



News Release

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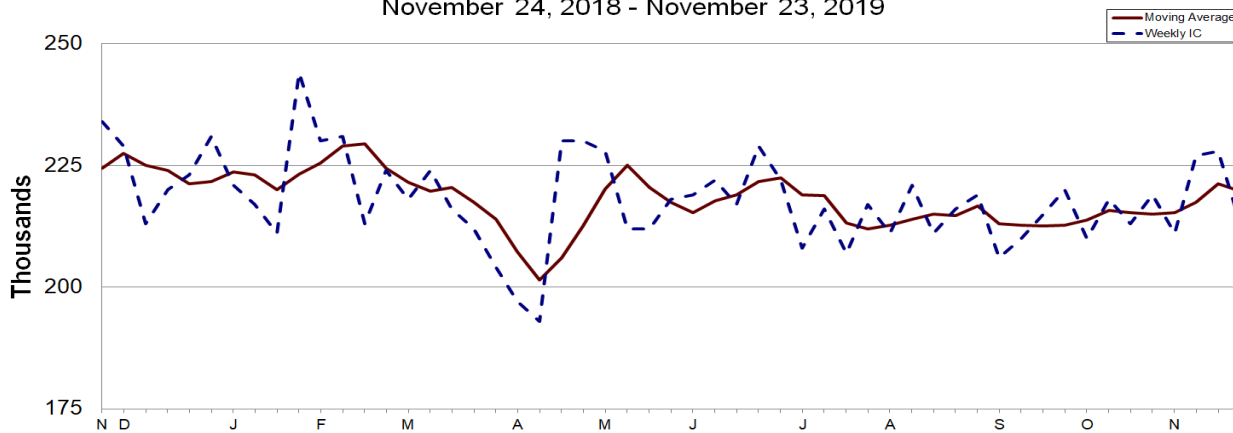
UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE WEEKLY CLAIMS

SEASONALLY ADJUSTED DATA

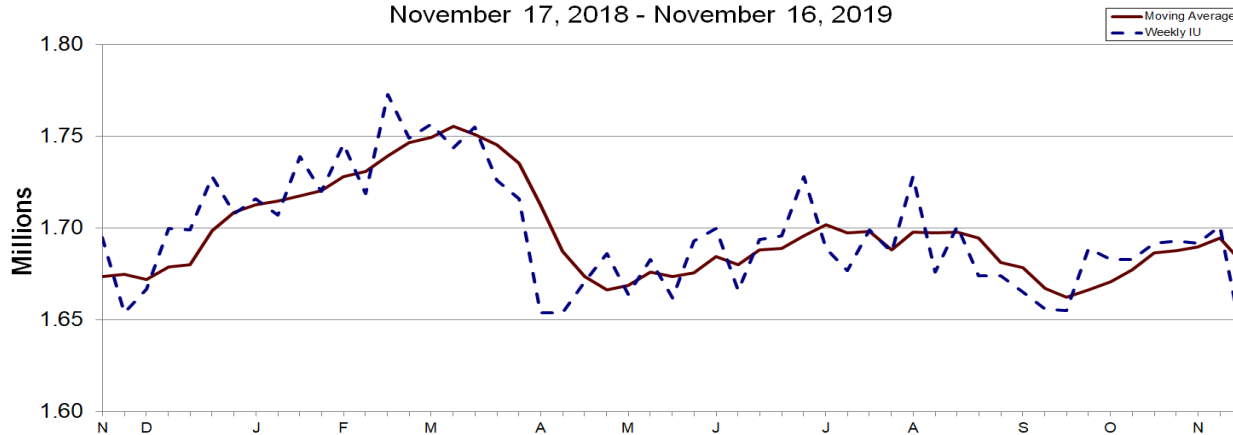
In the week ending November 23, the advance figure for seasonally adjusted **initial claims** was 213,000, a decrease of 15,000 from the previous week's revised level. The previous week's level was revised up by 1,000 from 227,000 to 228,000. The 4-week moving average was 219,750, a decrease of 1,500 from the previous week's revised average. The previous week's average was revised up by 250 from 221,000 to 221,250.

