



News Release

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U.S. Department of Labor
Employment and Training Administration
Washington, D.C.
Release Number: USDL 14-1807-NAT

Program Contacts:
Tom Stengle (202) 693-2991
Tony Sznoluch (202) 693-3176
Media Contact: (202) 693-4676

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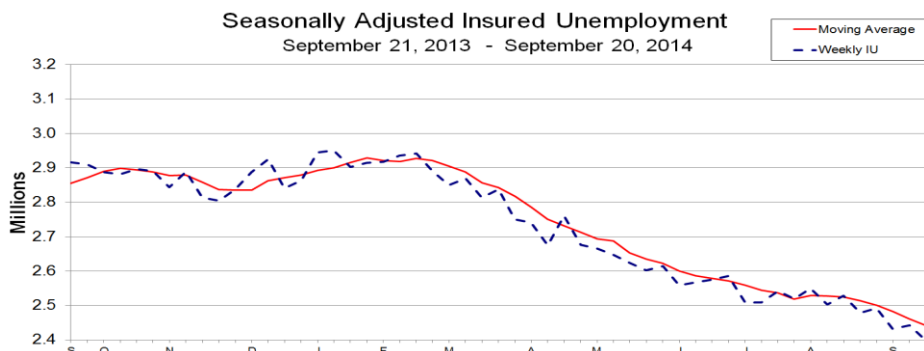
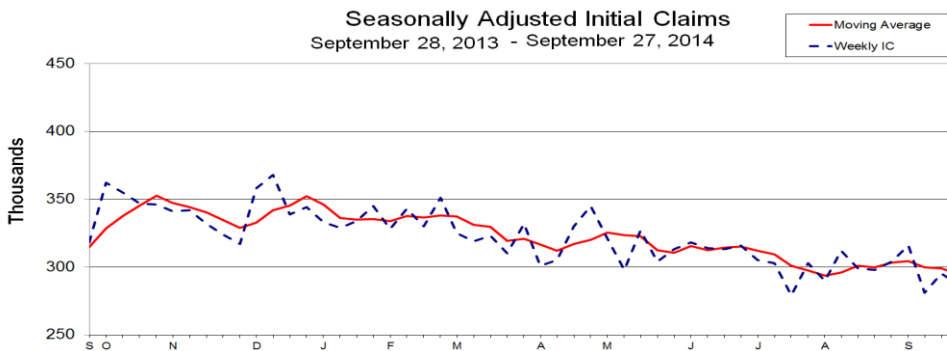
UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE WEEKLY CLAIMS

SEASONALLY ADJUSTED DATA

In the week ending September 27, the advance figure for seasonally adjusted **initial claims** was 287,000, a decrease of 8,000 from the previous week's revised level. The previous week's level was revised up by 2,000 from 293,000 to 295,000. The 4-week moving average was 294,750, a decrease of 4,250 from the previous week's revised average. The previous week's average was revised up by 500 from 298,500 to 299,000.

