



News Release

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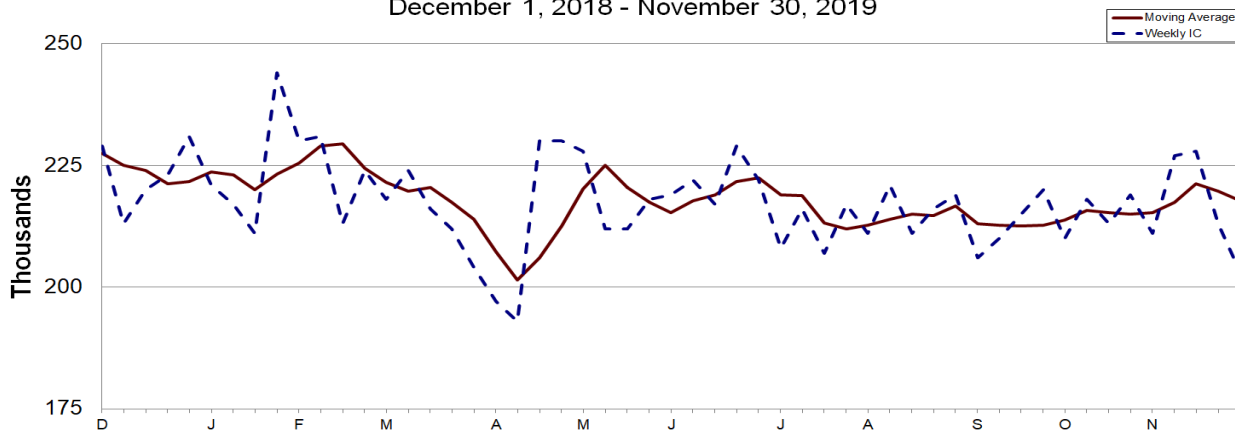
UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE WEEKLY CLAIMS

SEASONALLY ADJUSTED DATA

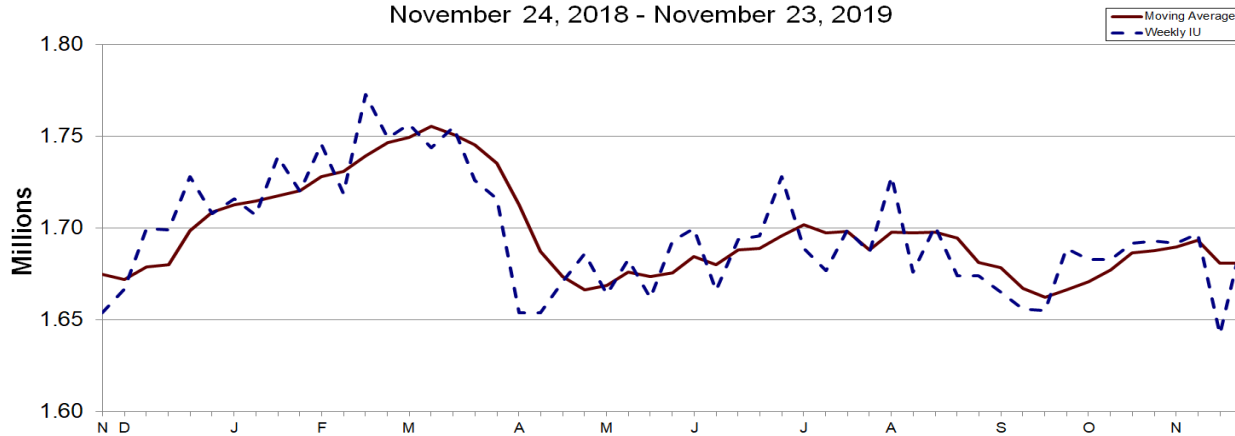
In the week ending November 30, the advance figure for seasonally adjusted **initial claims** was 203,000, a decrease of 10,000 from the previous week's unrevised level of 213,000. The 4-week moving average was 217,750, a decrease of 2,000 from the previous week's unrevised average of 219,750.

The advance seasonally adjusted **insured unemployment rate** was 1.2 percent for the week ending November 23, an increase 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 23 was 1,693,000, an increase of 51,000 from the previous week's revised level. The previous week's level was revised up 2,000 from 1,640,000 to 1,642,000. The 4-week moving average was 1,681,000, unchanged from the previous week's revised average. The previous week's average was revised up by 500 from 1,680,500 to 1,681,000.