The advance seasonally adjusted **insured unemployment rate** was 1.1 percent for the week ending November 16, 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 November 16 was 1,640,000, a decrease of 57,000 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 2,000 from 1,695,000 to 1,697,000. The 4-week moving average was 1,680,500, a decrease of 13,000 from the previous week's revised average. The previous week's average was revised up by 500 from 1,693,000 to 1,693,500.

Seasonally Adjusted Initial Claims
November 24, 2018 - November 23, 2019



Seasonally Adjusted Insured Unemployment
November 17, 2018 - November 16, 2019



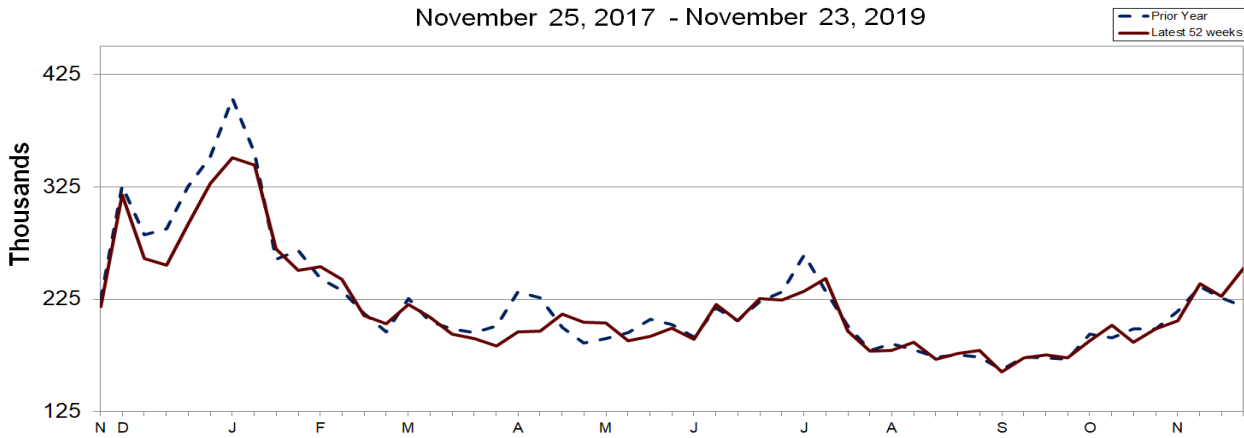
UNADJUSTED DATA

The advance number of actual initial claims under state programs, unadjusted, totaled 252,397 in the week ending November 23, an increase of 24,523 (or 10.8 percent) from the previous week. The seasonal factors had expected an increase of 42,883 (or 18.8 percent) from the previous week. There were 218,658 initial claims in the comparable week in 2018.

The advance unadjusted insured unemployment rate was 1.1 percent during the week ending November 16, an increase of 0.1 percentage point from the prior week. The advance unadjusted number for persons claiming UI benefits in state programs totaled 1,543,410, an increase of 82,688 (or 5.7 percent) from the preceding week. The seasonal factors had expected an increase of 135,723 (or 9.3 percent) from the previous week. A year earlier the rate was 1.0 percent and the volume was 1,437,625.