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

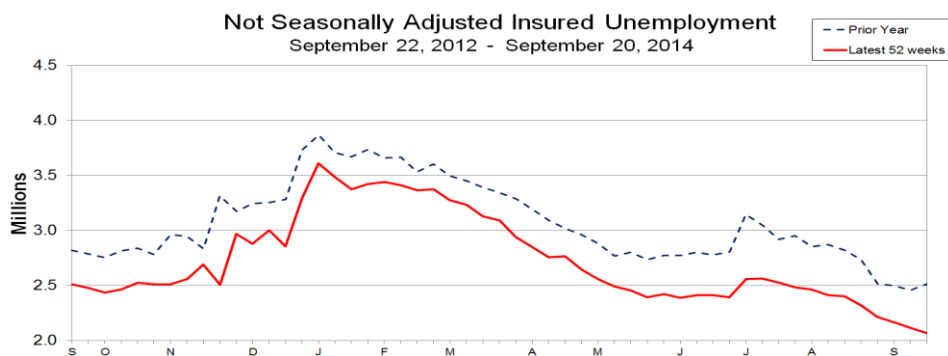
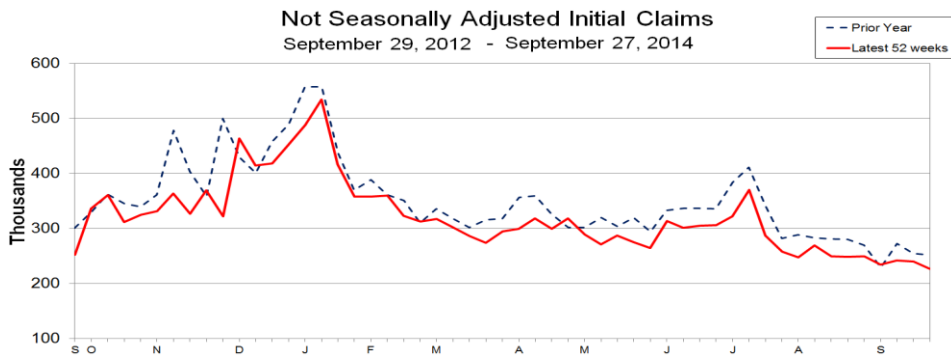
The advance seasonally adjusted **insured unemployment rate** was 1.8 percent for the week ending September 20, unchanged from the previous week's unrevised rate. The advance number for seasonally adjusted **insured unemployment** during the week ending September 20 was 2,398,000, a decrease of 45,000 from the previous week's revised level. This is the lowest level for insured unemployment since June 17, 2006 when it was 2,395,000. The previous week's level was revised up 4,000 from 2,439,000 to 2,443,000. The 4-week moving average was 2,441,250, a decrease of 20,000 from the previous week's revised average. This is the lowest level for this average since November 11, 2006 when it was 2,439,500. The previous week's average was revised up by 1,000 from 2,460,250 to 2,461,250.



UNADJUSTED DATA

The advance number of actual initial claims under state programs, unadjusted, totaled 227,110 in the week ending September 27, a decrease of 12,920 (or -5.4 percent) from the previous week. The seasonal factors had expected a decrease of 7,077 (or -2.9 percent) from the previous week. There were 252,196 initial claims in the comparable week in 2013.

The advance unadjusted insured unemployment rate was 1.6 percent during the week ending September 20, unchanged from the prior week. The advance unadjusted number for persons claiming UI benefits in state programs totaled 2,067,501, a decrease of 48,438 (or -2.3 percent) from the preceding week. The seasonal factors had expected a decrease of 9,773 (or -0.5 percent) from the previous week. A year earlier the rate was 1.9 percent and the volume was 2,513,759.



The total number of people claiming benefits in all programs for the week ending September 13 was 2,172,696, a decrease of 49,493 from the previous week. There were 3,995,663 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 September 13.

Initial claims for UI benefits filed by former Federal civilian employees totaled 1,027 in the week ending September 20, a decrease of 127 from the prior week. There were 1,876 initial claims filed by newly discharged veterans, a decrease of 91 from the preceding week.

There were 15,996 former Federal civilian employees claiming UI benefits for the week ending September 13, an increase of 253 from the previous week. Newly discharged veterans claiming benefits totaled 24,945, an increase of 721 from the prior week.

The highest insured unemployment rates in the week ending September 13 were in Puerto Rico (3.7), Alaska (2.9), New Jersey (2.8), California (2.6), Connecticut (2.4), Virgin Islands (2.4), Nevada (2.3), Pennsylvania (2.2), Illinois (2.0), and Massachusetts (2.0).

The largest increases in initial claims for the week ending September 20 were in California (+8,830), Michigan (+1,994), Kentucky (+516), Delaware (+412), and Arizona (+201), while the largest decreases were in New York (-3,059), Missouri (-1,792), Georgia (-1,011), Pennsylvania (-829), and Oregon (-828).

UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE DATA FOR REGULAR STATE PROGRAMS

WEEK ENDING	September 27	September 20	Change	September 13	<u>Prior Year</u>¹
Initial Claims (SA)	287,000	295,000	-8,000	281,000	318,000
Initial Claims (NSA)	227,110	240,030	-12,920	242,072	252,196
4-Wk Moving Average (SA)	294,750	299,000	-4,250	299,750	314,750
WEEK ENDING	September 20	September 13	Change	September 6	<u>Prior Year</u>¹
Insured Unemployment (SA)	2,398,000	2,443,000	-45,000	2,432,000	2,916,000
Insured Unemployment (NSA)	2,067,501	2,115,939	-48,438	2,167,189	2,513,759
4-Wk Moving Average (SA)	2,441,250	2,461,250	-20,000	2,482,500	2,855,000
<u>Insured Unemployment Rate (SA)</u> ²	1.8%	1.8%	0.0	1.8%	2.2%
<u>Insured Unemployment Rate (NSA)</u> ²	1.6%	1.6%	0.0	1.6%	1.9%

INITIAL CLAIMS FILED IN FEDERAL PROGRAMS (UNADJUSTED)

WEEK ENDING	September 20	September 13	Change	<u>Prior Year</u>¹
Federal Employees (UCFE)	1,027	1,154	-127	1,032
Newly Discharged Veterans (UCX)	1,876	1,967	-91	2,151

PERSONS CLAIMING UI BENEFITS IN ALL PROGRAMS (UNADJUSTED)

WEEK ENDING	September 13	September 6	Change	<u>Prior Year</u>¹
Regular State	2,111,997	2,163,411	-51,414	2,450,837
Federal Employees	15,996	15,743	+253	19,928
Newly Discharged Veterans	24,945	24,224	+721	31,585
<u>Extended Benefits</u> ³	7	6	+1	253
<u>State Additional Benefits</u> ⁴	5,245	5,105	+140	4,551
<u>STC / Workshare</u> ⁵	14,506	13,700	+806	18,482
<u>TOTAL</u> ⁶	2,172,696	2,222,189	-49,493	3,995,663

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 SEPTEMBER 20, 2014

STATES WITH A DECREASE OF MORE THAN 1,000

State	Change	State Supplied Comment
NY	-3,059	Fewer layoffs in the construction, manufacturing, transportation and warehousing industries.
MO	-1,792	Fewer layoffs in the manufacturing, construction and administrative and support service industries.
GA	-1,011	Fewer layoffs in the manufacturing, administrative and support service, accommodation and food service, and construction industries.

STATES WITH AN INCREASE OF MORE THAN 1,000

State	Change	State Supplied Comment
CA	+8,830	No comment.
MI	+1,994	Layoffs in the wholesale trade industry.

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	
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	2492	14	2500.00	1.9
September 6, 2014	316	12	304.25	2432	-60	2482.50	1.8
September 13, 2014	281	-35	299.75	2443	11	2461.25	1.8
September 20, 2014	295	14	299.00	2398	-45	2441.25	1.8
September 27, 2014	287	-8	294.75				

