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UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE WEEKLY CLAIMS

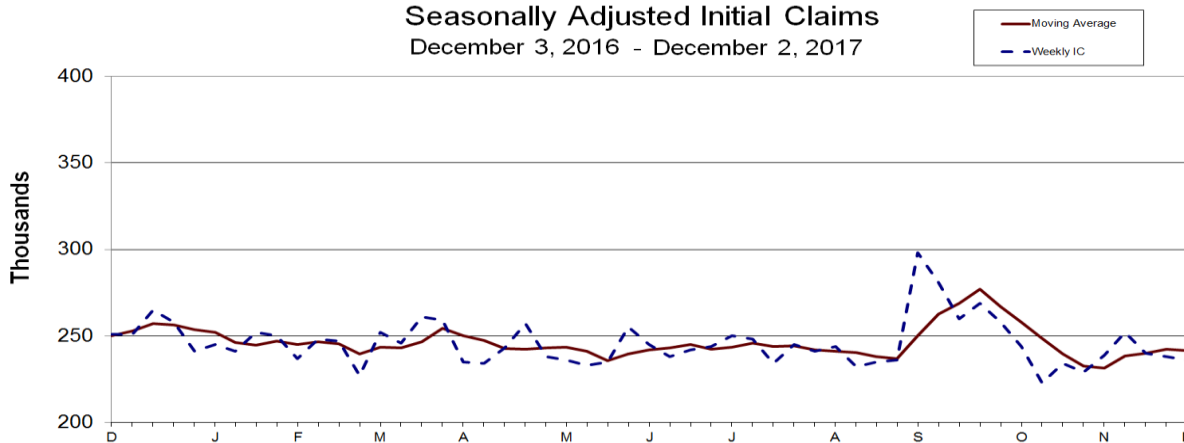
SEASONALLY ADJUSTED DATA

In the week ending December 2, the advance figure for seasonally adjusted **initial claims** was 236,000, a decrease of 2,000 from the previous week's unrevised level of 238,000. The 4-week moving average was 241,500, a decrease of 750 from the previous week's unrevised average of 242,250.

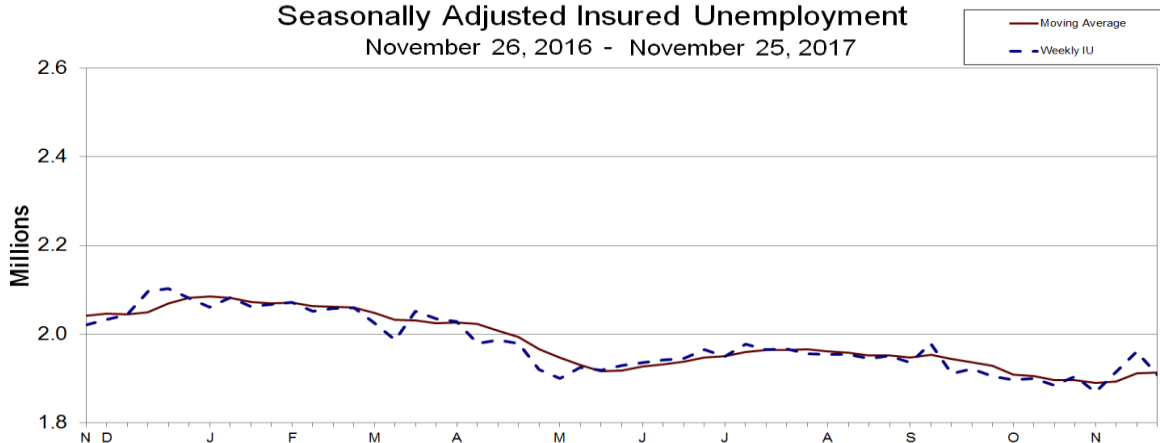
Claims taking procedures continue to be disrupted in the Virgin Islands. Claims taking process in Puerto Rico has still not returned to normal.