Seasonally Adjusted Initial Claims
December 1, 2018 - November 30, 2019



Seasonally Adjusted Insured Unemployment
November 24, 2018 - November 23, 2019



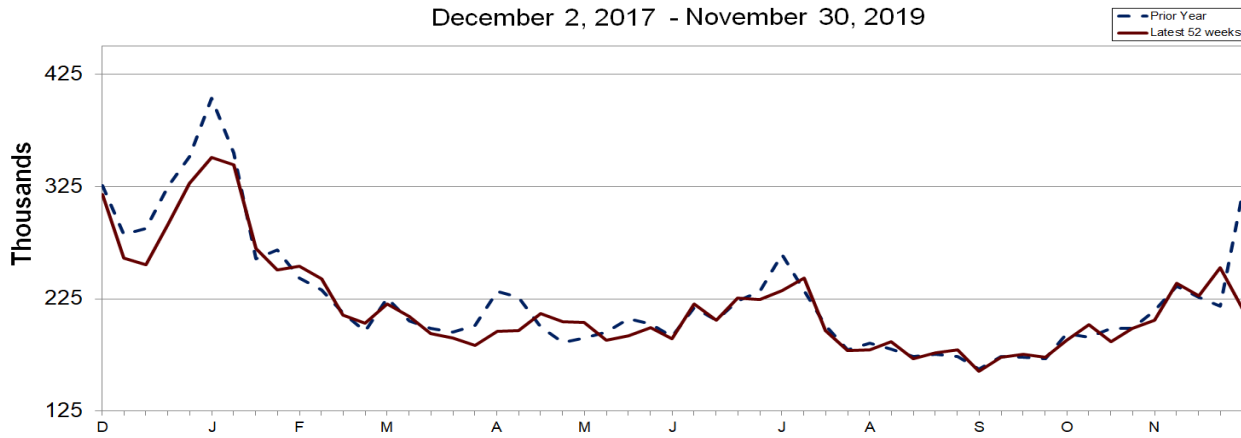
UNADJUSTED DATA

The advance number of actual initial claims under state programs, unadjusted, totaled 216,737 in the week ending November 30, a decrease of 35,676 (or -14.1 percent) from the previous week. The seasonal factors had expected a decrease of 25,518 (or -10.1 percent) from the previous week. There were 317,936 initial claims in the comparable week in 2018.

The advance unadjusted insured unemployment rate was 1.0 percent during the week ending November 23, a decrease of 0.1 percentage point from the prior week. The advance unadjusted number for persons claiming UI benefits in state programs totaled 1,503,309, a decrease of 41,649 (or -2.7 percent) from the preceding week. The seasonal factors had expected a decrease of 87,017 (or -5.6 percent) from the previous week. A year earlier the rate was 1.2 percent and the volume was 1,665,498.

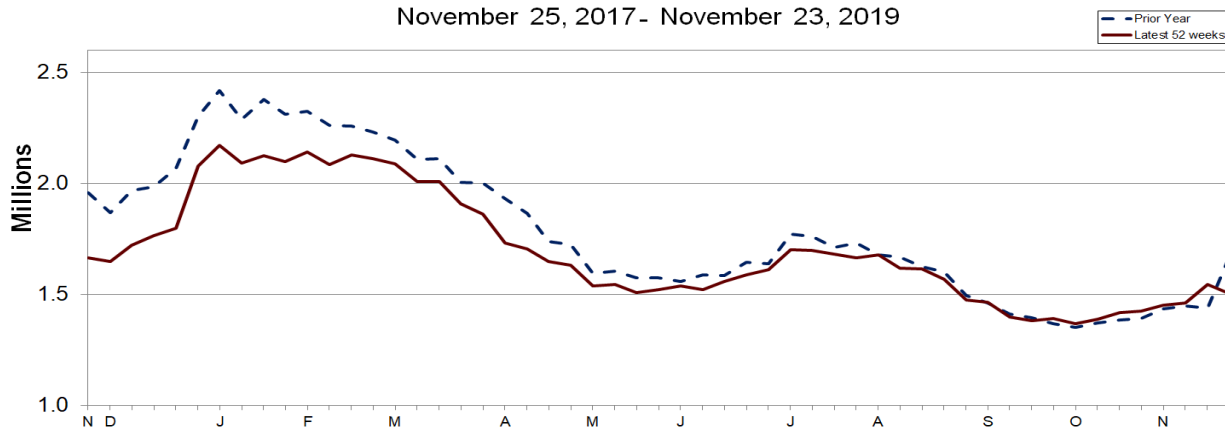
Not Seasonally Adjusted Initial Claims

December 2, 2017 - November 30, 2019



Not Seasonally Adjusted Insured Unemployment

November 25, 2017 - November 23, 2019



The total number of people claiming benefits in all programs for the week ending November 16 was 1,573,453, an increase of 85,609 from the previous week. There were 1,462,679 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 16.