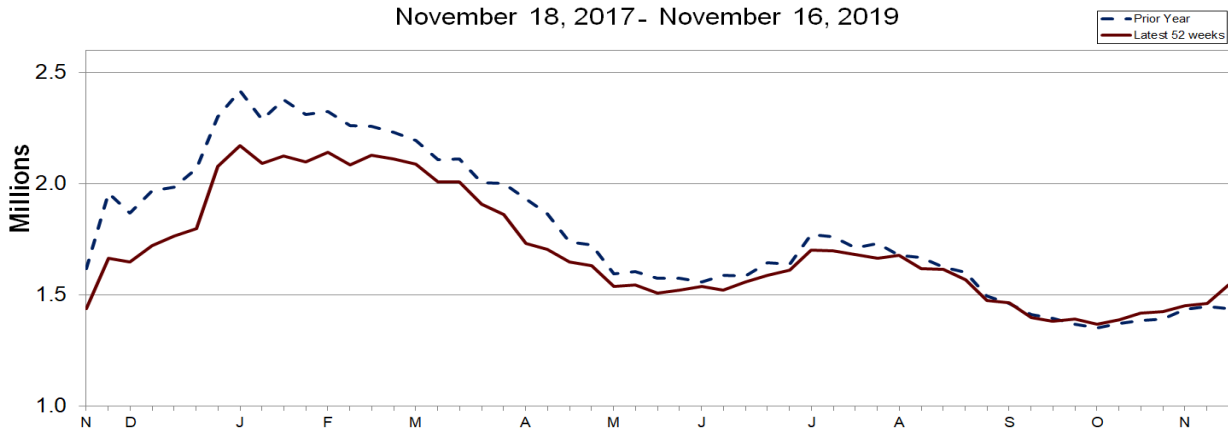
Not Seasonally Adjusted Initial Claims

November 25, 2017 - November 23, 2019



Not Seasonally Adjusted Insured Unemployment

November 18, 2017 - November 16, 2019



The total number of people claiming benefits in all programs for the week ending November 9 was 1,487,813, an increase of 11,292 from the previous week. There were 1,472,762 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 November 9.

Initial claims for UI benefits filed by former Federal civilian employees totaled 1,310 in the week ending November 16, an increase of 207 from the prior week. There were 433 initial claims filed by newly discharged veterans, a decrease of 59 from the preceding week.

There were 8,369 former Federal civilian employees claiming UI benefits for the week ending November 9, an increase of 907 from the previous week. Newly discharged veterans claiming benefits totaled 5,658, a decrease of 23 from the prior week.

The highest insured unemployment rates in the week ending November 9 were in Alaska (2.5), Puerto Rico (2.1), New Jersey (2.0), California (1.6), Connecticut (1.6), West Virginia (1.6), Pennsylvania (1.5), Washington (1.5), Illinois (1.4), and Montana (1.4).

The largest increases in initial claims for the week ending November 16 were in Illinois (+2,974), Iowa (+1,652), Minnesota (+1,444), Michigan (+1,313), and Oklahoma (+960), while the largest decreases were in California (-5,067), New Jersey (-3,769), Pennsylvania (-2,104), Texas (-2,058), and Georgia (-1,483).

UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE DATA FOR REGULAR STATE PROGRAMS

WEEK ENDING	November 23	November 16	Change	November 9	Prior Year¹
Initial Claims (SA)	213,000	228,000	-15,000	227,000	234,000
Initial Claims (NSA)	252,397	227,874	+24,523	238,991	218,658
4-Wk Moving Average (SA)	219,750	221,250	-1,500	217,500	224,500
WEEK ENDING	November 16	November 9	Change	November 2	Prior Year¹
Insured Unemployment (SA)	1,640,000	1,697,000	-57,000	1,692,000	1,695,000
Insured Unemployment (NSA)	1,543,410	1,460,722	+82,688	1,450,286	1,437,625
4-Wk Moving Average (SA)	1,680,500	1,693,500	-13,000	1,690,000	1,673,750
Insured Unemployment Rate (SA) ²	1.1%	1.2%	-0.1	1.2%	1.2%
Insured Unemployment Rate (NSA) ²	1.1%	1.0%	+0.1	1.0%	1.0%

INITIAL CLAIMS FILED IN FEDERAL PROGRAMS (UNADJUSTED)

