



News Release

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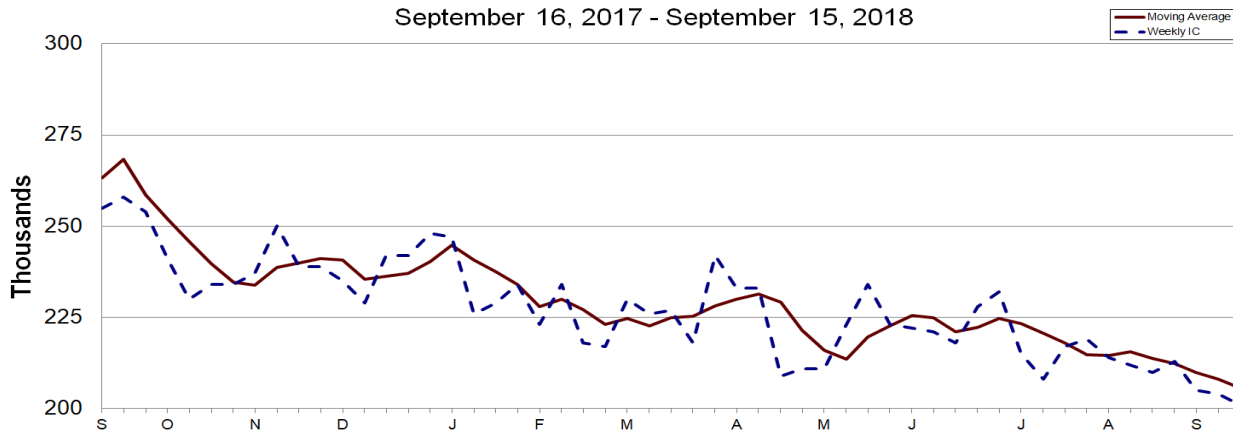
UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE WEEKLY CLAIMS

SEASONALLY ADJUSTED DATA

In the week ending September 15, the advance figure for seasonally adjusted **initial claims** was 201,000, a decrease of 3,000 from the previous week's unrevised level of 204,000. This is the lowest level for initial claims since November 15, 1969 when it was 197,000. The 4-week moving average was 205,750, a decrease of 2,250 from the previous week's unrevised average of 208,000. This is the lowest level for this average since December 6, 1969 when it was 204,500.

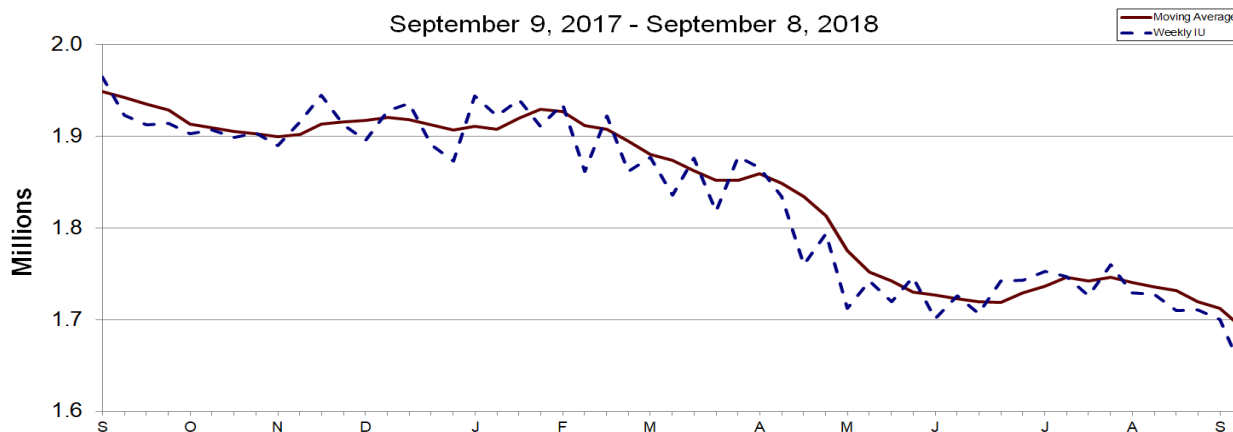
The advance seasonally adjusted **insured unemployment rate** was 1.2 percent for the week ending September 8, unchanged from the previous week's unrevised rate. The advance number for seasonally adjusted **insured unemployment** during the week ending September 8 was 1,645,000, a decrease of 55,000 from the previous week's revised level. This is the lowest level for insured unemployment since August 4, 1973 when it was 1,633,000. The previous week's level was revised up 4,000 from 1,696,000 to 1,700,000. The 4-week moving average was 1,691,500, a decrease of 20,750 from the previous week's revised average. This is the lowest level for this average since November 17, 1973 when it was 1,686,000. The previous week's average was revised up by 1,000 from 1,711,250 to 1,712,250.

