



News Release

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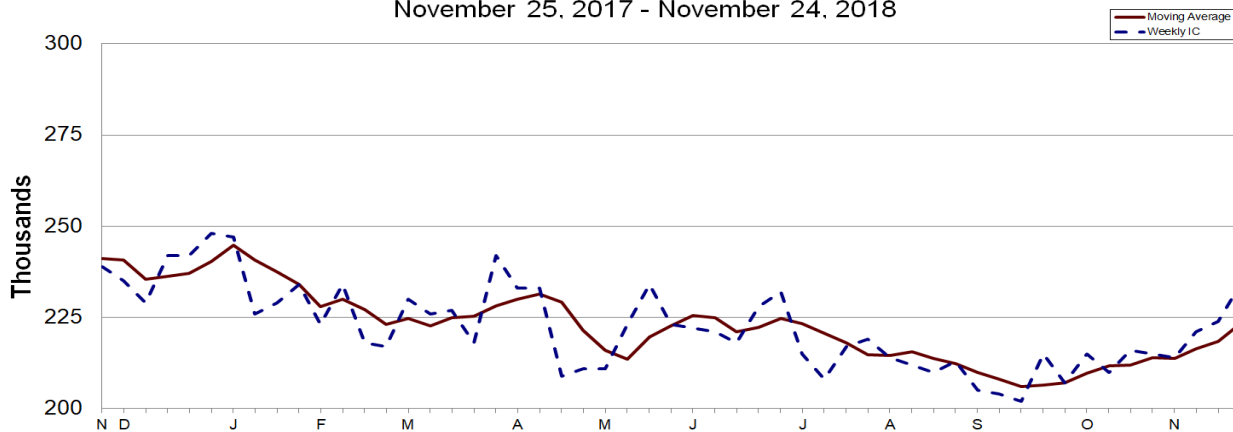
UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE WEEKLY CLAIMS

SEASONALLY ADJUSTED DATA

In the week ending November 24, the advance figure for seasonally adjusted **initial claims** was 234,000, an increase of 10,000 from the previous week's unrevised level of 224,000. The 4-week moving average was 223,250, an increase of 4,750 from the previous week's unrevised average of 218,500.

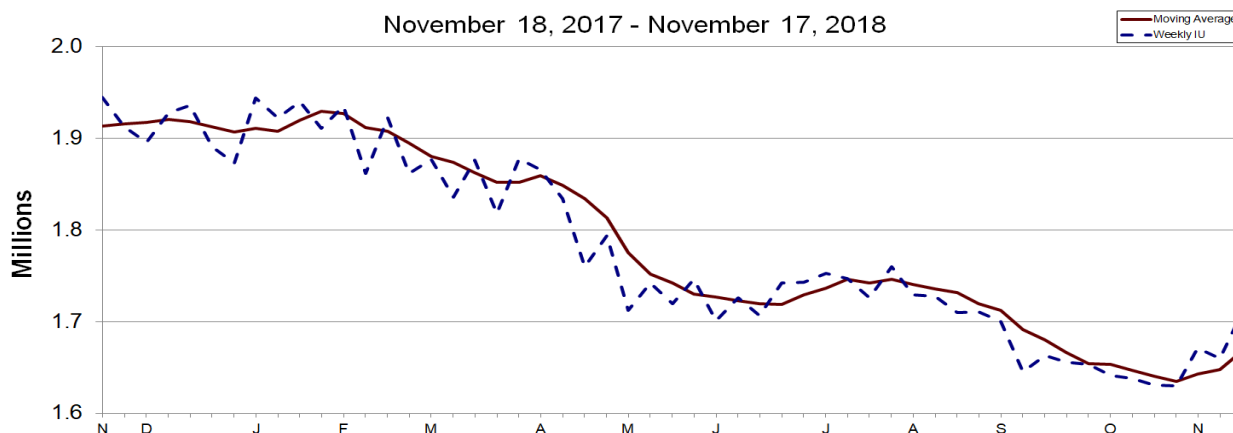
The advance seasonally adjusted **insured unemployment rate** was 1.2 percent for the week ending November 17, unchanged from the previous week's unrevised rate. The advance number for seasonally adjusted **insured unemployment** during the week ending November 17 was 1,710,000, an increase of 50,000 from the previous week's revised level. The previous week's level was revised down by 8,000 from 1,668,000 to 1,660,000. The 4-week moving average was 1,667,750, an increase of 19,750 from the previous week's revised average. The previous week's average was revised down by 1,750 from 1,649,750 to 1,648,000.

