



News Release

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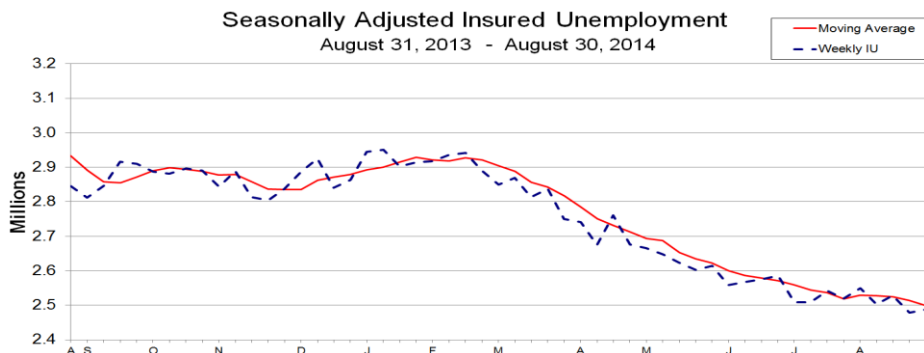
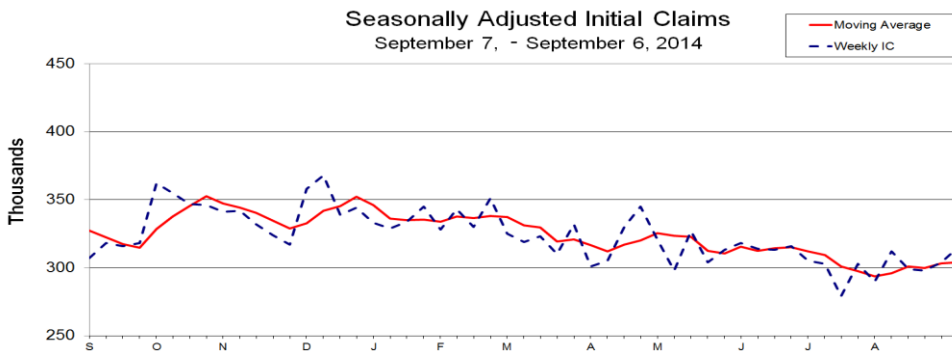
UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE WEEKLY CLAIMS

SEASONALLY ADJUSTED DATA

In the week ending September 6, the advance figure for seasonally adjusted **initial claims** was 315,000, an increase of 11,000 from the previous week's revised level. The previous week's level was revised up by 2,000 from 302,000 to 304,000. The 4-week moving average was 304,000, an increase of 750 from the previous week's revised average. The previous week's average was revised up by 500 from 302,750 to 303,250.

There were no special factors impacting this week's initial claims.

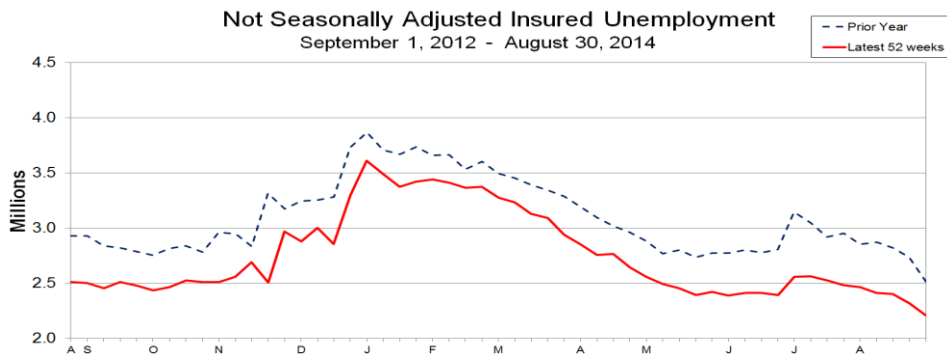
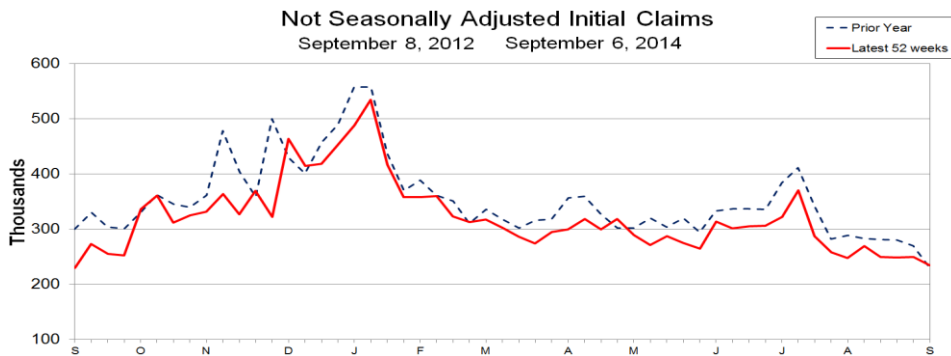
The advance seasonally adjusted **insured unemployment rate** was 1.9 percent for the week ending August 30, unchanged from the previous week's unrevised rate. The advance number for seasonally adjusted **insured unemployment** during the week ending August 30 was 2,487,000, an increase of 9,000 from the previous week's revised level. The previous week's level was revised up 14,000 from 2,464,000 to 2,478,000. The 4-week moving average was 2,498,750, a decrease of 15,500 from the previous week's revised average. This is the lowest level for this average since June 30, 2007 when it was 2,489,500. The previous week's average was revised up by 3,500 from 2,510,750 to 2,514,250.