Seasonally Adjusted Initial Claims
September 16, 2017 - September 15, 2018



Seasonally Adjusted Insured Unemployment

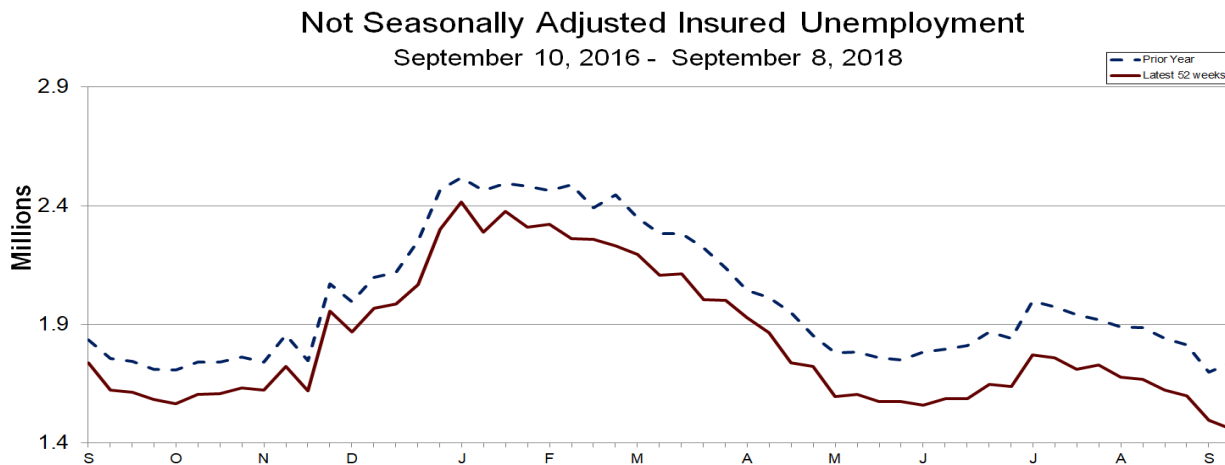
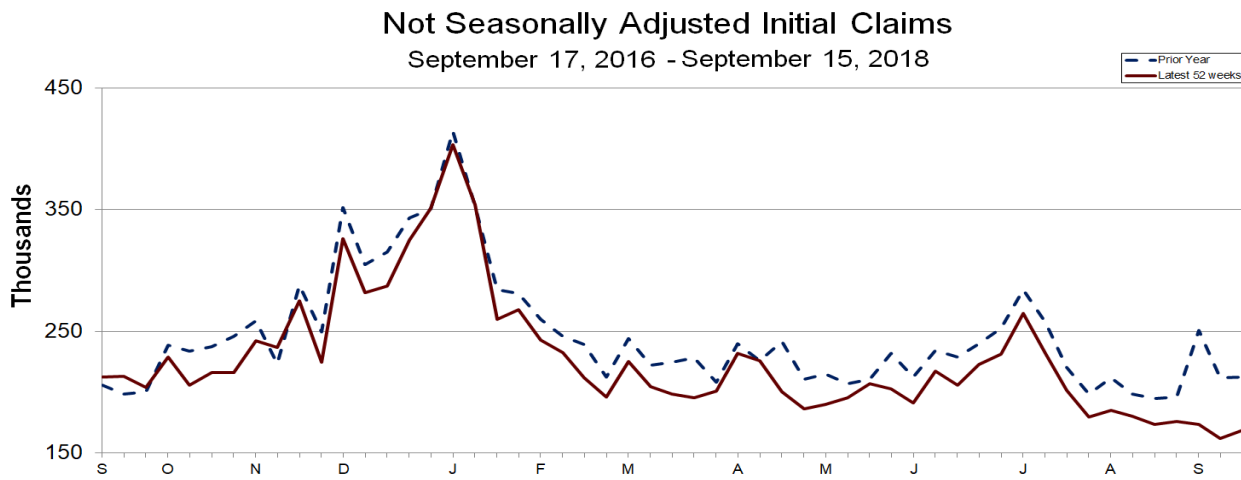
September 9, 2017 - September 8, 2018