Seasonally Adjusted Initial Claims
November 25, 2017 - November 24, 2018



Seasonally Adjusted Insured Unemployment

November 18, 2017 - November 17, 2018



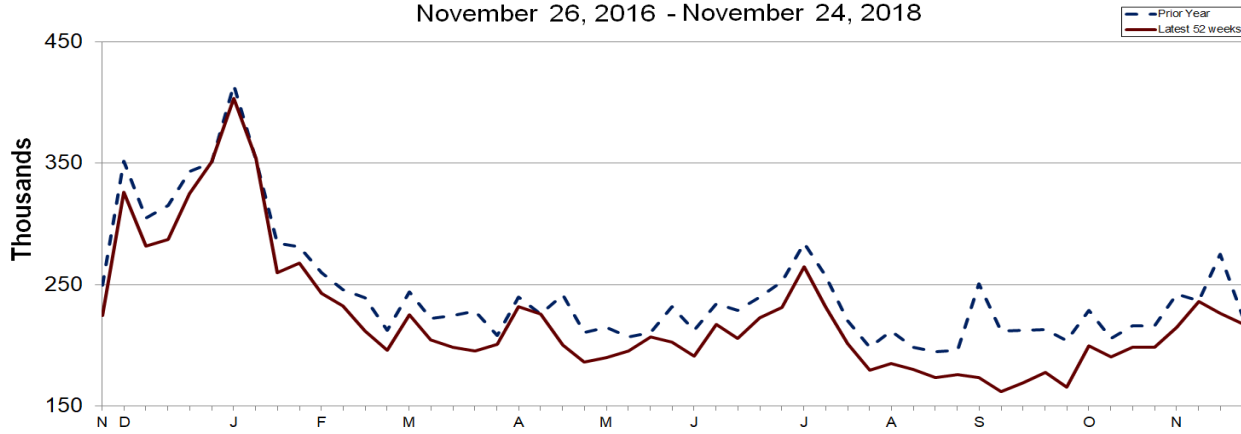
UNADJUSTED DATA

The advance number of actual initial claims under state programs, unadjusted, totaled 217,834 in the week ending November 24, a decrease of 8,651 (or -3.8 percent) from the previous week. The seasonal factors had expected a decrease of 17,508 (or -7.7 percent) from the previous week. There were 224,851 initial claims in the comparable week in 2017.

The advance unadjusted insured unemployment rate was 1.0 percent during the week ending November 17, unchanged from the prior week. The advance unadjusted number for persons claiming UI benefits in state programs totaled 1,441,153, a decrease of 4,575 (or -0.3 percent) from the preceding week. The seasonal factors had expected a decrease of 46,476 (or -3.2 percent) from the previous week. A year earlier the rate was 1.2 percent and the volume was 1,618,630.