The advance seasonally adjusted **insured unemployment rate** was 1.4 percent for the week ending November 25, unchanged from the previous week's unrevised rate. The advance number for seasonally adjusted **insured unemployment** during the week ending November 25 was 1,908,000, a decrease of 52,000 from the previous week's revised level. The previous week's level was revised up 3,000 from 1,957,000 to 1,960,000. The 4-week moving average was 1,912,750, an increase of 1,000 from the previous week's revised average. The previous week's average was revised up by 750 from 1,911,000 to 1,911,750.

Seasonally Adjusted Initial Claims
December 3, 2016 - December 2, 2017



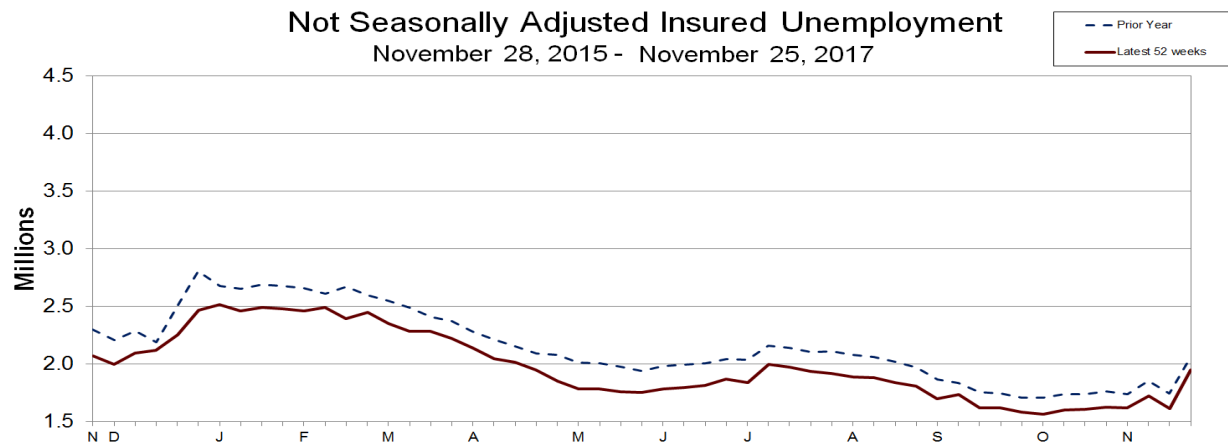
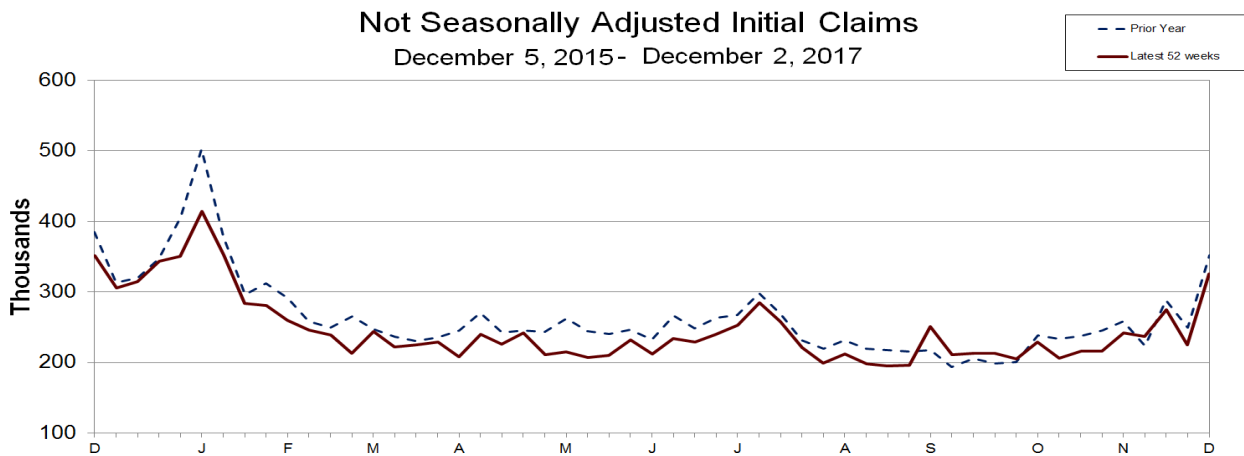
Seasonally Adjusted Insured Unemployment
November 26, 2016 - November 25, 2017