UNADJUSTED DATA

The advance number of actual initial claims under state programs, unadjusted, totaled 168,801 in the week ending September 15, an increase of 6,468 (or +4.0 percent) from the previous week. The seasonal factors had expected an increase of 8,780 (or +5.4 percent) from the previous week. There were 212,313 initial claims in the comparable week in 2017.

The advance unadjusted insured unemployment rate was 1.0 percent during the week ending September 8, a decrease of 0.1 percentage point from the prior week. The advance unadjusted number for persons claiming UI benefits in state programs totaled 1,460,796, a decrease of 35,122 (or -2.3 percent) from the preceding week. The seasonal factors had expected an increase of 13,599 (or +0.9 percent) from the previous week. A year earlier the rate was 1.2 percent and the volume was 1,738,986.



The total number of people claiming benefits in all programs for the week ending September 1 was 1,519,707, a decrease of 105,019 from the previous week. There were 1,728,067 persons claiming benefits in all programs in the comparable week in 2017.

No state was triggered "on" the Extended Benefits program during the week ending September 1.

Initial claims for UI benefits filed by former Federal civilian employees totaled 611 in the week ending September 8, an increase of 68 from the prior week. There were 587 initial claims filed by newly discharged veterans, a decrease of 9 from the preceding week.

There were 7,197 former Federal civilian employees claiming UI benefits for the week ending September 1, a decrease of 313 from the previous week. Newly discharged veterans claiming benefits totaled 7,332, a decrease of 97 from the prior week.

The highest insured unemployment rates in the week ending September 1 were in New Jersey (2.4), Connecticut (1.9), Alaska (1.7), Pennsylvania (1.7), Puerto Rico (1.7), California (1.6), New York (1.5), Rhode Island (1.5), the District of Columbia (1.4), Massachusetts (1.4), and Nevada (1.4).

The largest increases in initial claims for the week ending September 8 were in Iowa (+648), Wisconsin (+643), Kansas (+573), Michigan (+398), and Nebraska (+302), while the largest decreases were in California (-4,065), New York (-3,765), Pennsylvania (-948), Indiana (-812), and Washington (-623).

UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE DATA FOR REGULAR STATE PROGRAMS

WEEK ENDING	September 15	September 8	Change	September 1	<u>Prior Year</u>¹
Initial Claims (SA)	201,000	204,000	-3,000	205,000	255,000
Initial Claims (NSA)	168,801	162,333	+6,468	173,557	212,313
4-Wk Moving Average (SA)	205,750	208,000	-2,250	210,000	263,250
WEEK ENDING	September 8	September 1	Change	August 25	<u>Prior Year</u>¹
Insured Unemployment (SA)	1,645,000	1,700,000	-55,000	1,711,000	1,965,000
Insured Unemployment (NSA)	1,460,796	1,495,918	-35,122	1,599,995	1,738,986
4-Wk Moving Average (SA)	1,691,500	1,712,250	-20,750	1,719,500	1,948,750
<u>Insured Unemployment Rate (SA)</u>²	1.2%	1.2%	0.0	1.2%	1.4%
<u>Insured Unemployment Rate (NSA)</u>²	1.0%	1.1%	-0.1	1.1%	1.2%

