



# News Release

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**8:30 A.M. (Eastern) Thursday, October 23, 2014**

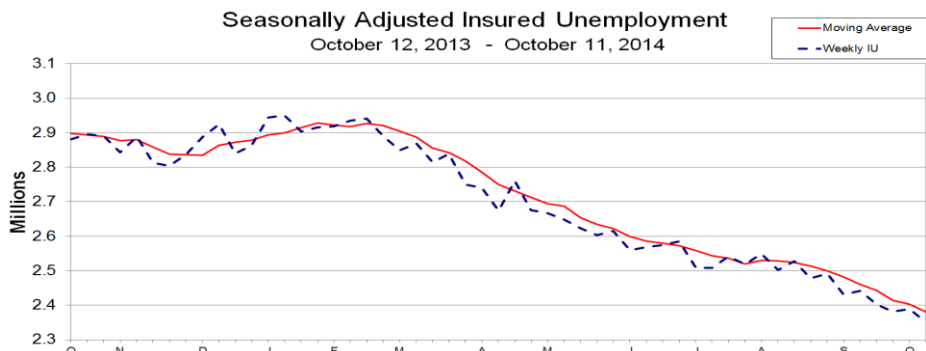
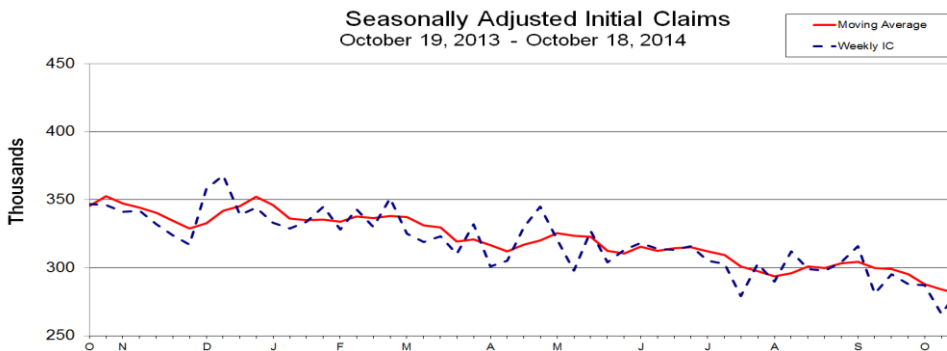
## UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE WEEKLY CLAIMS

### SEASONALLY ADJUSTED DATA

In the week ending October 18, the advance figure for seasonally adjusted **initial claims** was 283,000, an increase of 17,000 from the previous week's revised level. The previous week's level was revised up by 2,000 from 264,000 to 266,000. The 4-week moving average was 281,000, a decrease of 3,000 from the previous week's revised average. This is the lowest level for this average since May 6, 2000 when it was 279,250. The previous week's average was revised up by 500 from 283,500 to 284,000.

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

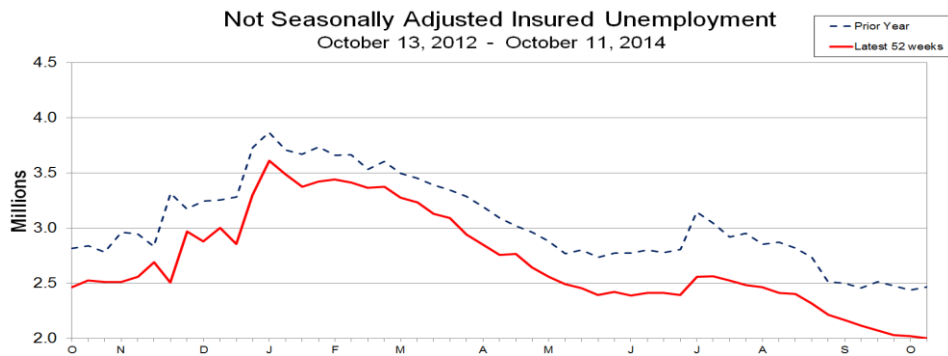
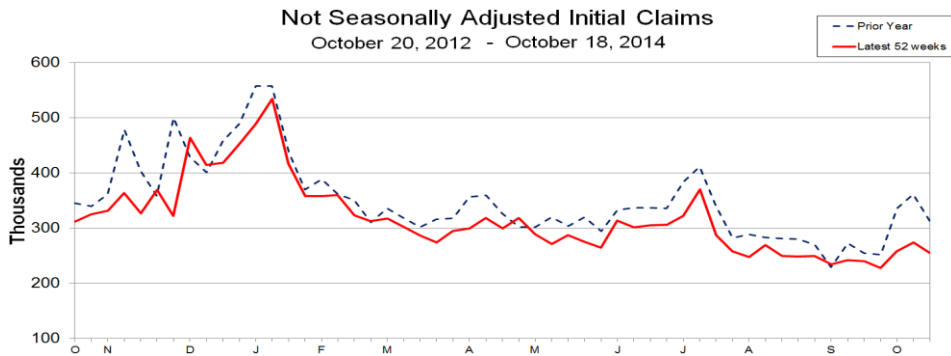
The advance seasonally adjusted **insured unemployment rate** was 1.8 percent for the week ending October 11, unchanged from the previous week's unrevised rate. The advance number for seasonally adjusted **insured unemployment** during the week ending October 11 was 2,351,000, a decrease of 38,000 from the previous week's unrevised level of 2,389,000. This is the lowest level for insured unemployment since December 23, 2000 when it was 2,340,000. The 4-week moving average was 2,381,000, a decrease of 22,750 from the previous week's unrevised average of 2,403,750. This is the lowest level for this average since May 20, 2006 when it was 2,377,750.