UNADJUSTED DATA

The advance number of actual initial claims under state programs, unadjusted, totaled 325,762 in the week ending December 2, an increase of 100,883 (or 44.9 percent) from the previous week. The seasonal factors had expected an increase of 103,974 (or 46.2 percent) from the previous week. There were 351,580 initial claims in the comparable week in 2016.

The advance unadjusted insured unemployment rate was 1.4 percent during the week ending November 25, an increase of 0.3 percentage point from the prior week. The advance unadjusted number for persons claiming UI benefits in state programs totaled 1,948,316, an increase of 333,380 (or 20.6 percent) from the preceding week. The seasonal factors had expected an increase of 386,095 (or 23.9 percent) from the previous week. A year earlier the rate was 1.5 percent and the volume was 2,070,694.



The total number of people claiming benefits in all programs for the week ending November 18 was 1,647,426, a decrease of 113,775 from the previous week. There were 1,785,900 persons claiming benefits in all programs in the comparable week in 2016.

Extended benefits were available in Alaska during the week ending November 18.

Initial claims for UI benefits filed by former Federal civilian employees totaled 1,005 in the week ending November 25, a decrease of 687 from the prior week. There were 451 initial claims filed by newly discharged veterans, a decrease of 272 from the preceding week.

There were 11,522 former Federal civilian employees claiming UI benefits for the week ending November 18, a decrease of 2,322 from the previous week. Newly discharged veterans claiming benefits totaled 8,145, a decrease of 954 from the prior week.

The highest insured unemployment rates in the week ending November 18 were in Alaska (3.4), Puerto Rico (3.2), the Virgin Islands (2.6), New Jersey (2.1), Connecticut (1.8), Montana (1.8), Massachusetts (1.7), Pennsylvania (1.7), Nevada (1.6), and Washington (1.6).

The largest increases in initial claims for the week ending November 25 were in Wisconsin (+3,098), Massachusetts (+1,857), Vermont (+530), Idaho (+382), and Nebraska (+371), while the largest decreases were in California (-15,058), Texas (-5,089), Missouri (-3,966), Puerto Rico (-3,866), and New York (-3,660).

UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE DATA FOR REGULAR STATE PROGRAMS

WEEK ENDING	December 2	November 25	Change	November 18	<u>Prior Year</u>¹
Initial Claims (SA)	236,000	238,000	-2,000	240,000	251,000
Initial Claims (NSA)	325,762	224,879	+100,883	274,968	351,580
4-Wk Moving Average (SA)	241,500	242,250	-750	240,000	250,000
WEEK ENDING	November 25	November 18	Change	November 11	<u>Prior Year</u>¹
Insured Unemployment (SA)	1,908,000	1,960,000	-52,000	1,915,000	2,020,000
Insured Unemployment (NSA)	1,948,316	1,614,936	+333,380	1,723,644	2,070,694
4-Wk Moving Average (SA)	1,912,750	1,911,750	+1,000	1,892,750	2,041,000
<u>Insured Unemployment Rate (SA)</u> ²	1.4%	1.4%	0.0	1.4%	1.5%
<u>Insured Unemployment Rate (NSA)</u> ²	1.4%	1.1%	+0.3	1.2%	1.5%

INITIAL CLAIMS FILED IN FEDERAL PROGRAMS (UNADJUSTED)

WEEK ENDING	November 25	November 18	Change	<u>Prior Year</u>¹
Federal Employees (UCFE)	1,005	1,692	-687	909
Newly Discharged Veterans (UCX)	451	723	-272	584

PERSONS CLAIMING UI BENEFITS IN ALL PROGRAMS (UNADJUSTED)

