



# News Release

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8:30 A.M. (Eastern) Thursday, September 19, 2019

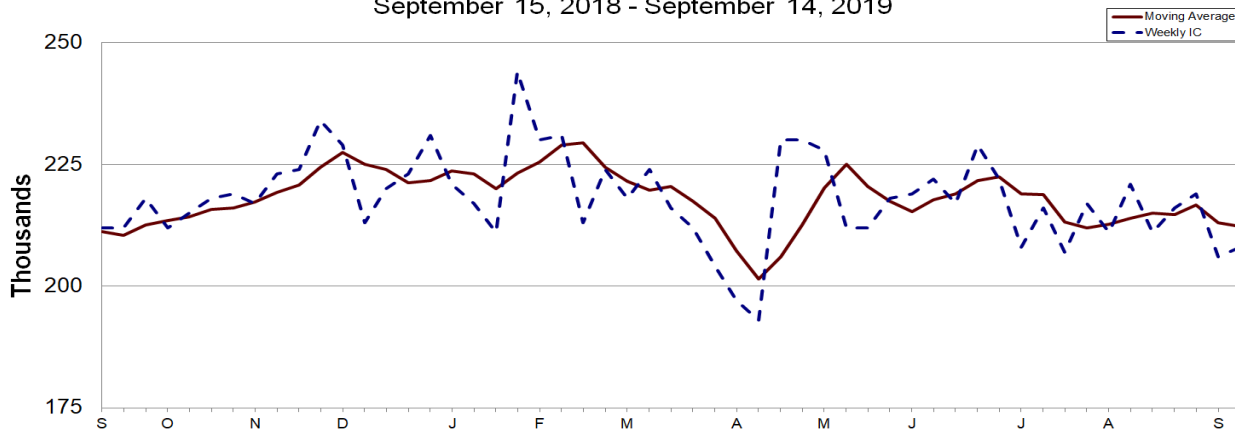
## UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE WEEKLY CLAIMS

### SEASONALLY ADJUSTED DATA

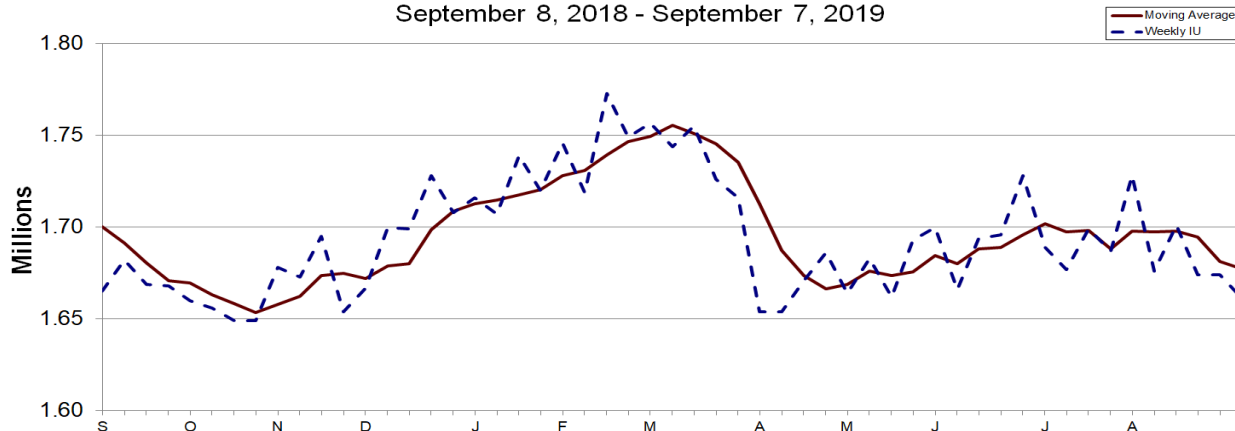
In the week ending September 14, the advance figure for seasonally adjusted **initial claims** was 208,000, an increase of 2,000 from the previous week's revised level. The previous week's level was revised up by 2,000 from 204,000 to 206,000. The 4-week moving average was 212,250, a decrease of 750 from the previous week's revised average. The previous week's average was revised up by 500 from 212,500 to 213,000.