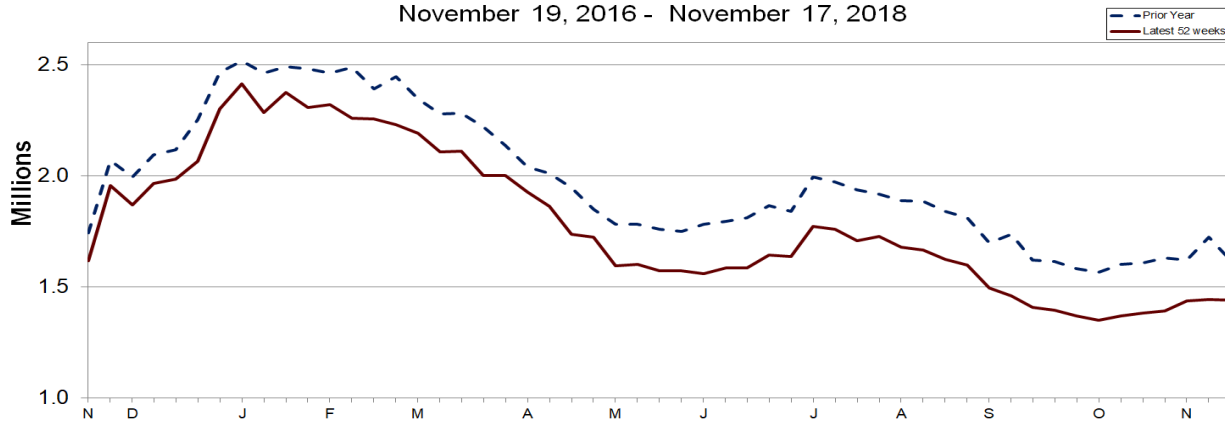
Not Seasonally Adjusted Initial Claims

November 26, 2016 - November 24, 2018



Not Seasonally Adjusted Insured Unemployment

November 19, 2016 - November 17, 2018



The total number of people claiming benefits in all programs for the week ending November 10 was 1,471,437, an increase of 9,037 from the previous week. There were 1,761,201 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 November 10.

Initial claims for UI benefits filed by former Federal civilian employees totaled 1,366 in the week ending November 17, an increase of 153 from the prior week. There were 540 initial claims filed by newly discharged veterans, a decrease of 82 from the preceding week.

There were 8,623 former Federal civilian employees claiming UI benefits for the week ending November 10, an increase of 388 from the previous week. Newly discharged veterans claiming benefits totaled 6,895, an increase of 192 from the prior week.

The highest insured unemployment rates in the week ending November 10 were in Alaska (2.6), New Jersey (2.0), Puerto Rico (1.8), California (1.6), Connecticut (1.6), Pennsylvania (1.5), Virgin Islands (1.5), Montana (1.4), and Washington (1.4).

The largest increases in initial claims for the week ending November 17 were in Illinois (+2,026), Minnesota (+1,354), Wisconsin (+726), Missouri (+626), and Texas (+536), while the largest decreases were in California (-6,861), New Jersey (-2,347), New York (-1,680), Florida (-886), and Pennsylvania (-875).

UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE DATA FOR REGULAR STATE PROGRAMS

WEEK ENDING	November 24	November 17	Change	November 10	<u>Prior Year</u>¹
Initial Claims (SA)	234,000	224,000	+10,000	221,000	239,000
Initial Claims (NSA)	217,834	226,485	-8,651	235,981	224,851
4-Wk Moving Average (SA)	223,250	218,500	+4,750	216,500	241,250
WEEK ENDING	November 17	November 10	Change	November 3	<u>Prior Year</u>¹
Insured Unemployment (SA)	1,710,000	1,660,000	+50,000	1,671,000	1,945,000
Insured Unemployment (NSA)	1,441,153	1,445,728	-4,575	1,436,647	1,618,630
4-Wk Moving Average (SA)	1,667,750	1,648,000	+19,750	1,642,500	1,913,750
<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%	1.0%	0.0	1.0%	1.2%

INITIAL CLAIMS FILED IN FEDERAL PROGRAMS (UNADJUSTED)

WEEK ENDING	November 17	November 10	Change	<u>Prior Year</u>¹
Federal Employees (UCFE)	1,366	1,213	+153	1,692
Newly Discharged Veterans (UCX)	540	622	-82	723

PERSONS CLAIMING UI BENEFITS IN ALL PROGRAMS (UNADJUSTED)