WEEK ENDING	November 18	November 11	Change	<u>Prior Year</u>¹
Regular State	1,612,766	1,720,878	-108,112	1,742,073
Federal Employees	11,522	13,844	-2,322	11,540
Newly Discharged Veterans	8,145	9,099	-954	12,036
<u>Extended Benefits</u> ³	1,100	212	+888	0
<u>State Additional Benefits</u> ⁴	6,266	6,741	-475	7,009
<u>STC / Workshare</u> ⁵	7,627	10,427	-2,800	13,242
<u>TOTAL</u>	1,647,426	1,761,201	-113,775	1,785,900

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 December 2			Insured Unemployment For Week Ended November 25		
	Advance	Prior Wk	Change	Advance	Prior Wk	Change
Alabama	4,448	2,327	2,121	18,856	15,944	2,912
Alaska	1,904	1,292	612	11,822	10,401	1,421
Arizona	3,727	2,675	1,052	20,307	21,907	-1,600
Arkansas	2,499	2,558	-59	13,759	12,257	1,502
California	54,866	35,936	18,930	387,471	254,163	133,308
Colorado	2,384	2,073	311	21,653	19,920	1,733
Connecticut	4,509	2,501	2,008	36,187	30,027	6,160
Delaware	983	696	287	5,940	4,681	1,259
District of Columbia	693	214	479	8,209	8,384	-175
Florida	7,635	5,255	2,380	44,157	37,990	6,167
Georgia	9,167	3,119	6,048	30,634	23,481	7,153
Hawaii	1,432	915	517	8,201	7,162	1,039
Idaho	2,074	2,284	-210	7,322	6,159	1,163
Illinois	15,618	10,412	5,206	101,638	88,749	12,889
Indiana	3,554	2,143	1,411	15,173	13,323	1,850
Iowa	5,136	3,328	1,808	17,778	14,126	3,652
Kansas	2,175	1,739	436	10,564	9,405	1,159
Kentucky	2,742	2,672	70	17,677	15,373	2,304
Louisiana	2,227	1,857	370	16,869	18,465	-1,596
Maine	1,124	764	360	5,448	4,743	705
Maryland	4,259	3,427	832	31,131	31,380	-249
Massachusetts	7,719	7,404	315	60,605	57,286	3,319
Michigan	14,232	10,309	3,923	53,213	43,861	9,352
Minnesota	8,394	6,033	2,361	49,376	36,382	12,994
Mississippi	1,190	1,236	-46	8,793	8,608	185
Missouri	4,067	3,211	856	23,357	23,021	336
Montana	1,752	1,589	163	9,737	7,852	1,885
Nebraska	1,096	1,280	-184	5,131	4,120	1,011
Nevada	3,327	3,171	156	21,597	20,339	1,258
New Hampshire	613	531	82	3,478	3,611	-133
New Jersey	10,975	10,619	356	95,942	82,561	13,381
New Mexico	1,046	921	125	10,416	9,831	585
New York	26,209	14,211	11,998	151,121	130,657	20,464
North Carolina	3,718	1,890	1,828	19,249	19,877	-628
North Dakota	1,467	920	547	4,805	3,067	1,738
Ohio	10,526	8,418	2,108	54,250	48,065	6,185
Oklahoma	1,492	1,687	-195	14,815	13,853	962
Oregon	6,721	3,940	2,781	30,266	26,316	3,950
Pennsylvania	24,779	17,314	7,465	111,444	98,895	12,549
Puerto Rico ^{1M}	7,115	3,106	4,009	51,108	28,466	22,642
Rhode Island	1,208	965	243	7,395	6,412	983
South Carolina	3,202	1,758	1,444	18,839	16,865	1,974
South Dakota	459	309	150	1,815	1,382	433
Tennessee	2,993	2,294	699	17,686	16,849	837
Texas	19,321	10,737	8,584	141,005	134,210	6,795
Utah	1,853	1,181	672	8,791	8,404	387
Vermont	862	1,191	-329	4,283	3,014	1,269
Virgin Islands ^{*1M}	161	113	48	1,004	954	50
Virginia	3,824	2,461	1,363	25,512	21,905	3,607
Washington	9,492	7,538	1,954	59,737	51,766	7,971
West Virginia	2,064	955	1,109	12,402	9,282	3,120
Wisconsin	10,121	8,952	1,169	36,778	26,058	10,720
Wyoming	608	448	160	3,570	3,127	443
US Total	325,762	224,879	100,883	1,948,316	1,614,936	333,380