The advance seasonally adjusted **insured unemployment rate** was 1.2 percent for the week ending September 7, unchanged from the previous week's unrevised rate. The advance number for seasonally adjusted **insured unemployment** during the week ending September 7 was 1,661,000, a decrease of 13,000 from the previous week's revised level. The previous week's level was revised up 4,000 from 1,670,000 to 1,674,000. The 4-week moving average was 1,677,500, a decrease of 3,750 from the previous week's revised average. The previous week's average was revised up by 1,000 from 1,680,250 to 1,681,250.

Seasonally Adjusted Initial Claims  
September 15, 2018 - September 14, 2019



Seasonally Adjusted Insured Unemployment  
September 8, 2018 - September 7, 2019

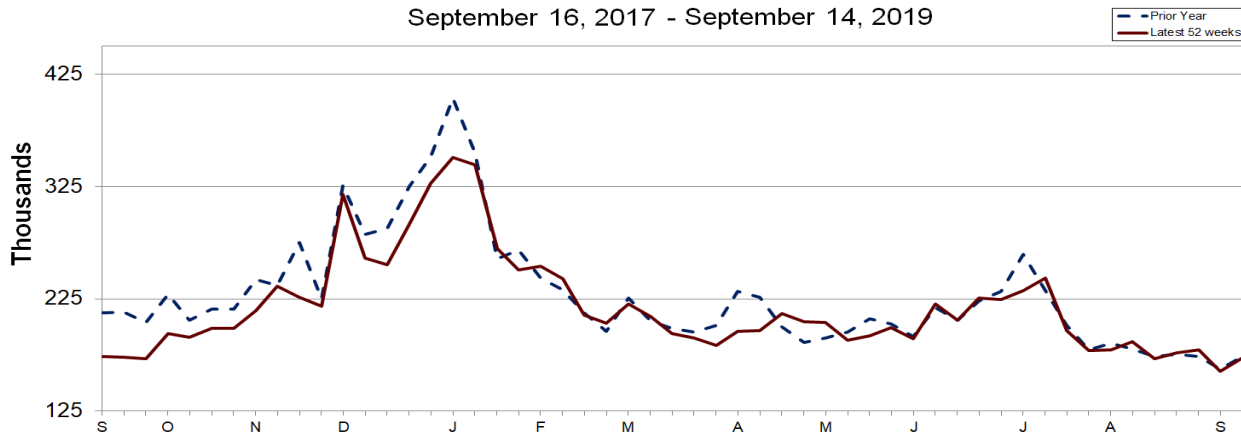


**UNADJUSTED DATA**

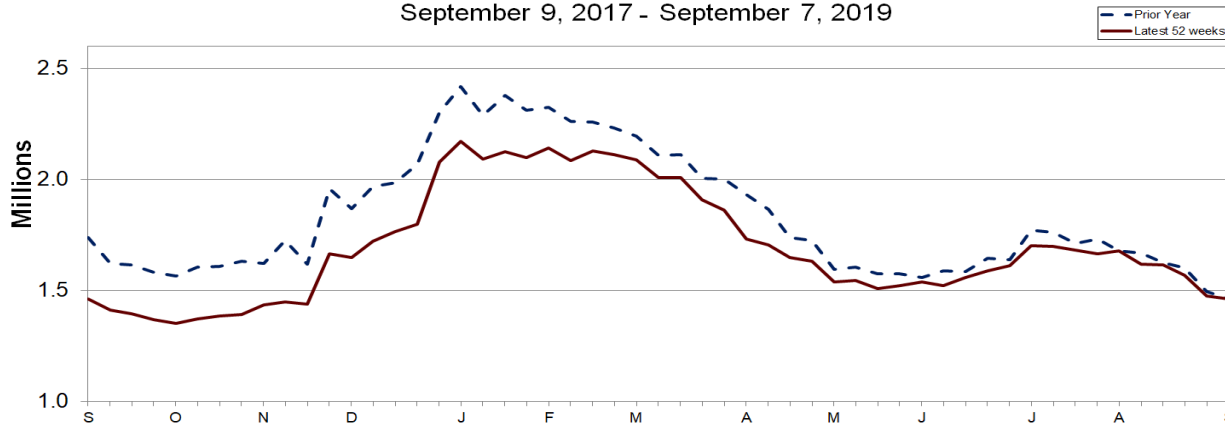
The advance number of actual initial claims under state programs, unadjusted, totaled 172,060 in the week ending September 14, an increase of 11,736 (or 7.3 percent) from the previous week. The seasonal factors had expected an increase of 9,673 (or 6.0 percent) from the previous week. There were 173,624 initial claims in the comparable week in 2018.