INITIAL CLAIMS FILED IN FEDERAL PROGRAMS (UNADJUSTED)

WEEK ENDING	September 8	September 1	Change	<u>Prior Year</u>¹
Federal Employees (UCFE)	611	543	+68	660
Newly Discharged Veterans (UCX)	587	596	-9	655

PERSONS CLAIMING UI BENEFITS IN ALL PROGRAMS (UNADJUSTED)

WEEK ENDING	September 1	August 25	Change	<u>Prior Year</u>¹
Regular State	1,494,392	1,598,216	-103,824	1,695,976
Federal Employees	7,197	7,510	-313	8,069
Newly Discharged Veterans	7,332	7,429	-97	9,080
<u>Extended Benefits</u>³	1	3	-2	0
<u>State Additional Benefits</u>⁴	4,874	5,009	-135	5,742
<u>STC / Workshare</u>⁵	5,911	6,559	-648	9,200
<u>TOTAL</u>	1,519,707	1,624,726	-105,019	1,728,067

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 141,951,699 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 September 15			Insured Unemployment For Week Ended September 8		
	Advance	Prior Wk	Change	Advance	Prior Wk	Change
Alabama	1,874	1,798	76	15,159	15,445	-286
Alaska	1,024	751	273	5,159	5,197	-38
Arizona	3,215	3,115	100	23,647	27,711	-4,064
Arkansas	1,181	1,369	-188	9,197	9,653	-456
California	33,818	31,348	2,470	294,956	275,418	19,538
Colorado	1,524	1,550	-26	17,243	16,918	325
Connecticut	2,268	2,158	110	28,885	30,840	-1,955
Delaware	476	392	84	4,084	4,170	-86
District of Columbia	469	351	118	7,205	7,639	-434
Florida	5,936	5,764	172	37,005	41,212	-4,207
Georgia	5,388	4,007	1,381	23,769	24,256	-487
Hawaii*	1,396	1,334	62	6,729	6,597	132
Idaho	721	787	-66	3,252	3,487	-235
Illinois	6,479	7,231	-752	76,257	77,351	-1,094
Indiana	2,058	2,139	-81	13,372	13,810	-438
Iowa	1,715	2,347	-632	14,559	11,822	2,737
Kansas	1,232	1,807	-575	8,146	7,508	638
Kentucky	1,878	1,591	287	14,836	16,162	-1,326
Louisiana	1,932	1,741	191	14,542	16,545	-2,003
Maine	437	363	74	3,241	3,631	-390
Maryland	2,919	2,603	316	23,413	28,188	-4,775
Massachusetts	3,938	3,971	-33	43,996	48,866	-4,870
Michigan	4,051	4,477	-426	33,821	37,181	-3,360
Minnesota	2,590	2,541	49	23,931	24,157	-226
Mississippi	754	732	22	6,159	7,234	-1,075
Missouri	2,491	2,538	-47	17,800	18,654	-854
Montana	558	519	39	3,505	3,542	-37
Nebraska	574	827	-253	3,466	3,149	317
Nevada	2,131	2,358	-227	17,232	17,853	-621
New Hampshire	378	352	26	2,706	3,247	-541
New Jersey	7,910	6,512	1,398	86,647	94,594	-7,947
New Mexico	662	665	-3	7,537	7,671	-134
New York	12,657	12,106	551	119,765	135,371	-15,606
North Carolina	2,278	2,351	-73	17,136	18,622	-1,486
North Dakota	201	201	0	1,663	1,455	208
Ohio	4,473	4,197	276	39,204	39,325	-121
Oklahoma	1,084	1,190	-106	11,588	12,069	-481
Oregon	3,629	2,941	688	21,467	21,874	-407
Pennsylvania	10,513	9,885	628	93,871	97,137	-3,266
Puerto Rico	828	1,024	-196	14,481	14,186	295
Rhode Island	775	628	147	6,252	7,109	-857
South Carolina	1,372	1,775	-403	13,785	14,900	-1,115
South Dakota	128	135	-7	766	776	-10
Tennessee	1,878	1,860	18	15,288	16,491	-1,203
Texas	11,907	10,838	1,069	115,605	108,307	7,298
Utah	877	814	63	6,227	6,721	-494
Vermont	352	272	80	2,238	2,184	54
Virgin Islands	65	30	35	350	410	-60
Virginia	2,194	2,143	51	19,117	18,845	272
Washington	5,310	5,243	67	41,535	40,504	1,031
West Virginia	606	635	-29	7,264	6,676	588
Wisconsin	3,466	3,831	-365	20,328	21,943	-1,615
Wyoming	231	196	35	1,410	1,305	105
US Total	168,801	162,333	6,468	1,460,796	1,495,918	-35,122