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 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 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	1,915	47	1,892.75	1.4
November 18, 2017	240	-12	240.00	1,960	45	1,911.75	1.4
November 25, 2017	238	-2	242.25	1,908	-52	1,912.75	1.4
December 2, 2017	236	-2	241.50				

Initial Claims Filed During Week Ended November 25 INITIAL CLAIMS							Insured Unemployment For Week Ended November 18 INSURED UNEMPLOYMENT					
STATE	STATE	CHANGE FROM				STATE	CHANGE FROM	STATE	CHANGE FROM	ALL PROGRAMS EXCLUDING RAILROAD RETIREMENT		
		LAST WEEK	YEAR AGO	UCFE ₁	UCX ₁					LAST WEEK	YEAR AGO	UCFE ₁
Alabama	2327	-471	3	5	6	15944	0.9	-3	-3322	49	84	16077
Alaska	1292	-403	46	12	5	10401	3.4	-4	-1653	157	29	11686
Arizona	2675	-1542	18	17	1	21907	0.8	-3120	-2953	178	82	22167
Arkansas	2558	-50	-280	2	1	12257	1.0	-235	-2055	57	73	12387
California	35936	-15058	-6394	207	87	254163	1.5	-70462	-41512	1788	1607	257558
Colorado	2073	-365	-630	25	15	19920	0.8	-415	-3886	195	229	20344
Connecticut	2501	-1295	-435	2	4	30027	1.8	-1644	-3020	34	84	30145
Delaware	696	-1	-72	3	1	4681	1.1	-70	-173	9	10	4700
District of Columbia	214	-192	-57	5	2	8384	1.5	-90	298	357	10	8751
Florida	5255	-3168	-111	9	35	37990	0.5	-9268	-1148	174	198	38362
Georgia	3119	-2943	-1235	17	21	23481	0.6	-3888	-1850	282	201	23964
Hawaii	915	-574	-34	3	9	7162	1.2	-374	67	76	99	7337
Idaho	2284	382	174	42	4	6159	0.9	574	-1398	186	15	6360
Illinois	10412	-2521	-2206	17	12	88749	1.5	-1842	-1233	377	227	89353
Indiana	2143	-722	-1266	4	6	13323	0.5	-1041	-6774	61	47	13431
Iowa	3328	-275	-632	5	1	14126	0.9	565	-1931	47	39	14212
Kansas	1739	-84	-906	11	1	9405	0.7	-309	-843	160	45	9610
Kentucky	2672	41	117	10	2	15373	0.8	-706	-2812	200	112	15685
Louisiana	1857	-861	-172	5	5	18465	1.0	86	-4519	47	31	18543
Maine	764	-169	-69	3	1	4743	0.8	125	-614	25	15	4783
Maryland	3427	-894	-346	35	7	31380	1.3	-369	-1616	375	136	31891
Massachusetts	7404	1857	742	16	7	57286	1.7	2271	-486	335	154	57775
Michigan	10309	-41	677	23	10	43861	1.0	-1287	-3393	154	87	44102
Minnesota	6033	-589	-2076	14	1	36382	1.3	1233	-1711	113	88	36583
Mississippi	1236	-282	-401	1	2	8608	0.8	-188	-1943	43	31	8682
Missouri	3211	-3966	-224	19	1	23021	0.8	1436	762	575	47	23643
Montana	1589	-148	-285	53	0	7852	1.8	98	39	277	29	8158
Nebraska	1280	371	-203	2	1	4120	0.4	136	-237	11	12	4143
Nevada	3171	-126	54	12	2	20339	1.6	-207	-1075	115	75	20529
New Hampshire	531	-45	-75	0	0	3611	0.6	13	-316	6	4	3621
New Jersey	10619	-194	806	18	12	82561	2.1	-5373	-2870	217	287	83065
New Mexico	921	-175	-27	4	1	9831	1.3	-302	-1597	278	76	10185
New York	14211	-3660	-1124	24	24	130657	1.4	-1758	-5602	627	417	131701
North Carolina	1890	-1383	-562	4	8	19877	0.5	-321	-3340	94	166	20137
North Dakota	920	-38	-988	5	0	3067	0.8	355	-436	13	4	3084
Ohio	8418	188	-2353	12	22	48065	0.9	878	-4294	191	244	48500
Oklahoma	1687	-17	157	4	1	13853	0.9	-63	-6099	74	104	14031
Oregon	3940	-1126	-40	55	7	26316	1.4	-679	-670	514	115	26945
Pennsylvania	17314	-76	-1293	115	27	98895	1.7	-2896	-4295	534	316	99745
Puerto Rico	3106	-3866	2181	0	2	28466	3.2	-16606	6951	35	25	28526
Rhode Island	965	-33	-215	2	2	6412	1.4	-60	-905	19	23	6454
South Carolina	1758	-984	42	1	7	16865	0.9	-438	2393	77	56	16999
South Dakota	309	-88	-180	12	0	1382	0.3	-29	-168	25	3	1410
Tennessee	2294	-297	-166	9	1	16849	0.6	-67	307	406	56	17311
Texas	10737	-5089	-140	77	58	134210	1.2	8412	-13646	717	1314	136241
Utah	1181	-412	-253	38	2	8404	0.6	430	-737	311	17	8732
Vermont	1191	530	-229	2	0	3014	1.0	-81	-520	6	5	3025
Virgin Islands	113	-46	99	0	0	954	2.6	-1872	534	0	0	954
Virginia	2461	-701	-616	6	9	21905	0.6	-967	-763	314	338	22557
Washington	7538	-1080	-549	17	8	51766	1.6	1591	3848	398	605	52769
West Virginia	955	-445	-270	1	8	9282	1.4	-91	-2082	53	25	9360
Wisconsin	8952	3098	-2711	14	2	26058	0.9	494	-4366	74	38	26170
Wyoming	448	-61	-186	6	0	3127	1.2	-280	-1631	82	11	3220
Totals	224879	-50089	-24895	1005	451	1614936	1.1	-108708	-131295	11522	8145	1635703

