



News Release

Connect with DOL at
<https://blog.dol.gov>



TRANSMISSION OF MATERIALS IN THIS RELEASE IS EMBARGOED UNTIL
8:30 A.M. (Eastern) Thursday, September 26, 2019

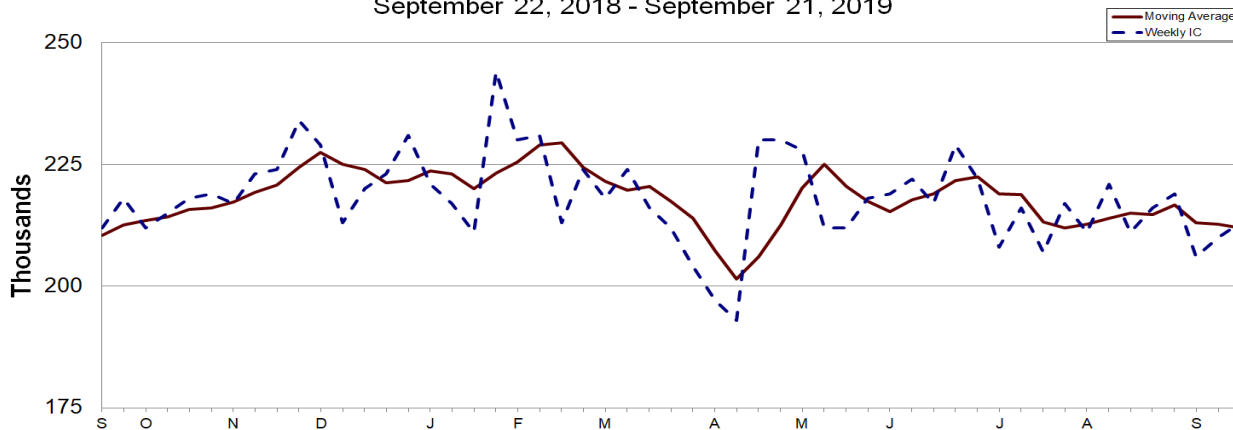
UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE WEEKLY CLAIMS

SEASONALLY ADJUSTED DATA

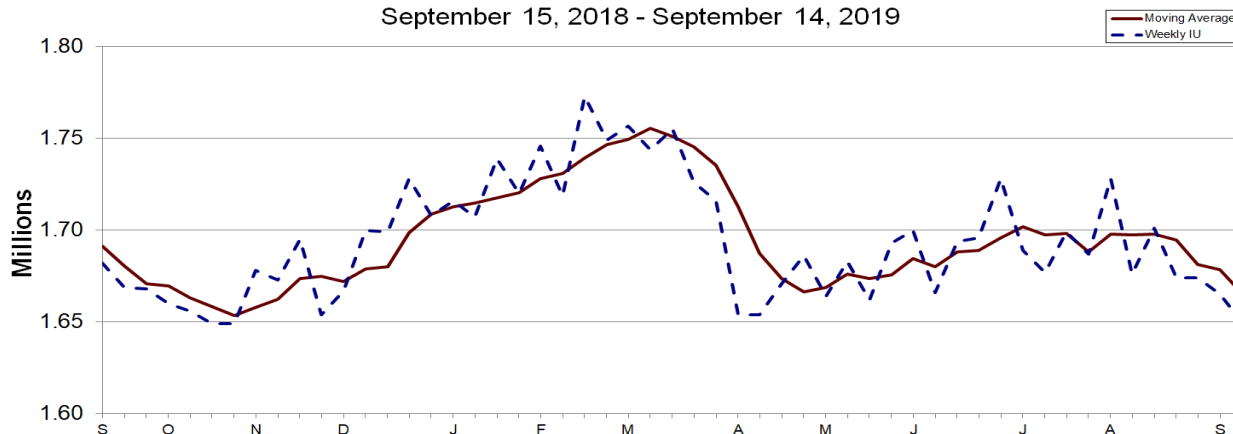
In the week ending September 21, the advance figure for seasonally adjusted **initial claims** was 213,000, an increase of 3,000 from the previous week's revised level. The previous week's level was revised up by 2,000 from 208,000 to 210,000. The 4-week moving average was 212,000, a decrease of 750 from the previous week's revised average. The previous week's average was revised up by 500 from 212,250 to 212,750.