The advance unadjusted insured unemployment rate was 1.0 percent during the week ending September 7, unchanged from the prior week. The advance unadjusted number for persons claiming UI benefits in state programs totaled 1,461,948, a decrease of 14,217 (or -1.0 percent) from the preceding week. The seasonal factors had expected a decrease of 3,347 (or -0.2 percent) from the previous week. A year earlier the rate was 1.0 percent and the volume was 1,461,553.

**Not Seasonally Adjusted Initial Claims**  
September 16, 2017 - September 14, 2019



**Not Seasonally Adjusted Insured Unemployment**  
September 9, 2017 - September 7, 2019



The total number of people claiming benefits in all programs for the week ending August 31 was 1,498,901, a decrease of 92,555 from the previous week. There were 1,519,707 persons claiming benefits in all programs in the comparable week in 2018.

No state was triggered "on" the Extended Benefits program during the week ending August 31.

Initial claims for UI benefits filed by former Federal civilian employees totaled 469 in the week ending September 7, a decrease of 98 from the prior week. There were 519 initial claims filed by newly discharged veterans, an increase of 41 from the preceding week.

There were 6,545 former Federal civilian employees claiming UI benefits for the week ending August 31, a decrease of 75 from the previous week. Newly discharged veterans claiming benefits totaled 5,259, a decrease of 604 from the prior week.

The highest insured unemployment rates in the week ending August 31 were in New Jersey (2.3), Puerto Rico (2.0), Connecticut (1.8), Pennsylvania (1.7), California (1.6), Alaska (1.5), Massachusetts (1.5), New York (1.4), Rhode Island (1.4), and the Virgin Islands (1.4).

The largest increases in initial claims for the week ending September 7 were in Arkansas (+668), Massachusetts (+230), Puerto Rico (+212), Minnesota (+197), and Washington (+116), while the largest decreases were in Illinois (-3,924), California (-3,587), New York (-3,547), Texas (-1,548), and Pennsylvania (-1,352).

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UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE DATA FOR REGULAR STATE PROGRAMS

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<b>WEEK ENDING</b>	<b>September 14</b>	<b>September 7</b>	<b>Change</b>	<b>August 31</b>	<b>Prior Year<sup>1</sup></b>
Initial Claims (SA)	208,000	206,000	+2,000	219,000	212,000
Initial Claims (NSA)	172,060	160,324	+11,736	179,516	173,624
4-Wk Moving Average (SA)	212,250	213,000	-750	216,750	211,250
<b>WEEK ENDING</b>	<b>September 7</b>	<b>August 31</b>	<b>Change</b>	<b>August 24</b>	<b>Prior Year<sup>1</sup></b>
Insured Unemployment (SA)	1,661,000	1,674,000	-13,000	1,674,000	1,665,000
Insured Unemployment (NSA)	1,461,948	1,476,165	-14,217	1,566,934	1,461,553
4-Wk Moving Average (SA)	1,677,500	1,681,250	-3,750	1,694,750	1,700,250
Insured Unemployment Rate (SA) <sup>2</sup>	1.2%	1.2%	0.0	1.2%	1.2%
Insured Unemployment Rate (NSA) <sup>2</sup>	1.0%	1.0%	0.0	1.1%	1.0%