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.

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	
September 9, 2017	267	-26	258.75	1,965	25	1,948.75	1.4
September 16, 2017	255	-12	263.25	1,923	-42	1,942.75	1.4
September 23, 2017	258	3	268.25	1,913	-10	1,935.25	1.4
September 30, 2017	254	-4	258.50	1,914	1	1,928.75	1.4
October 7, 2017	241	-13	252.00	1,903	-11	1,913.25	1.4
October 14, 2017	230	-11	245.75	1,907	4	1,909.25	1.4
October 21, 2017	234	4	239.75	1,899	-8	1,905.75	1.4
October 28, 2017	234	0	234.75	1,904	5	1,903.25	1.4
November 4, 2017	237	3	233.75	1,890	-14	1,900.00	1.3
November 11, 2017	250	13	238.75	1,916	26	1,902.25	1.4
November 18, 2017	239	-11	240.00	1,945	29	1,913.75	1.4
November 25, 2017	239	0	241.25	1,913	-32	1,916.00	1.4
December 2, 2017	235	-4	240.75	1,896	-17	1,917.50	1.3
December 9, 2017	229	-6	235.50	1,928	32	1,920.50	1.4
December 16, 2017	242	13	236.25	1,936	8	1,918.25	1.4
December 23, 2017	242	0	237.00	1,891	-45	1,912.75	1.3
December 30, 2017	248	6	240.25	1,873	-18	1,907.00	1.3
January 6, 2018	247	-1	244.75	1,944	71	1,911.00	1.4
January 13, 2018	226	-21	240.75	1,922	-22	1,907.50	1.4
January 20, 2018	229	3	237.50	1,940	18	1,919.75	1.4
January 27, 2018	234	5	234.00	1,911	-29	1,929.25	1.4
February 3, 2018	223	-11	228.00	1,935	24	1,927.00	1.4
February 10, 2018	234	11	230.00	1,862	-73	1,912.00	1.3
February 17, 2018	218	-16	227.25	1,922	60	1,907.50	1.4
February 24, 2018	217	-1	223.00	1,862	-60	1,895.25	1.3
March 3, 2018	230	13	224.75	1,877	15	1,880.75	1.3
March 10, 2018	226	-4	222.75	1,836	-41	1,874.25	1.3
March 17, 2018	227	1	225.00	1,876	40	1,862.75	1.3
March 24, 2018	218	-9	225.25	1,818	-58	1,851.75	1.3
March 31, 2018	242	24	228.25	1,878	60	1,852.00	1.3
April 7, 2018	233	-9	230.00	1,866	-12	1,859.50	1.3
April 14, 2018	233	0	231.50	1,834	-32	1,849.00	1.3
April 21, 2018	209	-24	229.25	1,760	-74	1,834.50	1.2
April 28, 2018	211	2	221.50	1,794	34	1,813.50	1.3
May 5, 2018	211	0	216.00	1,712	-82	1,775.00	1.2
May 12, 2018	223	12	213.50	1,742	30	1,752.00	1.2
May 19, 2018	234	11	219.75	1,720	-22	1,742.00	1.2
May 26, 2018	223	-11	222.75	1,746	26	1,730.00	1.2
June 2, 2018	222	-1	225.50	1,701	-45	1,727.25	1.2
June 9, 2018	221	-1	225.00	1,726	25	1,723.25	1.2
June 16, 2018	218	-3	221.00	1,707	-19	1,720.00	1.2
June 23, 2018	228	10	222.25	1,742	35	1,719.00	1.2
June 30, 2018	232	4	224.75	1,743	1	1,729.50	1.2
July 7, 2018	215	-17	223.25	1,753	10	1,736.25	1.2
July 14, 2018	208	-7	220.75	1,747	-6	1,746.25	1.2
July 21, 2018	217	9	218.00	1,726	-21	1,742.25	1.2
July 28, 2018	219	2	214.75	1,760	34	1,746.50	1.2
August 4, 2018	214	-5	214.50	1,729	-31	1,740.50	1.2
August 11, 2018	212	-2	215.50	1,728	-1	1,735.75	1.2
August 18, 2018	210	-2	213.75	1,710	-18	1,731.75	1.2
August 25, 2018	213	3	212.25	1,711	1	1,719.50	1.2
September 1, 2018	205	-8	210.00	1,700	-11	1,712.25	1.2
September 8, 2018	204	-1	208.00	1,645	-55	1,691.50	1.2
September 15, 2018	201	-3	205.75				