The advance seasonally adjusted **insured unemployment rate** was 1.1 percent for the week ending September 14, a decrease of 0.1 percentage point from the previous week's unrevised rate. The advance number for seasonally adjusted **insured unemployment** during the week ending September 14 was 1,650,000, a decrease of 15,000 from the previous week's revised level. The previous week's level was revised up 4,000 from 1,661,000 to 1,665,000. The 4-week moving average was 1,665,750, a decrease of 12,750 from the previous week's revised average. The previous week's average was revised up by 1,000 from 1,677,500 to 1,678,500.

Seasonally Adjusted Initial Claims
September 22, 2018 - September 21, 2019



Seasonally Adjusted Insured Unemployment
September 15, 2018 - September 14, 2019

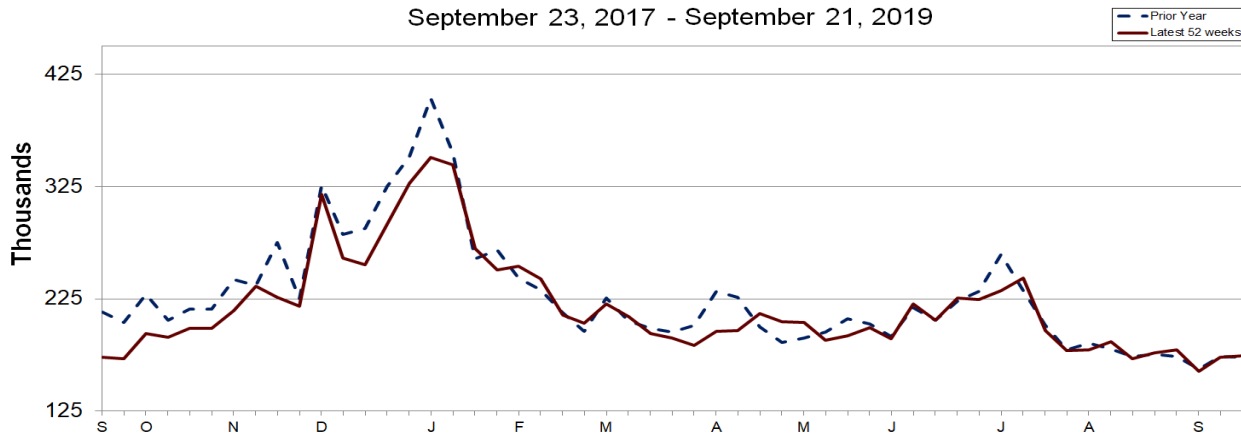


UNADJUSTED DATA

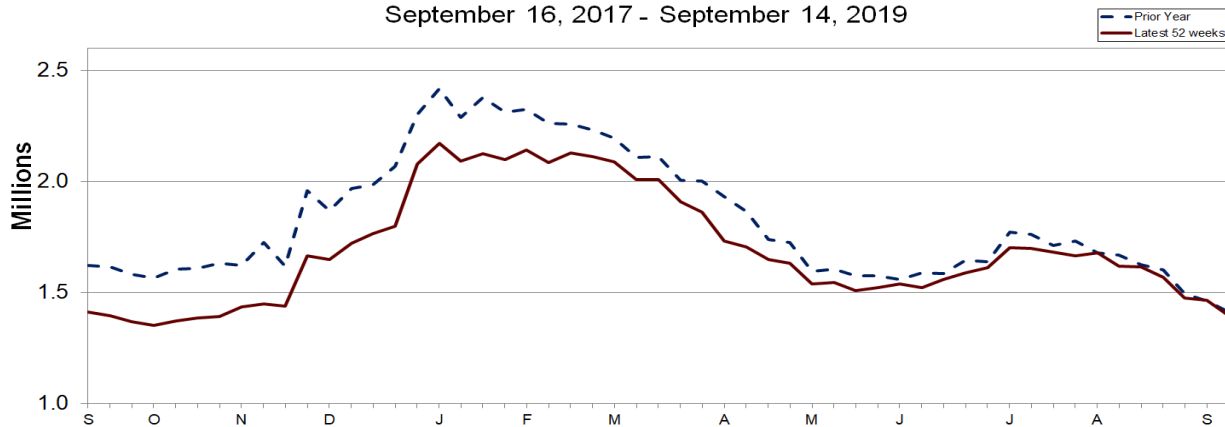
The advance number of actual initial claims under state programs, unadjusted, totaled 174,260 in the week ending September 21, an increase of 1,143 (or 0.7 percent) from the previous week. The seasonal factors had expected a decrease of 1,886 (or -1.1 percent) from the previous week. There were 172,930 initial claims in the comparable week in 2018.