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INITIAL CLAIMS FILED IN FEDERAL PROGRAMS (UNADJUSTED)

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<b>WEEK ENDING</b>	<b>September 7</b>	<b>August 31</b>	<b>Change</b>	<b>Prior Year<sup>1</sup></b>
Federal Employees (UCFE)	469	567	-98	611
Newly Discharged Veterans (UCX)	519	478	+41	587

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PERSONS CLAIMING UI BENEFITS IN ALL PROGRAMS (UNADJUSTED)

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<b>WEEK ENDING</b>	<b>August 31</b>	<b>August 24</b>	<b>Change</b>	<b>Prior Year<sup>1</sup></b>
Regular State	1,473,981	1,564,203	-90,222	1,494,392
Federal Employees	6,545	6,620	-75	7,197
Newly Discharged Veterans	5,259	5,863	-604	7,332
Extended Benefits <sup>3</sup>	0	0	0	1
State Additional Benefits <sup>4</sup>	4,677	4,704	-27	4,874
STC / Workshare <sup>5</sup>	8,439	10,066	-1,627	5,911
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>1,498,901</b>	<b>1,591,456</b>	<b>-92,555</b>	<b>1,519,707</b>

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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 144,199,701 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 benefits, and when applicable, extended benefits. Information on states that participate, and the extent of benefits paid, can be found starting on page 4-4 of this link: [Extensions and Special Programs PDF](#)
5. Information on STC/Worksharing can be found starting on page 4-8 of the following link: [Extensions and Special Programs PDF](#)

## Advance State Claims - Not Seasonally Adjusted

STATE	Initial Claims Filed During Week Ended September 14			Insured Unemployment For Week Ended September 7		
	Advance	Prior Wk	Change	Advance	Prior Wk	Change
Alabama	1,948	1,769	179	14,462	15,325	-863
Alaska	866	687	179	4,405	4,541	-136
Arizona	3,529	3,336	193	22,043	25,986	-3,943
Arkansas	1,243	2,122	-879	9,993	10,222	-229
California	35,030	30,771	4,259	292,869	269,570	23,299
Colorado	1,497	1,465	32	16,026	15,460	566
Connecticut	2,501	2,147	354	27,756	30,219	-2,463
Delaware	447	427	20	4,041	4,271	-230
District of Columbia	488	381	107	6,518	6,731	-213
Florida	5,940	5,013	927	36,890	40,036	-3,146
Georgia	5,030	3,645	1,385	24,089	24,574	-485
Hawaii	1,177	1,080	97	6,627	6,343	284
Idaho	596	733	-137	3,066	3,881	-815
Illinois	6,655	7,180	-525	87,390	77,872	9,518
Indiana	2,107	1,986	121	13,631	12,948	683
Iowa	1,894	1,787	107	12,597	12,711	-114
Kansas	1,146	1,289	-143	7,587	7,639	-52
Kentucky	1,801	1,788	13	15,770	6,623	9,147
Louisiana	1,659	1,683	-24	12,897	15,215	-2,318
Maine	398	388	10	2,988	3,096	-108
Maryland	2,440	2,484	-44	21,411	26,523	-5,112
Massachusetts	3,960	4,255	-295	46,551	51,369	-4,818
Michigan	3,455	3,988	-533	34,476	35,946	-1,470
Minnesota	2,760	2,413	347	23,872	23,158	714
Mississippi	862	932	-70	6,396	7,675	-1,279
Missouri	2,263	2,116	147	15,397	15,894	-497
Montana	637	549	88	3,425	3,557	-132
Nebraska	457	468	-11	3,048	3,092	-44
Nevada	2,213	2,045	168	16,034	17,346	-1,312
New Hampshire	284	343	-59	2,517	2,951	-434
New Jersey	7,372	6,658	714	84,995	92,978	-7,983
New Mexico	704	680	24	7,323	7,332	-9
New York	12,698	11,569	1,129	119,381	132,355	-12,974
North Carolina	3,041	2,661	380	17,525	18,604	-1,079
North Dakota	289	233	56	1,945	1,816	129
Ohio	4,550	4,428	122	37,109	37,747	-638
Oklahoma	1,378	1,452	-74	13,716	14,211	-495
Oregon	3,844	3,182	662	22,364	23,047	-683
Pennsylvania	10,042	9,834	208	93,265	98,936	-5,671
Puerto Rico	1,063	1,173	-110	16,349	16,855	-506
Rhode Island	740	640	100	5,833	6,806	-973
South Carolina	2,689	1,524	1,165	14,064	13,567	497
South Dakota	133	103	30	812	812	0
Tennessee	2,041	2,124	-83	15,110	15,889	-779
Texas	12,299	11,500	799	118,271	116,035	2,236
Utah	895	822	73	5,640	5,897	-257
Vermont	233	271	-38	2,014	1,930	84
Virgin Islands	30	29	1	452	458	-6
Virginia	2,420	2,144	276	18,112	17,416	696
Washington	5,582	5,060	522	41,898	40,665	1,233
West Virginia	895	919	-24	8,982	7,644	1,338
Wisconsin	3,604	3,826	-222	20,481	23,006	-2,525
Wyoming	235	222	13	1,535	1,385	150
US Total	172,060	160,324	11,736	1,461,948	1,476,165	-14,217