## UNADJUSTED DATA

The advance number of actual initial claims under state programs, unadjusted, totaled 255,483 in the week ending October 18, a decrease of 18,260 (or -6.7 percent) from the previous week. The seasonal factors had expected a decrease of 33,552 (or -12.3 percent) from the previous week. There were 312,037 initial claims in the comparable week in 2013.

The advance unadjusted insured unemployment rate was 1.5 percent during the week ending October 11, unchanged from the prior week. The advance unadjusted number for persons claiming UI benefits in state programs totaled 2,002,933, a decrease of 15,988 (or -0.8 percent) from the preceding week. The seasonal factors had expected an increase of 16,725 (or 0.8 percent) from the previous week. A year earlier the rate was 1.9 percent and the volume was 2,465,939.



The total number of people claiming benefits in all programs for the week ending October 4 was 2,073,549, a decrease of 15,056 from the previous week. There were 3,855,710 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 October 4.

Initial claims for UI benefits filed by former Federal civilian employees totaled 2,012 in the week ending October 11, an increase of 473 from the prior week. There were 2,385 initial claims filed by newly discharged veterans, a decrease of 206 from the preceding week.

There were 15,732 former Federal civilian employees claiming UI benefits for the week ending October 4, a decrease of 270 from the previous week. Newly discharged veterans claiming benefits totaled 24,253, a decrease of 588 from the prior week.

The highest insured unemployment rates in the week ending October 4 were in Puerto Rico (3.2), Alaska (2.8), New Jersey (2.7), Virgin Islands (2.7), California (2.3), Connecticut (2.3), Nevada (2.2), Massachusetts (2.1), Pennsylvania (2.1), and Rhode Island.

The largest increases in initial claims for the week ending October 11 were in Pennsylvania (+4,013), Michigan (+3,210), Texas (+1,615), Washington (+1,064), and Maryland (+945), while the largest decreases were in Iowa (-1,229), Florida (-781), New York (-600), Oregon (-407), and Ohio (-394).

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UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE DATA FOR REGULAR STATE PROGRAMS

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<b>WEEK ENDING</b>	<b>October 18</b>	<b>October 11</b>	<b>Change</b>	<b>October 4</b>	<b><u>Prior Year</u><sup>1</sup></b>
Initial Claims (SA)	283,000	266,000	+17,000	287,000	347,000
Initial Claims (NSA)	255,483	273,743	-18,260	257,554	312,037
4-Wk Moving Average (SA)	281,000	284,000	-3,000	287,750	345,500
<b>WEEK ENDING</b>	<b>October 11</b>	<b>October 4</b>	<b>Change</b>	<b>September 27</b>	<b><u>Prior Year</u><sup>1</sup></b>
Insured Unemployment (SA)	2,351,000	2,389,000	-38,000	2,382,000	2,881,000
Insured Unemployment (NSA)	2,002,933	2,018,921	-15,988	2,031,770	2,465,939
4-Wk Moving Average (SA)	2,381,000	2,403,750	-22,750	2,414,500	2,898,750
<u>Insured Unemployment Rate (SA)</u> <sup>2</sup>	1.8%	1.8%	0.0	1.8%	2.2%
<u>Insured Unemployment Rate (NSA)</u> <sup>2</sup>	1.5%	1.5%	0.0	1.5%	1.9%