Initial claims for UI benefits filed by former Federal civilian employees totaled 1,184 in the week ending November 23, a decrease of 126 from the prior week. There were 479 initial claims filed by newly discharged veterans, an increase of 46 from the preceding week.

There were 8,561 former Federal civilian employees claiming UI benefits for the week ending November 16, an increase of 192 from the previous week. Newly discharged veterans claiming benefits totaled 5,752, an increase of 94 from the prior week.

The highest insured unemployment rates in the week ending November 16 were in Alaska (2.8), Puerto Rico (2.1), New Jersey (2.0), California (1.7), West Virginia (1.7), Connecticut (1.6), Pennsylvania (1.6), Montana (1.5), Washington (1.5), Illinois (1.4), Massachusetts (1.4), and the Virgin Islands (1.4).

The largest increases in initial claims for the week ending November 23 were in California (+8,384), Pennsylvania (+5,065), New York (+2,993), Georgia (+1,846), and Texas (+1,804), while the largest decreases were in Illinois (-2,723), Ohio (-871), Iowa (-785), Oklahoma (-689), and Louisiana (-199).

UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE DATA FOR REGULAR STATE PROGRAMS

WEEK ENDING	November 30	November 23	Change	November 16	Prior Year¹
Initial Claims (SA)	203,000	213,000	-10,000	228,000	229,000
Initial Claims (NSA)	216,737	252,413	-35,676	227,876	317,936
4-Wk Moving Average (SA)	217,750	219,750	-2,000	221,250	227,500
WEEK ENDING	November 23	November 16	Change	November 9	Prior Year¹
Insured Unemployment (SA)	1,693,000	1,642,000	+51,000	1,697,000	1,654,000
Insured Unemployment (NSA)	1,503,309	1,544,958	-41,649	1,460,758	1,665,498
4-Wk Moving Average (SA)	1,681,000	1,681,000	0	1,693,500	1,675,000
Insured Unemployment Rate (SA) ²	1.2%	1.1%	+0.1	1.2%	1.2%
Insured Unemployment Rate (NSA) ²	1.0%	1.1%	-0.1	1.0%	1.2%

INITIAL CLAIMS FILED IN FEDERAL PROGRAMS (UNADJUSTED)

WEEK ENDING	November 23	November 16	Change	Prior Year¹
Federal Employees (UCFE)	1,184	1,310	-126	821
Newly Discharged Veterans (UCX)	479	433	+46	359

PERSONS CLAIMING UI BENEFITS IN ALL PROGRAMS (UNADJUSTED)

WEEK ENDING	November 16	November 9	Change	Prior Year¹
Regular State	1,541,860	1,457,820	+84,040	1,435,888
Federal Employees	8,561	8,369	+192	8,454
Newly Discharged Veterans	5,752	5,658	+94	6,297
Extended Benefits ³	0	0	0	3
State Additional Benefits ⁴	5,811	5,414	+397	5,459
STC / Workshare ⁵	11,469	10,583	+886	6,578
TOTAL	1,573,453	1,487,844	+85,609	1,462,679