WEEK ENDING	November 16	November 9	Change	Prior Year¹
Federal Employees (UCFE)	1,310	1,103	+207	1,371
Newly Discharged Veterans (UCX)	433	492	-59	540

PERSONS CLAIMING UI BENEFITS IN ALL PROGRAMS (UNADJUSTED)

WEEK ENDING	November 9	November 2	Change	Prior Year¹
Regular State	1,457,789	1,447,441	+10,348	1,445,189
Federal Employees	8,369	7,462	+907	8,638
Newly Discharged Veterans	5,658	5,681	-23	6,897
Extended Benefits ³	0	0	0	1
State Additional Benefits ⁴	5,414	5,648	-234	5,409
STC / Workshare ⁵	10,583	10,289	+294	6,628
TOTAL	1,487,813	1,476,521	+11,292	1,472,762

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 144,758,990 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 November 23			Insured Unemployment For Week Ended November 16		
	Advance	Prior Wk	Change	Advance	Prior Wk	Change
Alabama	2,057	1,888	169	13,613	14,152	-539
Alaska	1,503	1,194	309	8,403	7,545	858
Arizona	3,443	3,699	-256	16,451	20,484	-4,033
Arkansas	1,510	1,780	-270	9,642	10,054	-412
California	49,643	40,749	8,894	297,352	274,354	22,998
Colorado	2,339	2,141	198	18,637	17,887	750
Connecticut	3,098	2,630	468	27,952	26,231	1,721
Delaware	574	612	-38	4,657	4,096	561
District of Columbia	563	513	50	6,259	6,423	-164
Florida	5,315	5,252	63	32,012	34,385	-2,373
Georgia	5,533	3,934	1,599	23,317	23,917	-600
Hawaii	1,140	976	164	6,032	5,774	258
Idaho	1,470	1,255	215	4,427	4,331	96
Illinois	11,394	13,989	-2,595	86,258	80,616	5,642
Indiana	3,206	2,725	481	14,682	13,328	1,354
Iowa	4,244	4,579	-335	16,016	13,285	2,731
Kansas	1,692	1,413	279	7,491	6,982	509
Kentucky	2,862	2,273	589	15,123	15,979	-856
Louisiana	1,675	2,102	-427	11,863	13,675	-1,812
Maine	932	785	147	4,277	3,860	417
Maryland	2,876	2,788	88	22,192	22,331	-139
Massachusetts	6,526	5,397	1,129	48,082	46,300	1,782
Michigan	9,108	8,872	236	41,538	39,394	2,144
Minnesota	7,697	7,476	221	40,790	31,618	9,172
Mississippi	868	1,095	-227	6,035	6,974	-939
Missouri	3,739	3,888	-149	17,390	16,753	637
Montana	1,519	1,286	233	6,902	6,248	654
Nebraska	1,171	729	442	2,743	1,662	1,081
Nevada	2,641	2,418	223	15,866	16,225	-359
New Hampshire	530	453	77	2,726	2,953	-227
New Jersey	9,424	8,978	446	81,933	78,801	3,132
New Mexico	909	882	27	8,445	8,449	-4
New York	19,281	15,999	3,282	124,995	116,355	8,640
North Carolina	3,351	3,105	246	18,233	19,365	-1,132
North Dakota	895	761	134	3,078	2,009	1,069
Ohio	7,946	8,739	-793	45,489	42,777	2,712
Oklahoma	1,877	2,800	-923	15,599	14,943	656
Oregon	4,979	3,942	1,037	24,422	23,707	715
Pennsylvania	17,383	12,341	5,042	95,721	88,124	7,597
Puerto Rico	771	1,048	-277	15,558	17,587	-2,029
Rhode Island	853	793	60	6,100	5,649	451
South Carolina	2,390	2,205	185	13,821	13,829	-8
South Dakota	315	406	-91	1,207	1,105	102
Tennessee	2,166	2,159	7	14,445	15,384	-939
Texas	16,034	14,335	1,699	121,260	112,751	8,509
Utah	1,435	1,298	137	7,045	6,864	181
Vermont	611	693	-82	3,285	2,707	578
Virgin Islands	32	36	-4	478	434	44
Virginia	2,783	2,327	456	17,828	17,600	228
Washington	8,821	7,619	1,202	52,653	48,374	4,279
West Virginia	1,347	1,354	-7	13,284	10,804	2,480
Wisconsin	7,333	6,642	691	26,969	23,174	3,795
Wyoming	593	521	72	2,834	2,114	720
US Total	252,397	227,874	24,523	1,543,410	1,460,722	82,688