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INITIAL CLAIMS FILED IN FEDERAL PROGRAMS (UNADJUSTED)

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<b>WEEK ENDING</b>	<b>October 11</b>	<b>October 4</b>	<b>Change</b>	<b><u>Prior Year</u><sup>1</sup></b>
Federal Employees (UCFE)	2,012	1,539	+473	44,230
Newly Discharged Veterans (UCX)	2,385	2,591	-206	2,989

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PERSONS CLAIMING UI BENEFITS IN ALL PROGRAMS (UNADJUSTED)

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<b>WEEK ENDING</b>	<b>October 4</b>	<b>September 27</b>	<b>Change</b>	<b><u>Prior Year</u><sup>1</sup></b>
Regular State	2,015,711	2,027,457	-11,746	2,431,807
Federal Employees	15,732	16,002	-270	44,781
Newly Discharged Veterans	24,253	24,841	-588	31,130
<u>Extended Benefits</u> <sup>3</sup>	4	5	-1	174
<u>State Additional Benefits</u> <sup>4</sup>	5,763	5,288	+475	4,531
<u>STC / Workshare</u> <sup>5</sup>	12,086	15,012	-2,926	18,320
<u>TOTAL</u> <sup>6</sup>	2,073,549	2,088,605	-15,056	3,855,710

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 132,731,174 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.

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**UNADJUSTED INITIAL CLAIMS FOR WEEK ENDED OCTOBER 11, 2014**

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**STATES WITH A DECREASE OF MORE THAN 1,000**

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<b>State</b>	<b>Change</b>	<b>State Supplied Comment</b>
IA	-1,229	Fewer layoffs in the manufacturing industry.

**STATES WITH AN INCREASE OF MORE THAN 1,000**

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<b>State</b>	<b>Change</b>	<b>State Supplied Comment</b>
PA	+4,013	Layoffs in the administrative and support and waste management and remediation service, construction, and accommodation and food service industries.
MI	+3,210	Layoffs in the management of companies and enterprises industry.
TX	+1,615	Layoffs in the manufacturing, administrative and support and waste management and remediation service, finance and insurance, and retail trade industries.
WA	+1,064	Layoffs in the agriculture, forestry, fishing and hunting, transportation and warehousing, and arts entertainment and recreation industries.

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## 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	
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	2442	10	2461.00	1.8
September 20, 2014	295	14	299.00	2402	-40	2442.00	1.8
September 27, 2014	288	-7	295.00	2382	-20	2414.50	1.8
October 4, 2014	287	-1	287.75	2389	7	2403.75	1.8
October 11, 2014	266	-21	284.00	2351	-38	2381.00	1.8
October 18, 2014	283	17	281.00				