The advance unadjusted insured unemployment rate was 1.0 percent during the week ending September 14, unchanged from the prior week. The advance unadjusted number for persons claiming UI benefits in state programs totaled 1,394,470, a decrease of 71,052 (or -4.8 percent) from the preceding week. The seasonal factors had expected a decrease of 58,288 (or -4.0 percent) from the previous week. A year earlier the rate was 1.0 percent and the volume was 1,412,803.

Not Seasonally Adjusted Initial Claims
September 23, 2017 - September 21, 2019



Not Seasonally Adjusted Insured Unemployment
September 16, 2017 - September 14, 2019



The total number of people claiming benefits in all programs for the week ending September 7 was 1,488,587, a decrease of 10,330 from the previous week. There were 1,485,163 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 September 7.

Initial claims for UI benefits filed by former Federal civilian employees totaled 555 in the week ending September 14, an increase of 86 from the prior week. There were 530 initial claims filed by newly discharged veterans, an increase of 11 from the preceding week.

There were 6,457 former Federal civilian employees claiming UI benefits for the week ending September 7, a decrease of 88 from the previous week. Newly discharged veterans claiming benefits totaled 5,708, an increase of 449 from the prior week.

The highest insured unemployment rates in the week ending September 7 were in New Jersey (2.1), Puerto Rico (2.0), California (1.7), Connecticut (1.6), Pennsylvania (1.6), Alaska (1.5), Illinois (1.5), the Virgin Islands (1.4), Massachusetts (1.3), Nevada (1.3), and New York (1.3).

The largest increases in initial claims for the week ending September 14 were in California (+3,879), Georgia (+1,563), Florida (+1,530), South Carolina (+1,246), and New York (+1,048), while the largest decreases were in Arkansas (-773), Illinois (-566), Michigan (-415), Wisconsin (-232), and Massachusetts (-227).

UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE DATA FOR REGULAR STATE PROGRAMS

WEEK ENDING	September 21	September 14	Change	September 7	Prior Year¹
Initial Claims (SA)	213,000	210,000	+3,000	206,000	212,000
Initial Claims (NSA)	174,260	173,117	+1,143	160,324	172,930
4-Wk Moving Average (SA)	212,000	212,750	-750	213,000	210,500
WEEK ENDING	September 14	September 7	Change	August 31	Prior Year¹
Insured Unemployment (SA)	1,650,000	1,665,000	-15,000	1,674,000	1,682,000
Insured Unemployment (NSA)	1,394,470	1,465,522	-71,052	1,476,181	1,412,803
4-Wk Moving Average (SA)	1,665,750	1,678,500	-12,750	1,681,250	1,691,500
Insured Unemployment Rate (SA) ²	1.1%	1.2%	-0.1	1.2%	1.2%
Insured Unemployment Rate (NSA) ²	1.0%	1.0%	0.0	1.0%	1.0%

INITIAL CLAIMS FILED IN FEDERAL PROGRAMS (UNADJUSTED)

WEEK ENDING	September 14	September 7	Change	Prior Year¹
Federal Employees (UCFE)	555	469	+86	542
Newly Discharged Veterans (UCX)	530	519	+11	604

PERSONS CLAIMING UI BENEFITS IN ALL PROGRAMS (UNADJUSTED)

WEEK ENDING	September 7	August 31	Change	Prior Year¹
Regular State	1,462,761	1,473,997	-11,236	1,458,979
Federal Employees	6,457	6,545	-88	7,288
Newly Discharged Veterans	5,708	5,259	+449	7,234
Extended Benefits ³	0	0	0	2
State Additional Benefits ⁴	5,205	4,677	+528	5,402
STC / Workshare ⁵	8,456	8,439	+17	6,258
TOTAL	1,488,587	1,498,917	-10,330	1,485,163