UNADJUSTED DATA

The advance number of actual initial claims under state programs, unadjusted, totaled 234,403 in the week ending September 6, a decrease of 15,377 (or -6.2 percent) from the previous week. The seasonal factors had expected a decrease of 24,006 (or -9.6 percent) from the previous week. There were 229,648 initial claims in the comparable week in 2013.

The advance unadjusted insured unemployment rate was 1.7 percent during the week ending August 30, a decrease of 0.1 percentage point from the prior week. The advance unadjusted number for persons claiming UI benefits in state programs totaled 2,208,740, a decrease of 110,498 (or -4.8 percent) from the preceding week. The seasonal factors had expected a decrease of 118,935 (or -5.1 percent) from the previous week. A year earlier the rate was 1.9 percent and the volume was 2,512,460.



The total number of people claiming benefits in all programs for the week ending August 23 was 2,374,314, a decrease of 81,090 from the previous week. There were 4,265,729 persons claiming benefits in all programs in the comparable week in 2013.

No state was triggered "on" the Extended Benefits program during the week ending August 23.

Initial claims for UI benefits filed by former Federal civilian employees totaled 1,176 in the week ending August 30, a decrease of 372 from the prior week. There were 1,882 initial claims filed by newly discharged veterans, a decrease of 96 from the preceding week.

There were 15,250 former Federal civilian employees claiming UI benefits for the week ending August 23, an increase of 849 from the previous week. Newly discharged veterans claiming benefits totaled 24,440, a decrease of 144 from the prior week.

The highest insured unemployment rates in the week ending August 23 were in Puerto Rico (3.9), New Jersey (3.3), Connecticut (3.0), Alaska (2.9), California (2.6), Pennsylvania (2.6), Massachusetts (2.5), Rhode Island (2.5), Virgin Islands (2.4), Illinois (2.2), Nevada (2.2), and New York (2.2).

The largest increases in initial claims for the week ending August 30 were in California (+1,563), New York (+1,254), Iowa (+579), Wisconsin (+412), and Pennsylvania (+362), while the largest decreases were in New Jersey (-901), Illinois (-633), Georgia (-465), Massachusetts (-345), and Kentucky (-324).

UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE DATA FOR REGULAR STATE PROGRAMS

WEEK ENDING	September 6	August 30	Change	August 23	<u>Prior Year</u>¹
Initial Claims (SA)	315,000	304,000	+11,000	298,000	307,000
Initial Claims (NSA)	234,403	249,780	-15,377	248,887	229,648
4-Wk Moving Average (SA)	304,000	303,250	+750	299,750	327,250
WEEK ENDING	August 30	August 23	Change	August 16	<u>Prior Year</u>¹
Insured Unemployment (SA)	2,487,000	2,478,000	+9,000	2,528,000	2,845,000
Insured Unemployment (NSA)	2,208,740	2,319,238	-110,498	2,401,625	2,512,460
4-Wk Moving Average (SA)	2,498,750	2,514,250	-15,500	2,524,500	2,933,750
<u>Insured Unemployment Rate (SA)</u>²	1.9%	1.9%	0.0	1.9%	2.2%
<u>Insured Unemployment Rate (NSA)</u>²	1.7%	1.8%	-0.1	1.8%	1.9%

INITIAL CLAIMS FILED IN FEDERAL PROGRAMS (UNADJUSTED)

WEEK ENDING	August 30	August 23	Change	<u>Prior Year</u>¹
Federal Employees (UCFE)	1,176	1,548	-372	1,447
Newly Discharged Veterans (UCX)	1,882	1,978	-96	2,198

PERSONS CLAIMING UI BENEFITS IN ALL PROGRAMS (UNADJUSTED)

WEEK ENDING	August 23	August 16	Change	<u>Prior Year</u>¹
Regular State	2,314,948	2,397,899	-82,951	2,730,005
Federal Employees	15,250	14,401	+849	19,872
Newly Discharged Veterans	24,440	24,584	-144	33,154
<u>Extended Benefits</u>³	10	15	-5	271
<u>State Additional Benefits</u>⁴	4,754	4,723	+31	3,780
<u>STC / Workshare</u>⁵	14,912	13,782	+1,130	23,823
<u>TOTAL</u>⁶	2,374,314	2,455,404	-81,090	4,265,729

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 132,140,947 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](#)
6. Prior Year Total includes Emergency Unemployment Compensation (EUC08) claimants.

UNADJUSTED INITIAL CLAIMS FOR WEEK ENDED AUGUST 30, 2014

STATES WITH A DECREASE OF MORE THAN 1,000

State	Change	State Supplied Comment
None		

STATES WITH AN INCREASE OF MORE THAN 1,000

State	Change	State Supplied Comment
NY	+1,254	Layoffs in the transportation and warehousing, real estate and rental and leasing, and manufacturing industries.
CA	+1,563	No comment.

Seasonally Adjusted US Weekly UI Claims (in thousands)