STATE NAME	INITIAL CLAIMS FILED DURING WEEK ENDED SEPTEMBER 8					INSURED UNEMPLOYMENT FOR WEEK ENDED SEPTEMBER 1					ALL PROGRAMS EXCLUDING RAILROAD RETIREMENT	
	STATE	CHANGE FROM				STATE (%) ²	CHANGE FROM					
		LAST WEEK	YEAR AGO	UCFE ¹	UCX ¹		LAST WEEK	YEAR AGO	UCFE ¹	UCX ¹		
Alabama	1798	-189	-287	8	15	15445	0.8	-223	-1134	60	70	15575
Alaska	751	-88	-106	1	0	5197	1.7	-151	-1113	52	16	5265
Arizona	3115	-417	-296	3	1	27711	1.0	-1135	-2665	93	63	27867
Arkansas	1369	-54	-51	2	3	9653	0.8	-452	-2784	34	44	9731
California	31348	-4065	946	139	112	275418	1.6	-29966	-21843	1425	1479	278322
Colorado	1550	21	20	10	14	16918	0.7	-345	-2370	75	249	17242
Connecticut	2158	-56	-422	6	4	30840	1.9	-5469	-2879	35	70	30945
Delaware	392	17	-47	1	1	4170	1.0	-1541	-549	13	9	4192
District of Columbia	351	-19	72	8	0	7639	1.4	-289	-862	306	11	7956
Florida	5764	-87	991	24	36	41212	0.5	-1830	-4939	145	175	41532
Georgia	4007	-263	-892	18	29	24256	0.6	-277	-3089	154	244	24654
Hawaii	1334	-376	226	3	9	6597	1.1	-783	-560	59	72	6728
Idaho	787	59	20	1	2	3487	0.5	-277	-753	11	18	3516
Illinois	7231	204	-426	8	6	77351	1.3	-4278	-13822	336	189	77876
Indiana	2139	-812	123	4	8	13810	0.5	695	-2263	35	25	13870
Iowa	2347	648	103	5	4	11822	0.8	-830	-2097	32	23	11877
Kansas	1807	573	434	1	3	7508	0.6	-374	-2155	39	27	7574
Kentucky	1591	10	-192	4	3	16162	0.9	0	-508	105	147	16414
Louisiana	1741	-299	-634	5	5	16545	0.9	-732	-4176	70	13	16628
Maine	363	-85	-106	0	0	3631	0.6	-197	-238	12	16	3659
Maryland	2603	-19	-295	15	9	28188	1.1	-1628	-5785	333	104	28625
Massachusetts	3971	24	-639	7	17	48866	1.4	-5503	-11474	70	138	49074
Michigan	4477	398	-1066	14	3	37181	0.9	-1451	-8054	57	108	37346
Minnesota	2541	81	-82	5	6	24157	0.9	175	-2781	35	70	24262
Mississippi	732	-152	-469	2	1	7234	0.7	-922	-2987	56	24	7314
Missouri	2538	16	25	22	2	18654	0.7	-1763	-2327	260	41	18955
Montana	519	1	-159	3	0	3542	0.8	-318	-696	33	19	3594
Nebraska	827	302	123	7	1	3149	0.3	-69	-891	21	11	3181
Nevada	2358	132	-115	3	3	17853	1.4	26	-2296	59	56	17968
New Hampshire	352	-43	-62	1	1	3247	0.5	-500	-561	6	1	3254
New Jersey	6512	-594	-943	14	23	94594	2.4	-2753	-5405	217	260	95071