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	
September 8, 2018	208	-2	211.75	1,665	-41	1,700.25	1.2
September 15, 2018	212	4	211.25	1,682	17	1,691.50	1.2
September 22, 2018	212	0	210.50	1,669	-13	1,680.50	1.2
September 29, 2018	218	6	212.50	1,668	-1	1,671.00	1.2
October 6, 2018	212	-6	213.50	1,660	-8	1,669.75	1.2
October 13, 2018	215	3	214.25	1,656	-4	1,663.25	1.2
October 20, 2018	218	3	215.75	1,649	-7	1,658.25	1.2
October 27, 2018	219	1	216.00	1,649	0	1,653.50	1.2
November 3, 2018	217	-2	217.25	1,678	29	1,658.00	1.2
November 10, 2018	223	6	219.25	1,673	-5	1,662.25	1.2
November 17, 2018	224	1	220.75	1,695	22	1,673.75	1.2
November 24, 2018	234	10	224.50	1,654	-41	1,675.00	1.2
December 1, 2018	229	-5	227.50	1,667	13	1,672.25	1.2
December 8, 2018	213	-16	225.00	1,700	33	1,679.00	1.2
December 15, 2018	220	7	224.00	1,699	-1	1,680.00	1.2
December 22, 2018	223	3	221.25	1,728	29	1,698.50	1.2
December 29, 2018	231	8	221.75	1,708	-20	1,708.75	1.2
January 5, 2019	221	-10	223.75	1,716	8	1,712.75	1.2
January 12, 2019	217	-4	223.00	1,707	-9	1,714.75	1.2
January 19, 2019	211	-6	220.00	1,739	32	1,717.50	1.2
January 26, 2019	244	33	223.25	1,720	-19	1,720.50	1.2
February 2, 2019	230	-14	225.50	1,746	26	1,728.00	1.2
February 9, 2019	231	1	229.00	1,719	-27	1,731.00	1.2
February 16, 2019	213	-18	229.50	1,773	54	1,739.50	1.2
February 23, 2019	224	11	224.50	1,749	-24	1,746.75	1.2
March 2, 2019	218	-6	221.50	1,757	8	1,749.50	1.2
March 9, 2019	224	6	219.75	1,744	-13	1,755.75	1.2
March 16, 2019	216	-8	220.50	1,755	11	1,751.25	1.2
March 23, 2019	212	-4	217.50	1,726	-29	1,745.50	1.2
March 30, 2019	204	-8	214.00	1,716	-10	1,735.25	1.2
April 6, 2019	197	-7	207.25	1,654	-62	1,712.75	1.2
April 13, 2019	193	-4	201.50	1,654	0	1,687.50	1.2
April 20, 2019	230	37	206.00	1,671	17	1,673.75	1.2
April 27, 2019	230	0	212.50	1,686	15	1,666.25	1.2
May 4, 2019	228	-2	220.25	1,664	-22	1,668.75	1.2
May 11, 2019	212	-16	225.00	1,683	19	1,676.00	1.2
May 18, 2019	212	0	220.50	1,662	-21	1,673.75	1.2
May 25, 2019	218	6	217.50	1,693	31	1,675.50	1.2
June 1, 2019	219	1	215.25	1,700	7	1,684.50	1.2
June 8, 2019	222	3	217.75	1,666	-34	1,680.25	1.2
June 15, 2019	217	-5	219.00	1,694	28	1,688.25	1.2
June 22, 2019	229	12	221.75	1,696	2	1,689.00	1.2
June 29, 2019	222	-7	222.50	1,728	32	1,696.00	1.2
July 6, 2019	208	-14	219.00	1,689	-39	1,701.75	1.2
July 13, 2019	216	8	218.75	1,677	-12	1,697.50	1.2
July 20, 2019	207	-9	213.25	1,699	22	1,698.25	1.2
July 27, 2019	217	10	212.00	1,687	-12	1,688.00	1.2
August 3, 2019	211	-6	212.75	1,728	41	1,697.75	1.2
August 10, 2019	221	10	214.00	1,676	-52	1,697.50	1.2
August 17, 2019	211	-10	215.00	1,701	25	1,698.00	1.2
August 24, 2019	216	5	214.75	1,674	-27	1,694.75	1.2
August 31, 2019	219	3	216.75	1,674	0	1,681.25	1.2
September 7, 2019	206	-13	213.00	1,661	-13	1,677.50	1.2
September 14, 2019	208	2	212.25				