Week Ending	Change from			Insured Unemployment	Change from		IUR
	Initial Claims	Prior Week	4-Week Average		Prior Week	4-Week Average	
August 31, 2013	328	-8	332.75	2845	-83	2933.75	2.2
September 7, 2013	307	-21	327.25	2812	-33	2891.50	2.2
September 14, 2013	318	11	322.25	2847	35	2858.00	2.2
September 21, 2013	316	-2	317.25	2916	69	2855.00	2.2
September 28, 2013	318	2	314.75	2910	-6	2871.25	2.2
October 5, 2013	362	44	328.50	2888	-22	2890.25	2.2
October 12, 2013	355	-7	337.75	2881	-7	2898.75	2.2
October 19, 2013	347	-8	345.50	2896	15	2893.75	2.2
October 26, 2013	346	-1	352.50	2890	-6	2888.75	2.2
November 2, 2013	341	-5	347.25	2843	-47	2877.50	2.2
November 9, 2013	342	1	344.00	2889	46	2879.50	2.2
November 16, 2013	332	-10	340.25	2813	-76	2858.75	2.2
November 23, 2013	324	-8	334.75	2804	-9	2837.25	2.2
November 30, 2013	317	-7	328.75	2837	33	2835.75	2.2
December 7, 2013	358	41	332.75	2887	50	2835.25	2.2
December 14, 2013	368	10	341.75	2925	38	2863.25	2.2
December 21, 2013	339	-29	345.50	2840	-85	2872.25	2.2
December 28, 2013	344	5	352.25	2863	23	2878.75	2.2
January 4, 2014	333	-11	346.00	2945	82	2893.25	2.2
January 11, 2014	329	-4	336.25	2951	6	2899.75	2.3
January 18, 2014	334	5	335.00	2903	-48	2915.50	2.2
January 25, 2014	345	11	335.25	2915	12	2928.50	2.2
February 1, 2014	328	-17	334.00	2918	3	2921.75	2.2
February 8, 2014	343	15	337.50	2936	18	2918.00	2.2
February 15, 2014	330	-13	336.50	2941	5	2927.50	2.2
February 22, 2014	351	21	338.00	2890	-51	2921.25	2.2
March 1, 2014	325	-26	337.25	2850	-40	2904.25	2.2
March 8, 2014	319	-6	331.25	2869	19	2887.50	2.2
March 15, 2014	323	4	329.50	2814	-55	2855.75	2.1
March 22, 2014	310	-13	319.25	2838	24	2842.75	2.2
March 29, 2014	332	22	321.00	2750	-88	2817.75	2.1
April 5, 2014	301	-31	316.50	2741	-9	2785.75	2.1
April 12, 2014	305	4	312.00	2674	-67	2750.75	2.0
April 19, 2014	330	25	317.00	2761	87	2731.50	2.1
April 26, 2014	345	15	320.25	2676	-85	2713.00	2.0
May 3, 2014	321	-24	325.25	2666	-10	2694.25	2.0
May 10, 2014	298	-23	323.50	2648	-18	2687.75	2.0
May 17, 2014	327	29	322.75	2623	-25	2653.25	2.0
May 24, 2014	304	-23	312.50	2603	-20	2635.00	2.0
May 31, 2014	313	9	310.50	2615	12	2622.25	2.0
June 7, 2014	318	5	315.50	2559	-56	2600.00	1.9
June 14, 2014	314	-4	312.25	2568	9	2586.25	2.0
June 21, 2014	313	-1	314.50	2575	7	2579.25	2.0
June 28, 2014	316	3	315.25	2586	11	2572.00	2.0
July 5, 2014	305	-11	312.00	2508	-78	2559.25	1.9
July 12, 2014	303	-2	309.25	2508	0	2544.25	1.9
July 19, 2014	279	-24	300.75	2542	34	2536.00	1.9
July 26, 2014	303	24	297.50	2519	-23	2519.25	1.9
August 2, 2014	290	-13	293.75	2549	30	2529.50	1.9
August 9, 2014	312	22	296.00	2502	-47	2528.00	1.9
August 16, 2014	299	-13	301.00	2528	26	2524.50	1.9
August 23, 2014	298	-1	299.75	2478	-50	2514.25	1.9
August 30, 2014	304	6	303.25	2487	9	2498.75	1.9
September 6, 2014	315	11	304.00				