WEEK ENDING	November 10	November 3	Change	<u>Prior Year</u>¹
Regular State	1,443,881	1,434,786	+9,095	1,720,878
Federal Employees	8,623	8,235	+388	13,844
Newly Discharged Veterans	6,895	6,703	+192	9,099
<u>Extended Benefits</u> ³	1	1	0	212
<u>State Additional Benefits</u> ⁴	5,409	5,604	-195	6,741
<u>STC / Workshare</u> ⁵	6,628	7,071	-443	10,427
<u>TOTAL</u>	1,471,437	1,462,400	+9,037	1,761,201

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 142,513,638 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 24			Insured Unemployment For Week Ended November 17		
	Advance	Prior Wk	Change	Advance	Prior Wk	Change
Alabama	2,394	2,509	-115	14,634	14,315	319
Alaska	1,334	1,342	-8	8,628	8,081	547
Arizona	2,139	3,224	-1,085	17,386	20,873	-3,487
Arkansas	2,234	1,929	305	9,295	10,021	-726
California	34,411	38,233	-3,822	264,890	271,293	-6,403
Colorado	1,918	2,228	-310	18,108	17,188	920
Connecticut	3,096	2,750	346	28,047	26,458	1,589
Delaware	720	618	102	4,304	4,129	175
District of Columbia	418	473	-55	6,990	7,411	-421
Florida	4,517	6,898	-2,381	30,021	41,264	-11,243
Georgia	4,893	6,741	-1,848	20,729	25,101	-4,372
Hawaii	919	1,098	-179	6,981	6,950	31
Idaho	2,103	1,541	562	4,730	4,462	268
Illinois	10,245	12,189	-1,944	90,679	78,071	12,608
Indiana	3,036	2,791	245	13,428	14,703	-1,275
Iowa	3,263	3,155	108	13,031	12,640	391
Kansas	1,589	1,735	-146	7,538	7,623	-85
Kentucky	3,394	2,221	1,173	13,652	14,440	-788
Louisiana	1,548	2,303	-755	12,939	14,237	-1,298
Maine	994	695	299	4,050	3,927	123
Maryland	3,061	3,108	-47	23,065	25,147	-2,082
Massachusetts	7,338	6,145	1,193	45,144	42,932	2,212
Michigan	7,181	7,869	-688	36,779	44,082	-7,303
Minnesota	6,700	6,826	-126	35,755	31,280	4,475
Mississippi	860	1,143	-283	5,473	6,487	-1,014
Missouri	2,963	4,327	-1,364	15,179	17,325	-2,146
Montana	1,718	1,476	242	6,757	6,063	694
Nebraska	803	786	17	3,422	3,301	121
Nevada	2,836	2,564	272	16,671	17,595	-924
New Hampshire	462	481	-19	2,829	3,107	-278
New Jersey	9,478	9,073	405	78,989	80,412	-1,423
New Mexico	856	874	-18	7,984	8,185	-201
New York	16,102	15,101	1,001	119,182	115,515	3,667
North Carolina	2,170	3,199	-1,029	16,953	17,829	-879
North Dakota	899	724	175	2,436	1,649	787
Ohio	8,069	7,519	550	42,814	41,040	1,774
Oklahoma	2,179	1,457	722	11,555	11,747	-192
Oregon	4,885	3,862	1,023	23,594	23,527	67
Pennsylvania	16,902	13,225	3,677	91,669	83,536	8,133
Puerto Rico	592	1,034	-442	12,475	15,463	-2,988
Rhode Island	1,022	1,032	-10	6,546	5,963	583
South Carolina	1,830	2,484	-654	14,305	14,377	-72
South Dakota	244	322	-78	1,041	1,079	-38
Tennessee	2,121	2,214	-93	14,161	15,102	-941
Texas	9,541	15,133	-5,592	103,461	102,757	704
Utah	1,228	1,354	-126	7,275	7,117	158
Vermont	1,139	629	510	2,950	2,681	269
Virgin Islands	8	27	-19	424	520	-96
Virginia	2,150	2,566	-416	17,857	17,950	-93
Washington	7,927	7,732	195	49,353	46,490	2,863
West Virginia	844	1,070	-226	8,538	7,628	910
Wisconsin	8,229	6,017	2,212	24,048	22,760	1,288
Wyoming	332	439	-107	2,409	1,892	517
US Total	217,834	226,485	-8,651	1,441,153	1,445,728	-4,575

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 claims 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.