STATE NAME	INITIAL CLAIMS FILED DURING WEEK ENDED SEPTEMBER 7					INSURED UNEMPLOYMENT FOR WEEK ENDED AUGUST 31					ALL PROGRAMS EXCLUDING RAILROAD RETIREMENT	
	STATE	CHANGE FROM				STATE (%) <sup>2</sup>	CHANGE FROM					
		LAST WEEK	YEAR AGO	UCFE <sup>1</sup>	UCX <sup>1</sup>		LAST WEEK	YEAR AGO	UCFE <sup>1</sup>	UCX <sup>1</sup>		
Alabama	1769	-366	-29	8	7	15325	0.8	-382	-120	87	45	15457
Alaska	687	5	-64	1	1	4541	1.5	-75	-656	45	7	4593
Arizona	3336	-286	221	1	0	25986	0.9	-1277	-1725	66	56	26108
Arkansas	2122	668	753	1	2	10222	0.9	-552	569	32	24	10278
California	30771	-3587	-577	102	77	269570	1.6	-21085	-5848	1250	1182	272002
Colorado	1465	-45	-85	7	14	15460	0.6	-487	-1458	76	125	15661
Connecticut	2147	-59	-11	3	5	30219	1.8	-5244	-621	35	52	30306
Delaware	427	-18	35	3	0	4271	1.0	-1369	101	7	8	4286
District of Columbia	381	-10	30	17	3	6731	1.2	-410	-908	241	3	6975
Florida	5013	-633	-751	16	35	40036	0.5	-984	-1176	133	134	40303
Georgia	3645	-1152	-362	14	15	24574	0.6	-248	318	167	160	24901
Hawaii	1080	22	-254	4	6	6343	1.0	24	-254	31	43	6417
Idaho	733	33	-54	1	4	3881	0.5	-364	394	12	12	3905
Illinois	7180	-3924	-51	4	8	77872	1.3	-6025	521	291	162	78325
Indiana	1986	7	-153	1	4	12948	0.4	-259	-862	22	25	12995
Iowa	1787	18	-560	6	4	12711	0.8	-1297	889	35	13	12759
Kansas	1289	-877	-518	1	1	7639	0.6	166	131	24	27	7690
Kentucky	1788	-54	-107	0	0	6623	0.4	-10097	-8372	70	30	6723
Louisiana	1683	-198	-58	4	5	15215	0.8	-463	-1330	49	12	15276
Maine	388	0	25	0	0	3096	0.5	-309	-535	11	12	3119
Maryland	2484	-29	-122	17	5	26523	1.0	-1972	-1708	261	73	26857
Massachusetts	4255	230	284	7	6	51369	1.5	-4761	2503	92	92	51553
Michigan	3988	-365	-489	11	7	35946	0.8	-1804	-1235	70	63	36079
Minnesota	2413	197	-128	3	5	23158	0.8	-254	-999	44	57	23259
Mississippi	932	-120	200	2	1	7675	0.7	-542	441	46	24	7745
Missouri	2116	-363	-422	9	4	15894	0.6	-2057	-2760	85	28	16007
Montana	549	68	30	1	0	3557	0.8	-469	15	38	13	3608
Nebraska	468	-418	-359	2	0	3092	0.3	336	-57	15	8	3115
Nevada	2045	-393	-313	5	5	17346	1.3	-42	-507	32	41	17419
New Hampshire	343	-31	-9	0	1	2951	0.5	-489	-296	5	5	2961
New Jersey	6658	-445	146	9	11	92978	2.3	-1811	-1616	166	205	93349
New Mexico	680	28	15	2	3	7332	0.9	-180	-339	84	41	7457
New York	11569	-3547	-537	14	25	132355	1.4	-4461	-3016	288	299	132942
North Carolina	2661	-380	310	8	27	18604	0.4	-757	-18	107	98	18809