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 21			Insured Unemployment For Week Ended September 14		
	Advance	Prior Wk	Change	Advance	Prior Wk	Change
Alabama	1,894	2,081	-187	14,255	15,310	-1,055
Alaska	1,024	716	308	4,621	4,510	111
Arizona	3,532	3,643	-111	21,174	25,426	-4,252
Arkansas	1,156	1,349	-193	9,461	10,809	-1,348
California	35,496	34,650	846	286,604	285,564	1,040
Colorado	1,429	1,467	-38	15,778	15,597	181
Connecticut	2,236	2,497	-261	27,098	26,822	276
Delaware	419	460	-41	3,969	3,834	135
District of Columbia	467	433	34	6,220	6,725	-505
Florida	5,390	6,543	-1,153	35,494	40,712	-5,218
Georgia	4,111	5,208	-1,097	23,091	25,217	-2,126
Hawaii	974	1,141	-167	6,599	6,309	290
Idaho	576	637	-61	3,026	3,584	-558
Illinois	6,583	6,614	-31	77,255	86,352	-9,097
Indiana	2,892	2,001	891	13,366	13,126	240
Iowa	1,901	1,692	209	12,327	12,305	22
Kansas	2,633	1,127	1,506	6,815	7,366	-551
Kentucky	2,186	1,875	311	15,346	16,422	-1,076
Louisiana	1,501	1,806	-305	12,613	14,792	-2,179
Maine	377	414	-37	2,967	2,966	1
Maryland	2,289	2,604	-315	20,803	23,655	-2,852
Massachusetts	3,832	4,028	-196	44,283	47,123	-2,840
Michigan	7,724	3,573	4,151	32,674	35,623	-2,949
Minnesota	2,741	2,664	77	23,345	22,704	641
Mississippi	743	982	-239	6,295	7,430	-1,135
Missouri	3,439	2,422	1,017	14,852	15,918	-1,066
Montana	595	677	-82	3,459	3,558	-99
Nebraska	443	448	-5	2,621	3,023	-402
Nevada	2,094	2,055	39	15,458	16,914	-1,456
New Hampshire	311	326	-15	2,401	2,785	-384
New Jersey	6,622	7,455	-833	74,361	83,934	-9,573
New Mexico	671	723	-52	7,232	7,466	-234
New York	10,945	12,617	-1,672	105,151	118,808	-13,657
North Carolina	2,993	3,172	-179	17,199	18,805	-1,606
North Dakota	235	252	-17	1,814	1,657	157
Ohio	4,877	4,566	311	36,629	37,349	-720
Oklahoma	1,537	1,519	18	13,700	14,351	-651
Oregon	3,651	3,867	-216	22,599	22,429	170
Pennsylvania	9,511	10,036	-525	86,971	91,951	-4,980
Puerto Rico*	1,267	1,135	132	14,670	16,872	-2,202
Rhode Island	658	735	-77	5,816	5,683	133
South Carolina	1,834	2,770	-936	12,972	14,297	-1,325
South Dakota	104	151	-47	826	825	1
Tennessee	2,642	2,104	538	14,777	16,248	-1,471
Texas	12,577	12,273	304	118,434	115,892	2,542
Utah	865	892	-27	5,684	5,754	-70
Vermont	226	240	-14	1,928	1,904	24
Virgin Islands	20	48	-28	476	450	26
Virginia	2,326	2,236	90	17,641	17,843	-202
Washington	5,520	5,428	92	41,871	40,889	982
West Virginia	821	927	-106	8,959	7,838	1,121
Wisconsin	3,135	3,594	-459	18,955	20,411	-1,456
Wyoming	235	244	-9	1,535	1,385	150
US Total	174,260	173,117	1,143	1,394,470	1,465,522	-71,052

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.

*Denotes state 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 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	1,665	-9	1,678.50	1.2
September 14, 2019	210	4	212.75	1,650	-15	1,665.75	1.1
September 21, 2019	213	3	212.00				