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 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	202	-2	206.00	1,663	18	1,679.75	1.2
September 22, 2018	215	13	206.50	1,656	-7	1,666.00	1.2
September 29, 2018	207	-8	207.00	1,653	-3	1,654.25	1.2
October 6, 2018	215	8	209.75	1,641	-12	1,653.25	1.2
October 13, 2018	210	-5	211.75	1,638	-3	1,647.00	1.1
October 20, 2018	216	6	212.00	1,631	-7	1,640.75	1.1
October 27, 2018	215	-1	214.00	1,630	-1	1,635.00	1.1
November 3, 2018	214	-1	213.75	1,671	41	1,642.50	1.2
November 10, 2018	221	7	216.50	1,660	-11	1,648.00	1.2
November 17, 2018	224	3	218.50	1,710	50	1,667.75	1.2
November 24, 2018	234	10	223.25				

STATE NAME	INITIAL CLAIMS FILED DURING WEEK ENDED NOVEMBER 17					INSURED UNEMPLOYMENT FOR WEEK ENDED NOVEMBER 10					ALL PROGRAMS EXCLUDING RAILROAD RETIREMENT	
	STATE	CHANGE FROM				STATE	CHANGE FROM					
		LAST WEEK	YEAR AGO	UCFE ¹	UCX ¹		(%) ²	LAST WEEK	YEAR AGO	UCFE ¹		UCX ¹
Alabama	2509	231	-289	7	8	14315	0.8	259	-1632	55	86	14456
Alaska	1342	-120	-353	12	0	8081	2.6	393	-2324	139	11	8231
Arizona	3224	-394	-993	28	2	20873	0.8	-842	-4154	165	53	21091
Arkansas	1929	-24	-679	3	4	10021	0.8	147	-2471	44	49	10114
California	38233	-6861	-12761	411	89	271293	1.6	-15250	-53332	1618	1525	274436
Colorado	2228	-2	-210	32	16	17188	0.7	-301	-3147	194	226	17608
Connecticut	2750	-64	-1046	3	10	26458	1.6	382	-5213	55	74	26587
Delaware	618	11	-79	0	2	4129	0.9	285	-622	21	9	4159
District of Columbia	473	-40	67	7	1	7411	1.3	7	-1063	255	8	7674
Florida	6898	-886	-1525	15	33	41264	0.5	2005	-5994	157	137	41558
Georgia	6741	366	679	25	28	25101	0.6	1068	-2268	147	217	25465
Hawaii	1098	-122	-391	2	11	6950	1.1	-16	-586	59	58	7067
Idaho	1541	155	-361	44	2	4462	0.6	44	-1123	105	12	4579
Illinois	12189	2026	-744	3	3	78071	1.3	-4831	-12520	345	184	78600
Indiana	2791	-111	-74	8	4	14703	0.5	73	339	29	28	14760
Iowa	3155	86	-448	4	1	12640	0.8	929	-921	33	25	12698
Kansas	1735	-80	-88	4	1	7623	0.6	311	-2091	36	26	7685
Kentucky	2221	-654	-410	16	3	14440	0.8	178	-1639	85	102	14627
Louisiana	2303	188	-415	6	3	14237	0.8	78	-4142	40	15	14292
Maine	695	-207	-238	5	0	3927	0.7	67	-691	22	9	3958
Maryland	3108	-331	-1213	23	11	25147	1.0	747	-6602	233	102	25482
Massachusetts	6145	310	598	18	5	42932	1.2	676	-12083	100	104	43136
Michigan	7869	324	-2481	27	6	44082	1.0	4165	-1066	184	85	44351
Minnesota	6826	1354	204	14	3	31280	1.1	4212	-3869	83	63	31426
Mississippi	1143	-14	-375	1	2	6487	0.6	-65	-2309	31	19	6537
Missouri	4327	626	-2850	12	3	17325	0.6	-2585	-4260	293	40	17658