North Dakota	233	-6	32	0	1	1816	0.4	-198	361	24	6	1846
Ohio	4428	-287	231	12	13	37747	0.7	-1568	-1578	89	120	37956
Oklahoma	1452	28	262	6	6	14211	0.9	-72	2142	49	51	14311
Oregon	3182	-9	241	17	7	23047	1.2	-444	1173	90	66	23203
Pennsylvania	9834	-1352	-51	53	27	98936	1.7	-8857	1799	410	174	99520
Puerto Rico	1173	212	149	5	4	16855	2.0	53	2669	149	73	17077
Rhode Island	640	23	12	2	2	6806	1.4	-1557	-303	16	15	6837
South Carolina	1524	-345	-251	2	10	13567	0.7	-713	-1333	38	48	13653
South Dakota	103	-19	-32	2	1	812	0.2	-64	36	22	2	836
Tennessee	2124	-97	264	6	10	15889	0.5	-708	-602	57	61	16007
Texas	11500	-1548	662	61	107	116035	1.0	-2866	7728	1125	865	118025
Utah	822	1	8	1	3	5897	0.4	-68	-824	69	11	5977
Vermont	271	66	-1	1	0	1930	0.6	-633	-254	6	0	1936
Virgin Islands	29	-10	-1	0	0	458	1.4	6	48	8	6	472
Virginia	2144	-73	1	3	10	17416	0.5	-848	-1429	146	139	17701
Washington	5060	116	-183	7	18	40665	1.2	-1857	161	166	403	41234
West Virginia	919	103	284	0	3	7644	1.1	-26	968	27	23	7694
Wisconsin	3826	39	-5	5	5	23006	0.8	-273	1063	33	13	23052
Wyoming	222	-10	26	2	1	1385	0.5	-76	80	4	4	1393
Totals	160324	-19192	-2316	469	519	1476165	1	-90769	-18629	6545	5259	1487969

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.

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**UNADJUSTED INITIAL CLAIMS FOR WEEK ENDED SEPTEMBER 7, 2019**

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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>
None		

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

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<b>State</b>	<b>Change</b>	<b>State Supplied Comment</b>
IL	-3,924	No comment.
CA	-3,587	Fewer layoffs in the service industry.
NY	-3,547	Fewer layoffs in the transportation and warehousing, real estate and rental and leasing, and health care and social assistance industries.
TX	-1,548	No comment.
PA	-1,352	Fewer layoffs in the accommodation and food services, transportation and warehousing, and manufacturing industries.
GA	-1,152	Fewer layoffs in the administrative and support and waste management and remediation services industry.

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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](#)

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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