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 25, 2017

STATES WITH AN INCREASE OF MORE THAN 1,000

State	Change	State Supplied Comment
WI	+3,098	Layoffs in the construction, manufacturing, and transportation and warehousing industries.
MA	+1,857	Layoffs in the transportation and warehousing industry.

STATES WITH A DECREASE OF MORE THAN 1,000

State	Change	State Supplied Comment
CA	-15,058	Fewer layoffs in the service industry.
TX	-5,089	No comment.
MO	-3,966	Fewer layoffs in the manufacturing, construction, and health care and social assistance industries.
PR	-3,866	No comment.
NY	-3,660	Fewer layoffs in the transportation and warehousing, manufacturing, and accommodation and food service industries.
FL	-3,168	Fewer layoffs in the agriculture, forestry, fishing, and hunting, construction, manufacturing, wholesale trade, retail trade, and service industries.
GA	-2,943	Fewer layoffs in the manufacturing, administrative and support and waste management and remediation service, trade, and construction industries.
IL	-2,521	No comment.
AZ	-1,542	No comment.
NC	-1,383	Fewer layoffs in the administrative and support and waste management and remediation service, accommodation and food service, and professional, scientific, and technical service industries.
CT	-1,295	No comment.
OR	-1,126	No comment.
WA	-1,080	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](#)

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