Initial Claims Filed During Week Ended October 11						Insured Unemployment For Week Ended October 4						ALL PROGRAMS EXCLUDING RAILROAD RETIREMENT
INITIAL CLAIMS						INSURED UNEMPLOYMENT						
STATE	STATE	CHANGE FROM LAST WEEK	CHANGE FROM YEAR AGO	UCFE 1	UCX 1	STATE	(%) 2	CHANGE FROM LAST WEEK	CHANGE FROM YEAR AGO	UCFE 1	UCX 1	
Alabama	3711	581	-689	25	40	23569	1.3	-325	-6505	100	238	23907
Alaska	1827	463	-701	22	4	8798	2.8	-149	-2758	123	73	8994
Arizona	4781	326	-1298	31	6	34761	1.4	-793	-3851	141	278	35180
Arkansas	2723	-193	-1181	17	16	19126	1.7	-356	-5711	97	247	19470
California	46671	728	-36712	305	340	354764	2.3	4114	-21019	2578	4765	362109
Colorado	2963	40	-719	44	67	26360	1.1	4	-7356	288	869	27517
Connecticut	3246	-20	-827	7	22	37330	2.3	-954	-6902	75	232	37637
Delaware	1264	586	340	10	8	5526	1.3	-1052	-1502	22	60	5608
District of Columbia	479	80	-600	11	6	9315	1.8	-129	-2628	337	15	9667
Florida	13599	-781	-100	46	139	83707	1.1	-519	-15726	460	702	84869
Georgia	8059	235	-1416	70	110	41798	1.1	349	-11916	668	875	43341
Hawaii	1483	40	-817	7	45	8292	1.4	-446	-2162	100	281	8673
Idaho	1397	213	-650	8	9	7160	1.1	88	-1217	40	61	7261
Illinois	10016	329	-4075	18	50	103520	1.8	-2031	-29371	384	600	104504
Indiana	4657	674	-1473	39	26	23437	0.8	-83	-14631	197	198	23832
Iowa	2271	-1229	-396	5	12	16800	1.1	1529	-624	57	130	16987
Kansas	2048	-277	-244	5	17	13904	1.1	98	-4974	94	182	14180
Kentucky	3533	303	-222	68	12	20773	1.2	-920	-7592	371	434	21578
Louisiana	2473	392	-40	9	25	18947	1.0	-267	-3813	88	107	19142
Maine	907	54	-231	2	1	6089	1.1	-53	-1858	24	49	6162
Maryland	4899	945	-4858	47	47	43407	1.8	-399	-25608	521	424	44352
Massachusetts	5605	-279	-376	32	70	67099	2.1	367	5013	513	503	68115
Michigan	9672	3210	-128	41	55	56492	1.4	4469	-3853	124	484	57100
Minnesota	3463	41	-489	9	15	29575	1.1	828	-5722	87	240	29902
Mississippi	2095	287	-536	30	20	15170	1.4	-486	-4588	115	182	15467
Missouri	5347	626	-818	69	1	31631	1.2	-6	-7248	1134	224	32989
Montana	1421	273	-353	49	6	5186	1.2	45	-1984	67	72	5325
Nebraska	1006	-21	-358	2	3	5973	0.6	135	-1587	30	33	6036
Nevada	3411	391	-1257	28	11	25778	2.2	1933	145	103	229	26110
New Hampshire	703	1	-265	3	4	5290	0.9	28	-1229	10	22	5322
New Jersey	8976	-207	-1758	27	61	101770	2.7	-2654	-11436	265	587	102622
New Mexico	1159	71	-826	55	21	12337	1.6	-93	-2137	145	133	12615
New York	19344	-600	-2145	90	124	152975	1.8	-3250	-39569	1156	1168	155299
North Carolina	5211	377	-1353	26	68	43403	1.1	-662	-27147	200	775	44378
North Dakota	291	-143	18	2	2	1326	0.3	231	-79	17	10	1353
Ohio	7404	-394	-2863	17	62	51923	1.0	356	-17079	261	698	52882
Oklahoma	1746	320	-549	5	26	14629	1.0	-109	-4639	63	209	14901
Oregon	4765	-407	-721	87	42	30008	1.8	228	-7566	203	350	30561
Pennsylvania	18633	4013	-2759	186	132	114446	2.1	-2991	-26256	1069	892	116407
Puerto Rico	2266	278	-723	8	24	29233	3.2	-2618	-3473	169	329	29731
Rhode Island	1043	22	-162	4	8	8288	1.9	42	-1068	39	76	8403
South Carolina	3319	248	-1569	5	33	16873	0.9	-260	-9408	77	241	17191
South Dakota	277	67	-68	5	0	1065	0.3	6	-228	24	14	1103
Tennessee	4083	483	-259	65	26	26676	1.0	-748	-6624	304	324	27304
Texas	16097	1615	-186	112	287	122813	1.1	-8168	-25534	1478	3003	127296
Utah	1548	288	-556	135	18	8987	0.7	-78	-3085	324	86	9397
Vermont	487	87	-124	3	8	3249	1.1	31	-354	13	20	3282
Virgin Islands	51	-7	-13	0	0	1002	2.7	-142	-564	0	18	1020
Virginia	4286	210	-4283	27	65	30848	0.9	-116	-6634	363	937	32148
Washington	8154	1064	-2097	67	147	46917	1.6	2412	-8695	407	1309	48633
West Virginia	1473	402	-619	7	11	10558	1.6	-74	-2541	66	100	10724
Wisconsin	6942	277	-1725	13	21	37821	1.4	916	-14266	121	131	38073
Wyoming	458	107	-385	7	12	2197	0.8	-127	-1245	20	34	2251
Totals	273743	16189	-87214	2012	2385	2018921	1.5	-12849	-418404	15732	24253	2058910

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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