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 30			Insured Unemployment For Week Ended November 23		
	Advance	Prior Wk	Change	Advance	Prior Wk	Change
Alabama	1,811	2,290	-479	13,379	14,304	-925
Alaska	1,101	1,243	-142	8,070	8,527	-457
Arizona	2,366	3,730	-1,364	15,281	19,167	-3,886
Arkansas	2,395	1,752	643	8,879	10,767	-1,888
California	36,821	49,133	-12,312	264,715	291,706	-26,991
Colorado	1,898	2,302	-404	17,836	17,971	-135
Connecticut	3,522	3,152	370	28,387	27,060	1,327
Delaware	665	594	71	4,441	4,362	79
District of Columbia	410	561	-151	6,273	6,509	-236
Florida	3,596	5,662	-2,066	26,870	36,170	-9,300
Georgia	3,772	5,780	-2,008	20,302	24,461	-4,159
Hawaii	985	1,120	-135	6,166	5,745	421
Idaho	2,199	1,197	1,002	4,891	4,590	301
Illinois	10,320	11,266	-946	91,245	85,441	5,804
Indiana	2,402	3,053	-651	14,018	14,219	-201
Iowa	5,317	3,794	1,523	15,991	15,608	383
Kansas	1,300	1,620	-320	7,637	7,345	292
Kentucky	3,110	2,972	138	14,587	15,599	-1,012
Louisiana	1,341	1,903	-562	11,745	13,955	-2,210
Maine	718	944	-226	4,456	4,379	77
Maryland	2,846	2,992	-146	21,703	22,756	-1,053
Massachusetts	6,220	6,452	-232	48,711	48,610	101
Michigan	7,706	9,288	-1,582	45,042	42,811	2,231
Minnesota	5,867	7,297	-1,430	42,012	38,348	3,664
Mississippi	852	1,113	-261	5,661	7,124	-1,463
Missouri	2,702	3,986	-1,284	16,904	18,052	-1,148
Montana	1,747	1,525	222	7,223	6,754	469
Nebraska	1,012	1,098	-86	3,142	2,485	657
Nevada	2,628	2,572	56	16,470	16,915	-445
New Hampshire	409	571	-162	2,828	3,005	-177
New Jersey	9,070	9,523	-453	80,181	79,682	499
New Mexico	793	928	-135	8,422	8,653	-231
New York	13,709	18,992	-5,283	123,907	123,920	-13
North Carolina	2,053	3,523	-1,470	17,578	19,513	-1,935
North Dakota	820	739	81	3,433	2,503	930
Ohio	9,390	7,868	1,522	46,408	46,012	396
Oklahoma	2,537	2,111	426	14,754	16,394	-1,640
Oregon	4,277	4,994	-717	24,698	24,448	250
Pennsylvania	17,324	17,406	-82	97,369	93,846	3,523
Puerto Rico	835	942	-107	14,383	17,729	-3,346
Rhode Island	992	839	153	6,338	5,960	378
South Carolina	1,471	2,496	-1,025	13,421	14,164	-743
South Dakota	289	359	-70	1,335	1,294	41
Tennessee	2,128	2,161	-33	14,008	15,588	-1,580
Texas	10,224	16,139	-5,915	115,770	120,254	-4,484
Utah	1,767	1,402	365	7,302	7,360	-58
Vermont	1,113	621	492	3,154	3,092	62
Virgin Islands	14	40	-26	368	474	-106
Virginia	2,131	2,542	-411	17,423	17,541	-118
Washington	8,140	8,393	-253	54,261	51,224	3,037
West Virginia	926	1,429	-503	13,260	11,400	1,860
Wisconsin	8,135	7,396	739	27,724	26,913	811
Wyoming	561	608	-47	2,947	2,249	698
US Total	216,737	252,413	-35,676	1,503,309	1,544,958	-41,649

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 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	1,642	-55	1,681.00	1.1
November 23, 2019	213	-15	219.75	1,693	51	1,681.00	1.2
November 30, 2019	203	-10	217.75				