Montana	1476	-205	-261	76	1	6063	1.4	871	-1691	255	27	6345
Nebraska	786	-74	-123	3	1	3301	0.3	208	-683	21	7	3329
Nevada	2564	-350	-733	26	2	17595	1.3	670	-2951	144	60	17799
New Hampshire	481	-50	-95	3	0	3107	0.5	89	-491	4	2	3113
New Jersey	9073	-2347	-1740	22	12	80412	2.0	6067	-7522	228	257	80897
New Mexico	874	-56	-222	21	1	8185	1.0	100	-1948	243	37	8465
New York	15101	-1680	-2770	25	30	115515	1.3	3172	-16900	315	350	116180
North Carolina	3199	-403	-74	11	17	17832	0.4	-566	-2366	62	83	17977
North Dakota	724	163	-234	2	1	1649	0.4	290	-1063	10	2	1661
Ohio	7519	495	-711	13	18	41040	0.8	703	-6147	131	157	41328
Oklahoma	1457	-29	-247	11	5	11747	0.8	-780	-2169	60	76	11883
Oregon	3862	-640	-1204	108	10	23527	1.3	304	-3468	356	77	23960
Pennsylvania	13225	-875	-4165	56	28	83536	1.5	-576	-18255	442	271	84249
Puerto Rico	1034	-215	-5938	1	2	15463	1.8	9	-29609	51	64	15578
Rhode Island	1032	260	34	2	1	5963	1.3	18	-509	56	16	6035
South Carolina	2484	-29	-258	6	6	14377	0.7	377	-2926	38	106	14521
South Dakota	322	-69	-75	10	1	1079	0.3	166	-332	28	2	1109
Tennessee	2214	-41	-377	15	4	15102	0.5	-369	-1814	70	59	15231
Texas	15133	536	-693	78	100	102757	0.9	1279	-23041	758	1210	104725
Utah	1354	-68	-239	50	1	7117	0.5	383	-857	114	15	7246
Vermont	629	119	-32	4	0	2681	0.9	177	-414	5	5	2691
Virgin Islands	27	16	-168	0	0	520	1.5	-54	-3084	2	2	525
Virginia	2566	-222	-596	13	23	17950	0.5	123	-4922	191	206	18347
Washington	7732	-201	-886	45	18	46490	1.4	1836	-3685	351	501	47342
West Virginia	1070	40	-330	8	1	7628	1.2	419	-1745	39	18	7685
Wisconsin	6017	726	163	13	5	22760	0.8	1883	-2804	95	14	22869
Wyoming	439	-64	-70	14	1	1892	0.7	146	-1515	26	4	1922
Totals	226485	-9496	-48519	1366	540	1445728	1	9081	-278694	8623	6895	1461247

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 NOVEMBER 17, 2018

STATES WITH AN INCREASE OF MORE THAN 1,000

State	Change	State Supplied Comment
IL	+2,026	Layoffs in the construction, administrative and support and waste management and remediation service, and manufacturing industries.
MN	+1,354	No comment.

STATES WITH A DECREASE OF MORE THAN 1,000

State	Change	State Supplied Comment
CA	-6,861	Fewer layoffs in the service industry.
NJ	-2,347	Fewer layoffs in the educational service, accommodation and food service, transportation and warehousing, public administration, and health care and social service industries.
NY	-1,680	Fewer layoffs in the construction, retail trade, and health care and social service 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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