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 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	1,656	-9	1,667.25	1.1
September 21, 2019	215	5	212.50	1,655	-1	1,662.50	1.1
September 28, 2019	220	5	212.75	1,689	34	1,666.25	1.2
October 5, 2019	210	-10	213.75	1,683	-6	1,670.75	1.2
October 12, 2019	218	8	215.75	1,683	0	1,677.50	1.2
October 19, 2019	213	-5	215.25	1,692	9	1,686.75	1.2
October 26, 2019	219	6	215.00	1,693	1	1,687.75	1.2
November 2, 2019	211	-8	215.25	1,692	-1	1,690.00	1.2
November 9, 2019	227	16	217.50	1,697	5	1,693.50	1.2
November 16, 2019	228	1	221.25	1,640	-57	1,680.50	1.1
November 23, 2019	213	-15	219.75				

STATE NAME	INITIAL CLAIMS FILED DURING WEEK ENDED NOVEMBER 16					INSURED UNEMPLOYMENT FOR WEEK ENDED NOVEMBER 9					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	1888	-320	-621	12	6	14152	0.7	27	-163	84	47	14283
Alaska	1194	-125	-148	3	1	7545	2.5	442	-536	156	11	7712
Arizona*	3699	-253	475	11	3	20484	0.7	-189	-389	85	49	20618
Arkansas	1780	49	-149	1	3	10054	0.8	-583	33	49	41	10144
California	40749	-5067	2516	338	77	274354	1.6	-9845	3061	1460	1249	277063
Colorado	2141	-177	-87	34	18	17887	0.7	1042	699	192	136	18215
Connecticut	2630	-229	-120	6	3	26231	1.6	359	-227	31	59	26321
Delaware	612	-15	-6	1	3	4096	0.9	15	-33	13	8	4117
District of Columbia	513	-57	40	12	0	6423	1.1	78	-988	248	5	6676
Florida	5252	-776	-1646	16	27	34385	0.4	-1104	-6879	165	100	34650
Georgia	3934	-1483	-2807	20	18	23917	0.5	-334	-1184	164	149	24230
Hawaii	976	-155	-122	2	2	5774	0.9	13	-1215	56	65	5895
Idaho	1255	-34	-286	31	2	4331	0.6	336	-131	110	11	4452
Illinois	13989	2974	1800	7	8	80616	1.4	2416	2545	321	149	81086
Indiana	2725	-339	-66	4	0	13328	0.4	-254	-1375	23	32	13383
Iowa	4579	1652	1424	4	1	13285	0.9	-770	645	38	10	13333
Kansas	1413	-44	-322	2	4	6982	0.5	-111	-641	27	16	7025
Kentucky	2273	-79	52	0	0	15979	0.9	257	1539	249	90	16318
Louisiana	2102	-170	-201	6	2	13675	0.7	265	-562	59	16	13750
Maine	785	-54	90	5	2	3860	0.6	434	-67	22	14	3896
Maryland	2788	-439	-320	17	3	22331	0.9	424	-2818	197	65	22593
Massachusetts	5397	-820	-748	13	9	46300	1.3	1514	3368	108	96	46504
Michigan	8872	1313	1003	34	13	39394	0.9	-2474	-4688	106	74	39574
Minnesota	7476	1444	650	10	3	31618	1.1	4203	338	85	59	31762
Mississippi	1095	-7	-48	5	1	6974	0.6	-67	487	45	21	7040
Missouri	3888	464	-439	7	4	16753	0.6	-169	-572	114	29	16896
Montana	1286	-308	-190	111	1	6248	1.4	402	185	262	21	6531
Nebraska	729	-27	-57	1	0	1662	0.2	-21	-1639	6	6	1674
Nevada	2418	-103	-146	11	3	16225	1.2	211	-1370	89	40	16354
New Hampshire	453	-57	-28	1	0	2953	0.5	64	-154	10	2	2965
New Jersey	8978	-3769	-95	40	9	78801	2.0	3783	-1611	185	211	79197