STATE NAME	INITIAL CLAIMS FILED DURING WEEK ENDED NOVEMBER 23					INSURED UNEMPLOYMENT FOR WEEK ENDED NOVEMBER 16					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	2290	402	-260	12	9	14304	0.7	152	-329	72	50	14426
Alaska	1243	49	121	7	1	8527	2.8	982	-232	128	15	8670
Arizona	3730	29	1384	20	1	19167	0.7	-1322	-277	135	42	19344
Arkansas	1752	-28	-622	3	4	10767	0.9	713	610	51	42	10860
California	49133	8384	15145	271	90	291706	1.7	17352	32801	1443	1239	294388
Colorado	2302	161	419	25	11	17971	0.7	84	246	191	157	18319
Connecticut	3152	522	31	10	0	27060	1.6	829	149	60	53	27173
Delaware	594	-18	-154	3	3	4362	1.0	266	254	10	9	4381
District of Columbia	561	48	206	16	1	6509	1.1	86	-790	241	3	6753
Florida	5662	410	845	26	19	36170	0.4	1785	1887	182	126	36478
Georgia	5780	1846	718	21	22	24461	0.6	544	2471	171	141	24773
Hawaii	1120	144	220	2	10	5745	0.9	-60	-970	43	66	5854
Idaho	1197	-58	-1000	67	2	4590	0.6	259	-429	129	11	4730
Illinois	11266	-2723	1098	7	10	85441	1.4	4825	-4290	317	196	85954
Indiana	3053	328	157	4	4	14219	0.5	891	1414	37	32	14288
Iowa	3794	-785	792	5	2	15608	1.0	2323	3006	39	9	15656
Kansas	1620	207	58	8	3	7345	0.5	363	-204	32	24	7401
Kentucky	2972	699	-430	1	2	15599	0.8	-380	1709	205	112	15916
Louisiana	1903	-199	114	3	3	13955	0.7	280	-538	53	14	14022
Maine	944	159	-97	4	1	4379	0.7	519	123	26	14	4419
Maryland	2992	204	-132	12	6	22756	0.9	425	-1595	194	66	23016
Massachusetts	6452	1055	-917	8	11	48610	1.4	2310	5202	130	89	48829
Michigan	9288	416	1896	26	7	42811	1.0	3417	4799	130	60	43001
Minnesota	7297	-179	865	11	4	38348	1.3	6730	4628	84	62	38494
Mississippi	1113	18	78	4	1	7124	0.6	150	825	50	17	7191
Missouri	3986	98	798	7	1	18052	0.7	1299	2391	122	34	18208
Montana	1525	239	-115	77	1	6754	1.5	506	342	360	17	7131
Nebraska	1098	369	258	0	0	2485	0.3	823	-912	11	6	2502
Nevada	2572	154	-281	11	5	16915	1.2	690	-738	97	51	17063
New Hampshire	571	118	34	1	1	3005	0.5	52	-127	8	3	3016
New Jersey	9523	545	-37	33	6	79682	2.0	881	2708	202	202	80086
New Mexico	928	46	58	22	2	8653	1.1	204	487	251	41	8945
New York	18992	2993	3089	24	27	123920	1.3	7565	5696	306	303	124529
North Carolina	3523	418	1374	19	19	19513	0.4	148	2703	120	114	19747
North Dakota	739	-22	-56	4	0	2503	0.6	494	448	8	3	2514
Ohio	7868	-871	-84	12	16	46012	0.9	3235	3565	110	116	46238
Oklahoma	2111	-689	-372	8	3	16394	1.0	1451	4563	59	46	16499
Oregon	4994	1052	109	77	7	24448	1.3	741	674	437	59	24944
Pennsylvania	17406	5065	546	64	26	93846	1.6	5722	3835	463	190	94499
Puerto Rico	942	-106	157	13	1	17729	2.1	142	3255	176	87	17992
Rhode Island	839	46	-176	1	0	5960	1.3	311	-355	28	14	6002
South Carolina	2496	291	676	5	4	14164	0.7	335	543	38	61	14263
South Dakota	359	-47	68	10	1	1294	0.3	189	189	27	1	1322
Tennessee	2161	2	-78	5	8	15588	0.5	204	490	60	58	15706
Texas	16139	1804	6486	78	83	120254	1.0	7503	16656	680	974	121908
Utah	1402	104	205	41	2	7360	0.5	496	-20	127	15	7502
Vermont	621	-72	-534	2	0	3092	1.0	385	315	10	1	3103
Virgin Islands	40	4	34	1	0	474	1.4	40	50	8	8	490
Virginia	2542	215	523	13	14	17541	0.5	-59	-14	150	179	17870
Washington	8393	774	506	45	16	51224	1.5	2850	3210	394	454	52072
West Virginia	1429	75	528	1	4	11400	1.7	596	3632	39	47	11486
Wisconsin	7396	754	-740	8	4	26913	0.9	3739	2946	73	15	27001
Wyoming	608	87	244	26	1	2249	0.8	135	331	44	4	2297
Totals	252413	24537	33755	1184	479	1544958	1.1	84200	107333	8561	5752	1559271

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 23, 2019

STATES WITH AN INCREASE OF MORE THAN 1,000

State	Change	State Supplied Comment
CA	+8,384	Layoffs in the agriculture, forestry, fishing and hunting industry.
PA	+5,065	Layoffs in the administrative, support, waste management and remediation services, construction, and accommodation and food services industries.
NY	+2,993	Layoffs in the construction, transportation and warehousing, and mining industries.
GA	+1,846	Layoffs in the construction, administrative, support, waste management and remediation services, and trade industries.
TX	+1,804	Layoffs in the transportation and warehousing, administrative, support, waste management and remediation services, and accommodation and food services industries.
MA	+1,055	No comment.
OR	+1,052	No comment.

STATES WITH A DECREASE OF MORE THAN 1,000

State	Change	State Supplied Comment
IL	-2,723	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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