	45977	0.9	2006	-3864	211	246	46434
Oklahoma	1359	-1254	-144	10	15	14822	1.0	1066	-5384	77	96	14995
Oregon	4072	-101	82	73	13	24480	1.3	211	-1124	405	109	24994
Pennsylvania	14880	463	180	72	41	92210	1.6	-2417	-9290	518	343	93071
Puerto Rico	6690	-1591	5699	0	1	40736	4.7	3101	18276	26	29	40791
Rhode Island	1058	172	37	3	1	6311	1.4	86	-380	21	19	6351
South Carolina	2441	141	-138	3	8	16506	0.8	-122	1820	91	49	16646
South Dakota	328	23	41	6	0	1143	0.3	67	-187	21	5	1169
Tennessee	2163	-257	-671	10	3	16859	0.6	-827	133	406	53	17318
Texas	14719	-218	-1110	60	127	136990	1.2	12863	-10829	730	1320	139040
Utah	1355	-18	-130	38	1	7590	0.6	272	-826	338	20	7948
Vermont	539	-138	-3	0	0	2690	0.9	137	-495	3	0	2693
Virgin Islands	106	-93	86	0	0	1735	4.7	1048	1193	0	0	1735
Virginia	2530	-288	-255	21	11	22348	0.6	-234	-319	319	399	23066
Washington	6696	-4	-785	17	26	47422	1.5	1209	1606	358	632	48412
West Virginia	1078	31	140	2	1	8473	1.3	162	-2507	52	29	8554
Wisconsin	5638	329	-314	7	8	24270	0.9	1518	-3905	80	28	24378
Wyoming	467	-108	-71	10	2	2746	1.0	78	-1902	56	12	2814
Totals	236592	-5486	12822	1090	680	1621672	1.2	-8211	-119119	10844	8420	1640937

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 NOVEMBER 11, 2017**

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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	+3,025	Layoffs in the construction, arts, entertainment and recreation, and manufacturing industries.
MN	+1,621	No comment.
CA	+1,241	No comment.
NJ	+1,076	Layoffs in the educational service, accommodation and food service, transportation and warehousing, and public administration industries.

**STATES WITH A DECREASE OF MORE THAN 1,000**

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<b>State</b>	<b>Change</b>	<b>State Supplied Comment</b>
MI	-2,641	Fewer layoffs in the wholesale trade industry.
PR	-1,591	No comment.
IL	-1,342	No comment.
OK	-1,254	No comment.
GA	-1,166	Fewer layoffs in the trade, manufacturing, and administrative and support and waste management and remediation service industries.
OH	-1,128	No comments.

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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](#)

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U.S. Department of Labor  
Employment and Training Administration  
Washington, D.C. 20210  
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Program Contacts:  
Tony Sznoluch (202) 693-3176  
Sandra Trujillo (202) 693-2933  
Media Contact: (202) 693-4676