Initial Claims Filed During Week Ended August 30
INITIAL CLAIMS

Insured Unemployment For Week Ended August 23
INSURED UNEMPLOYMENT

STATE	CHANGE FROM						CHANGE FROM				ALL PROGRAMS EXCLUDING RAILROAD RETIREMENT	
	STATE	LAST WEEK	YEAR AGO	UCFE ¹	UCX ¹	STATE	LAST WEEK	YEAR AGO	UCFE ¹	UCX ¹		
						(%) ²						
Alabama	3054	-116	-822	15	32	26094	1.5	-825	-6530	101	250	26445
Alaska	1182	47	-108	5	3	9057	2.9	-547	-1109	119	116	9292
Arizona	4221	-75	-271	6	3	40438	1.7	-1549	-3616	143	293	40874
Arkansas	2220	-138	-728	14	8	21045	1.9	-920	-5574	98	256	21399
California	48702	1563	5244	238	307	390512	2.6	-15069	-34474	2680	4769	397961
Colorado	2285	103	-292	8	64	28380	1.2	-1021	-6677	285	943	29608
Connecticut	2978	-175	-324	7	19	49453	3.0	-808	-4936	90	214	49757
Delaware	633	49	-111	2	5	8516	2.1	794	-1062	36	71	8625
District of Columbia	361	0	-40	11	3	10861	2.1	30	-1387	360	13	11234
Florida	13096	-43	1631	19	120	92365	1.3	-3974	-23366	534	699	93598
Georgia	6764	-465	-993	70	73	44391	1.2	-1348	-12956	465	871	45727
Hawaii	1384	-223	-255	8	35	9126	1.6	-624	-1988	93	255	9474
Idaho	1020	-159	-679	2	12	7950	1.3	-335	-2057	28	61	8039
Illinois	8844	-633	-2990	18	42	120881	2.2	-2270	-25403	417	745	122043
Indiana	4071	296	-961	25	24	24545	0.9	-1791	-15766	199	202	24946
Iowa	2474	579	-23	2	11	16216	1.1	-2868	-2831	70	120	16406
Kansas	2090	317	-657	12	8	14968	1.1	-499	-5841	126	198	15292
Kentucky	2529	-324	-818	23	8	23163	1.3	-1443	-7392	267	465	23895
Louisiana	2237	-31	-197	3	17	21463	1.2	-564	-3740	96	106	21665
Maine	775	-34	-165	1	3	7401	1.3	-126	-1373	32	48	7481
Maryland	3720	-202	-1012	46	28	49869	2.1	-1609	-3362	541	376	50786
Massachusetts	5406	-345	289	26	40	81963	2.5	-371	4980	394	498	82855
Michigan	9697	346	1934	18	33	62535	1.6	-4050	-10180	153	450	63138
Minnesota	2810	-158	-658	5	7	31952	1.2	-840	-5685	102	232	32286
Mississippi	1579	-236	-488	11	6	18827	1.8	-1466	-5613	118	162	19107
Missouri	4440	-150	-968	79	19	34179	1.3	-2659	-7287	913	231	35323
Montana	746	21	-169	8	9	5920	1.4	-21	-1791	66	0	5986
Nebraska	968	64	-829	1	2	6389	0.7	-348	-1816	25	38	6452
Nevada	3181	284	1898	3	23	24838	2.2	-3236	293	65	227	25130
New Hampshire	661	-231	-159	2	5	7349	1.2	-124	-403	12	26	7387
New Jersey	7646	-901	-1669	15	30	124225	3.3	-1678	-8338	308	579	125112
New Mexico	1113	113	-14	8	12	13247	1.7	-564	-2586	107	143	13497
New York	20970	1254	-399	106	86	188361	2.2	2028	-44526	1015	1142	190518
North Carolina	4873	217	-1170	16	69	49439	1.3	-1452	-29408	200	746	50385
North Dakota	164	-22	-81	3	3	1610	0.4	-134	-467	49	10	1669
Ohio	6710	-93	-1690	15	60	58710	1.2	-3205	-12834	250	629	59589
Oklahoma	1460	8	-270	9	22	15628	1.0	-389	-3874	69	185	15882
Oregon	4471	127	-1345	20	26	32458	2.0	-368	-8918	214	391	33063
Pennsylvania	15061	362	-2988	96	115	145331	2.6	-8139	-25846	1084	928	147343
Puerto Rico	2152	-184	-278	4	16	35483	3.9	-721	-4138	160	325	35968
Rhode Island	1024	59	-338	4	2	11292	2.5	-641	-1323	28	56	11376
South Carolina	3077	-48	-874	6	32	19558	1.1	-1176	-9209	66	249	19873
South Dakota	186	-10	-39	0	0	1232	0.3	-68	-324	130	13	1375
Tennessee	3315	-280	-578	24	27	30350	1.1	-827	-7766	273	308	30931
Texas	14089	-77	-1675	90	235	142312	1.3	-10089	-24411	1451	3209	146980
Utah	1207	-25	-304	29	3	10074	0.8	-300	-2386	252	97	10423
Vermont	376	26	-57	1	2	4035	1.4	-209	-432	25	19	4079
Virgin Islands	68	5	-25	0	1	888	2.4	72	-254	2	12	902
Virginia	3858	-29	-598	10	36	33714	1.0	-913	-6394	363	857	34934
Washington	6079	18	-472	20	103	47250	1.6	-1385	-9745	351	1269	48870
West Virginia	1024	16	-153	4	15	12731	1.9	117	-1162	82	93	12906
Wisconsin	6432	412	-712	8	16	48205	1.8	-1489	-13404	119	209	48533
Wyoming	297	14	-129	0	2	2459	0.9	-376	-1304	24	36	2519
Totals	249780	893	-19579	1176	1882	2319238	1.8	-82387	-417991	15250	24440	2358938

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 US total covered employment is BLS.

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](#)

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