New Mexico	665	-23	-82	2	2	7671	1.0	-236	-1606	72	51	7794
New York	12106	-3765	-1729	30	31	135371	1.5	-4644	-17837	317	322	136010
North Carolina	2351	-123	-31	8	6	18622	0.4	-645	-2516	94	140	18856
North Dakota	201	-7	-87	1	0	1455	0.4	-201	-677	23	2	1480
Ohio	4197	-573	-949	10	14	39325	0.7	-1462	-6709	112	149	39586
Oklahoma	1190	78	-335	4	5	12069	0.8	282	-2776	67	91	12227
Oregon	2941	-42	-324	11	10	21874	1.2	-995	-2360	97	104	22075
Pennsylvania	9885	-948	-1198	44	22	97137	1.7	-13974	-9614	449	303	97889
Puerto Rico	1024	-27	741	3	1	14186	1.7	-1635	-9600	80	67	14333
Rhode Island	628	-72	-100	5	1	7109	1.5	-1580	-339	24	22	7155
South Carolina	1775	-53	529	3	8	14900	0.7	-877	983	39	85	15024
South Dakota	135	1	-4	3	0	776	0.2	-52	-143	23	0	799
Tennessee	1860	57	-343	6	4	16491	0.6	-1391	-1430	77	75	16643
Texas	10838	-463	-41186	116	118	108307	0.9	-9560	-20189	903	1317	110527
Utah	814	-40	40	11	2	6721	0.5	-146	-305	104	19	6844
Vermont	272	-62	-34	0	0	2184	0.7	-503	-262	4	7	2195
Virgin Islands	30	19	-8	0	0	410	1.1	-92	220	4	0	415
Virginia	2143	30	-392	3	18	18845	0.5	-1200	-4104	214	218	19277
Washington	5243	-623	28	2	18	40504	1.3	-474	-3956	161	518	41183
West Virginia	635	-71	-74	0	1	6676	1.0	-288	-1870	40	25	6741
Wisconsin	3831	643	211	5	5	21943	0.8	-1146	-3158	49	20	22012
Wyoming	196	-28	-57	0	0	1305	0.5	-98	-923	6	5	1316
Totals	162333	-11224	-49590	611	587	1495918	1.1	-104077	-203227	7197	7332	1510448

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 U.S. total covered employment is BLS.

UNADJUSTED INITIAL CLAIMS FOR WEEK ENDED SEPTEMBER 8, 2018

STATES WITH AN INCREASE OF MORE THAN 1,000

State	Change	State Supplied Comment
None		

STATES WITH A DECREASE OF MORE THAN 1,000

State	Change	State Supplied Comment
CA	-4,065	Fewer layoffs in the service industry.
NY	-3,765	Fewer layoffs in the transportation and warehousing, accommodation and food service, and real estate and leasing industries.

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 <http://www.dol.gov>. The Department's [Reasonable Accommodation Resource Center](#) 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).

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