STATE NAME	INITIAL CLAIMS FILED DURING WEEK ENDED SEPTEMBER 14					INSURED UNEMPLOYMENT FOR WEEK ENDED SEPTEMBER 7					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	2081	312	74	10	11	15310	0.8	-15	103	89	47	15446
Alaska	716	29	-121	5	1	4510	1.5	-31	-759	55	18	4583
Arizona	3643	307	284	8	5	25426	0.9	-560	-1197	64	49	25539
Arkansas	1349	-773	60	2	1	10809	0.9	587	844	45	30	10884
California	34650	3879	1232	126	88	285564	1.7	15994	-1594	1342	1264	288170
Colorado	1467	2	-78	8	17	15597	0.6	137	-1283	77	168	15842
Connecticut	2497	350	231	7	0	26822	1.6	-3397	-793	34	50	26906
Delaware	460	33	-30	2	5	3834	0.9	-437	-72	10	10	3854
District of Columbia	433	52	50	21	1	6725	1.2	-6	-733	254	3	6982
Florida	6543	1530	435	16	35	40712	0.5	676	-345	162	101	40975
Georgia	5208	1563	-394	22	30	25217	0.6	643	254	158	164	25539
Hawaii	1141	61	-37	0	11	6309	1.0	-50	-384	41	55	6405
Idaho	637	-96	-150	1	5	3584	0.5	-297	97	8	11	3603
Illinois	6614	-566	177	15	11	86352	1.5	8480	10935	298	188	86838
Indiana	2001	15	14	3	5	13126	0.4	178	448	25	22	13173
Iowa	1692	-95	44	4	2	12305	0.8	-406	-69	39	19	12363
Kansas	1127	-162	-101	3	0	7366	0.5	-273	-822	29	27	7422
Kentucky	1875	87	-4489	1	4	16422	0.9	9799	575	172	102	16696
Louisiana	1806	123	-227	3	6	14792	0.8	-423	-1339	47	16	14855
Maine	414	26	-51	1	1	2966	0.5	-130	-588	11	18	2995
Maryland	2604	120	-464	20	16	23655	0.9	-2868	-1613	245	63	23963
Massachusetts	4028	-227	-4	7	12	47123	1.3	-4246	2523	114	90	47327
Michigan	3573	-415	-588	9	5	35623	0.8	-323	752	56	55	35734
Minnesota	2664	251	162	2	5	22704	0.8	-454	-473	37	55	22796
Mississippi	982	50	109	2	5	7430	0.7	-245	396	50	22	7502
Missouri	2422	306	-146	8	2	15918	0.6	24	-2098	110	29	16057
Montana	677	128	118	6	1	3558	0.8	1	121	35	9	3602
Nebraska	448	-20	-104	2	1	3023	0.3	-69	-394	10	7	3040
Nevada	2055	10	30	4	1	16914	1.3	-432	-1542	44	42	17000
New Hampshire	326	-17	-88	0	0	2785	0.4	-166	-229	3	4	2792
New Jersey	7455	797	-545	13	11	83934	2.1	-9044	-1725	163	187	84284
New Mexico	723	43	37	2	0	7466	0.9	134	-267	77	41	7584
New York	12617	1048	42	24	26	118808	1.3	-13547	-423	287	298	119393
North Carolina	3172	511	998	16	18	18805	0.4	201	623	104	105	19014
North Dakota	252	19	85	0	0	1657	0.4	-159	222	10	5	1672
Ohio	4566	138	117	9	17	37349	0.7	-398	-1920	104	120	37573
Oklahoma	1519	67	345	3	2	14351	0.9	140	2399	39	55	14445
Oregon	3867	685	233	9	14	22429	1.2	-618	1051	88	76	22593
Pennsylvania	10036	202	-482	71	28	91951	1.6	-6985	-768	450	190	92591
Puerto Rico	1135	-38	221	3	3	16872	2.0	17	2160	107	78	17057
Rhode Island	735	95	-26	3	0	5683	1.2	-1123	-429	15	13	5711
South Carolina	2770	1246	1307	1	9	14297	0.7	730	84	41	53	14391
South Dakota	151	48	11	2	1	825	0.2	13	33	21	2	848
Tennessee	2104	-20	170	7	10	16248	0.6	359	-67	55	59	16362
Texas	12273	773	416	47	70	115892	1.0	-143	2391	785	1051	117728
Utah	892	70	20	4	0	5754	0.4	-143	-818	64	13	5831
Vermont	240	-31	-116	1	0	1904	0.6	-26	-201	4	0	1908
Virgin Islands	48	19	-34	0	0	450	1.4	-8	100	0	0	450
Virginia	2236	92	205	5	9	17843	0.5	427	-1005	140	162	18145
Washington	5428	368	154	10	17	40889	1.2	224	407	175	418	41482
West Virginia	927	8	275	0	2	7838	1.2	194	1152	27	27	7892
Wisconsin	3594	-232	123	5	5	20411	0.7	-2595	159	33	15	20459
Wyoming	244	22	-11	2	1	1385	0.5	0	90	4	2	1391
Totals	173117	12793	-507	555	530	1465522	1.0	-10659	3969	6457	5708	1477687

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 14, 2019

STATES WITH AN INCREASE OF MORE THAN 1,000

State	Change	State Supplied Comment
CA	+3,879	Layoffs in the service industry.
GA	+1,563	Layoffs in the manufacturing, trade, construction, and accommodation and food services industries.
FL	+1,530	No comment.
SC	+1,246	No comment.
NY	+1,048	Layoffs in the construction, public administration, and health care and social assistance industries.

STATES WITH A DECREASE OF MORE THAN 1,000

State	Change	State Supplied Comment
None		

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).

U.S. Department of Labor
Employment and Training Administration
Washington, D.C. 20210
Release Number: USDL 19-1717-NAT

Program Contacts:
Kevin Stapleton: (202) 693-3009
Anatoli Sznoluch: (202) 693-3176
Media Contact: (202) 693-4676