Initial Claims Filed During Week Ended September 20
INITIAL CLAIMS

Insured Unemployment For Week Ended September 13
INSURED UNEMPLOYMENT

STATE	CHANGE FROM					STATE	RATE (%) ²	CHANGE FROM				ALL PROGRAMS EXCLUDING RAILROAD RETIREMENT
	STATE	LAST WEEK	YEAR AGO	UCFE ¹	UCX ¹			LAST WEEK	YEAR AGO	UCFE ¹	UCX ¹	
Alabama	3107	-307	-1242	16	35	24620	1.4	-745	-7691	111	245	24976
Alaska	1237	36	-190	8	5	9172	2.9	139	-818	116	96	9384
Arizona	4384	201	48	6	4	37292	1.5	-769	-3604	146	302	37740
Arkansas	2223	-464	-315	7	14	20100	1.8	-441	-5469	91	229	20420
California	51833	8830	14930	181	355	386612	2.6	21142	29688	3005	4886	394505
Colorado	2205	-96	-1002	7	42	26643	1.2	-734	-7222	185	862	27690
Connecticut	2803	-193	-375	10	11	38978	2.4	-969	-5673	74	249	39301
Delaware	1059	412	324	9	7	5544	1.4	-570	-1515	21	59	5624
District of Columbia	332	-3	-68	8	0	9709	1.9	-481	-1715	359	9	10077
Florida	13154	-169	-138	25	109	88162	1.2	-2644	-21417	460	702	89324
Georgia	6410	-1011	-1199	39	77	41965	1.1	-1851	-12871	639	833	43437
Hawaii	1425	7	-267	14	30	8778	1.5	-257	-2139	118	238	9134
Idaho	972	107	-143	0	6	7121	1.2	316	-1267	28	67	7216
Illinois	8795	-323	-2511	13	39	109854	2.0	-2419	-25662	443	649	110946
Indiana	3279	-334	-1198	15	16	23715	0.8	-289	-16308	217	186	24118
Iowa	1894	-11	-172	8	7	15787	1.1	-189	-1905	55	114	15956
Kansas	1805	-298	-321	2	3	14267	1.1	-1263	-5234	98	203	14568
Kentucky	2933	516	-423	60	9	22274	1.3	279	-6042	324	538	23136
Louisiana	2068	-3	-426	4	17	20053	1.1	-433	-3816	83	101	20237
Maine	851	22	-281	0	2	6474	1.1	-159	-2072	27	49	6550
Maryland	3613	-161	-1029	31	43	44702	1.9	-968	-4044	503	394	45599
Massachusetts	5206	-254	231	29	53	66148	2.0	-4168	2192	535	482	67165
Michigan	8101	1994	767	21	40	54975	1.4	-9473	-10286	138	349	55462
Minnesota	2873	-377	-243	5	12	29590	1.1	-1055	-4622	81	235	29906
Mississippi	1725	77	-368	13	14	16057	1.5	-844	-5384	123	186	16366
Missouri	4463	-1792	-648	67	23	33255	1.3	-19	-6738	1162	233	34650
Montana	763	-24	-138	14	9	5077	1.2	-260	-1546	65	72	5215
Nebraska	929	0	-106	3	1	7051	0.8	0	-601	28	37	7116
Nevada	2991	-148	-565	5	10	26344	2.3	-1028	-248	100	230	26674
New Hampshire	616	-50	-124	1	3	5337	0.9	-193	-1150	10	23	5370
New Jersey	8555	-436	-414	15	33	105641	2.8	-7947	-8695	293	544	106478
New Mexico	905	-40	-101	12	12	12800	1.7	-128	-2101	153	148	13101
New York	15910	-3059	-2694	49	92	156030	1.8	-17565	-41523	1124	1189	158343
North Carolina	4709	-107	-1402	18	75	45694	1.2	-1198	-27468	199	761	46654
North Dakota	181	-6	-40	0	1	1205	0.3	-178	-307	15	10	1230
Ohio	6045	-336	-1941	12	47	53712	1.1	-1564	-12241	284	643	54639
Oklahoma	1490	-42	-192	7	26	15032	1.0	-531	-3822	58	193	15283
Oregon	4594	-828	-640	27	37	30233	1.8	-465	-4963	210	378	30821
Pennsylvania	13175	-829	-3087	58	70	123035	2.2	-5036	-24973	879	987	124901
Puerto Rico	1840	-158	316	2	10	33623	3.7	787	-3714	189	336	34148
Rhode Island	1028	-55	-81	4	4	8401	1.9	-289	-1291	37	73	8511
South Carolina	2904	-116	-721	7	25	17819	1.0	-204	-8660	53	254	18126
South Dakota	191	-10	-20	3	1	1082	0.3	-70	-240	31	11	1124
Tennessee	3475	-477	-224	14	27	28780	1.1	-877	-6582	403	309	29492
Texas	13141	-332	-2895	73	234	135787	1.3	1387	-22768	1560	3566	140917
Utah	1085	-122	-313	49	3	9382	0.8	-190	-2659	237	89	9708
Vermont	410	52	-22	1	0	3219	1.1	25	-395	11	13	3243
Virgin Islands	65	10	-2	1	1	894	2.4	18	-304	0	10	904
Virginia	3523	-449	-890	16	43	31284	0.9	-950	-6878	355	972	32611
Washington	6268	-282	-183	28	112	44459	1.5	-1432	-7907	354	1328	46141
West Virginia	835	-111	-369	0	4	11259	1.7	-495	-2249	65	96	11420
Wisconsin	5271	-493	-1948	7	19	38704	1.4	-4003	-14362	117	146	38967
Wyoming	381	0	-2	3	4	2208	0.8	0	-1328	24	31	2263
Totals	240030	-2042	-15057	1027	1876	2115939	1.6	-51250	-340609	15996	24945	2156887

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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