New Mexico	882	-126	8	28	2	8449	1.1	244	264	231	43	8723
New York	15999	282	898	29	18	116355	1.2	4110	840	288	303	116946
North Carolina	3105	-389	-94	18	18	19365	0.4	371	1533	114	121	19600
North Dakota	761	111	37	0	2	2009	0.5	-1	360	6	2	2017
Ohio	8739	928	1220	11	9	42777	0.8	375	1737	116	131	43024
Oklahoma	2800	960	1343	8	3	14943	1.0	-244	3196	49	53	15045
Oregon	3942	54	80	116	5	23707	1.2	370	180	343	54	24104
Pennsylvania	12341	-2104	-975	76	26	88124	1.5	-242	3316	486	180	88790
Puerto Rico	1048	-151	14	7	7	17587	2.1	-345	2124	159	115	17861
Rhode Island	793	-71	-239	3	2	5649	1.2	167	-314	23	16	5688
South Carolina	2205	-1175	-279	3	6	13829	0.7	55	-548	41	66	13936
South Dakota	406	88	84	8	0	1105	0.3	161	26	21	1	1127
Tennessee	2159	-322	-55	12	6	15384	0.5	-302	282	56	61	15501
Texas	14335	-2058	-798	70	66	112751	0.9	1360	9994	960	946	114657
Utah	1298	-151	-56	52	2	6864	0.5	415	-253	96	15	6975
Vermont	693	57	64	5	3	2707	0.9	335	26	8	1	2716
Virgin Islands	36	6	9	0	0	434	1.3	-86	-86	4	6	444
Virginia	2327	-344	-239	13	6	17600	0.5	-600	-350	144	157	17901
Washington	7619	-213	-113	54	14	48374	1.5	2048	1884	338	449	49161
West Virginia	1354	-6	284	3	7	10804	1.6	679	3176	29	37	10870
Wisconsin	6642	795	625	10	5	23174	0.8	1089	414	67	14	23255
Wyoming	521	-277	82	19	0	2114	0.8	113	222	31	6	2151
Totals	227874	-11117	1298	1310	433	1460722	1.0	10436	13681	8369	5658	1474749

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.

*Denotes OUI estimate.

UNADJUSTED INITIAL CLAIMS FOR WEEK ENDED NOVEMBER 16, 2019

STATES WITH AN INCREASE OF MORE THAN 1,000

State	Change	State Supplied Comment
IL	+2,974	Layoffs in the construction, administrative, support, waste management and remediation service, and manufacturing industries.
IA	+1,652	Layoffs in the construction industry.
MN	+1,444	Layoffs in the construction industry.
MI	+1,313	Layoffs in the construction industry.

STATES WITH A DECREASE OF MORE THAN 1,000

State	Change	State Supplied Comment
CA	-5,067	Fewer layoffs in the service industry.
NJ	-3,769	Fewer layoffs in the educational service, transportation and warehousing, accommodation and food service, public administration, and manufacturing industries.
PA	-2,104	Fewer layoffs in the construction and administrative, support, waste management and remediation service industries.
TX	-2,058	No comment.
GA	-1,483	Fewer layoffs in the construction, administrative, support, waste management and remediation service, and trade industries.
SC	-1,175	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](#)

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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