



News Release

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8:30 A.M. (Eastern) Thursday, September 14, 2017

UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE WEEKLY CLAIMS

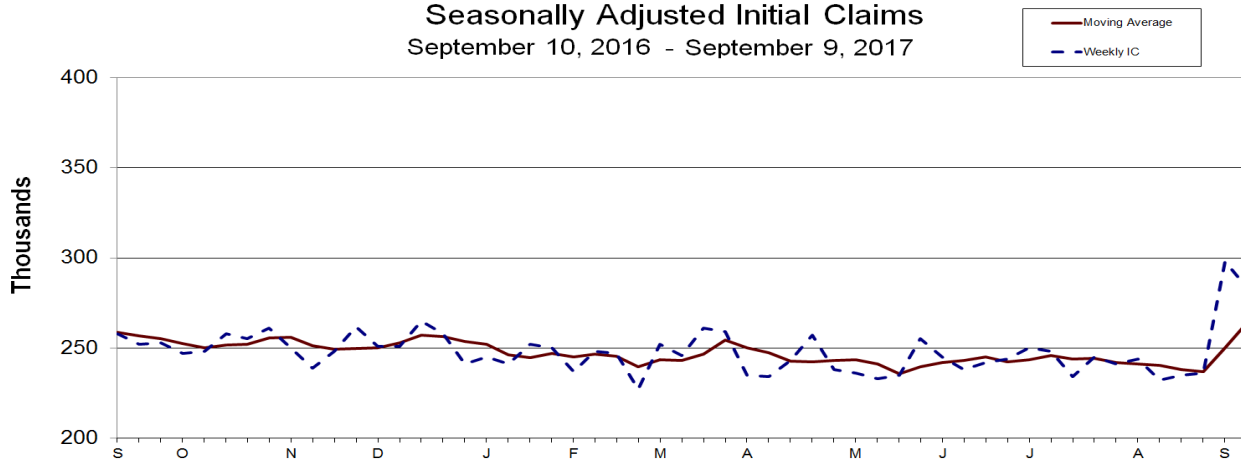
SEASONALLY ADJUSTED DATA

In the week ending September 9, the advance figure for seasonally adjusted **initial claims** was 284,000, a decrease of 14,000 from the previous week's unrevised level of 298,000. The 4-week moving average was 263,250, an increase of 13,000 from the previous week's unrevised average of 250,250. This is the highest level for this average since August 13, 2016 when it was 263,250.

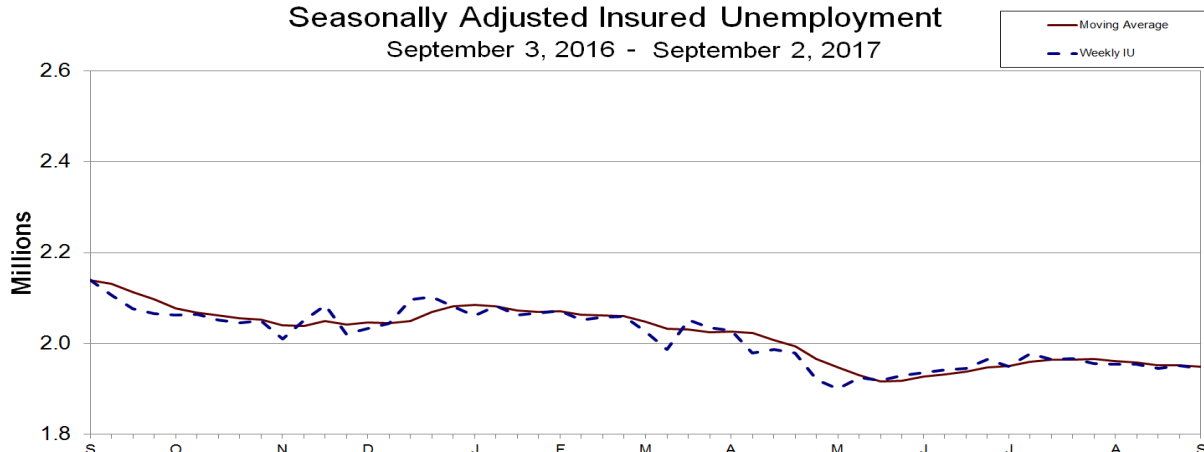
Hurricanes Harvey and Irma impacted this week's initial claims.

The advance seasonally adjusted **insured unemployment rate** was 1.4 percent for the week ending September 2, unchanged from the previous week's unrevised rate. The advance number for seasonally adjusted **insured unemployment** during the week ending September 2 was 1,944,000, a decrease of 7,000 from the previous week's revised level. The previous week's level was revised up 11,000 from 1,940,000 to 1,951,000. The 4-week moving average was 1,948,500, a decrease of 2,500 from the previous week's revised average. The previous week's average was revised up by 2,750 from 1,948,250 to 1,951,000.

Seasonally Adjusted Initial Claims
September 10, 2016 - September 9, 2017



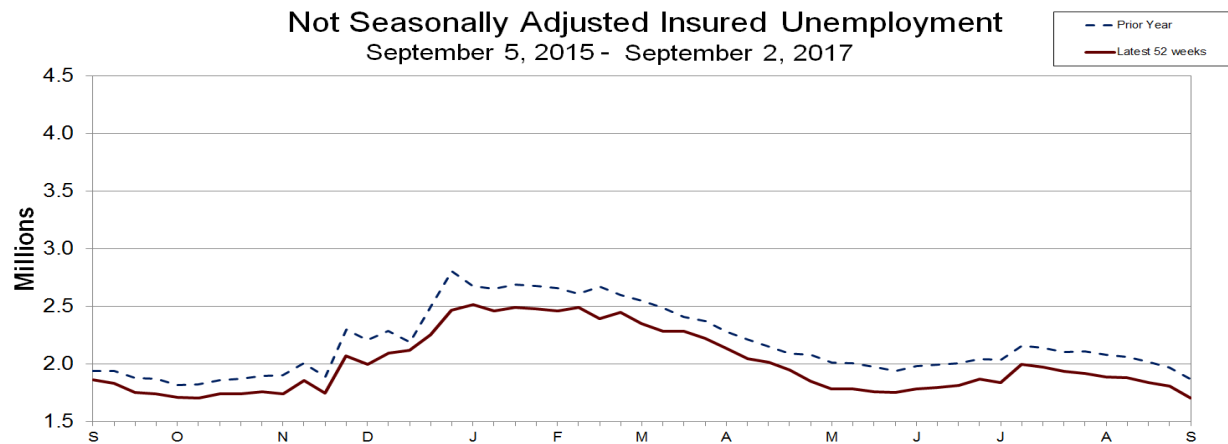
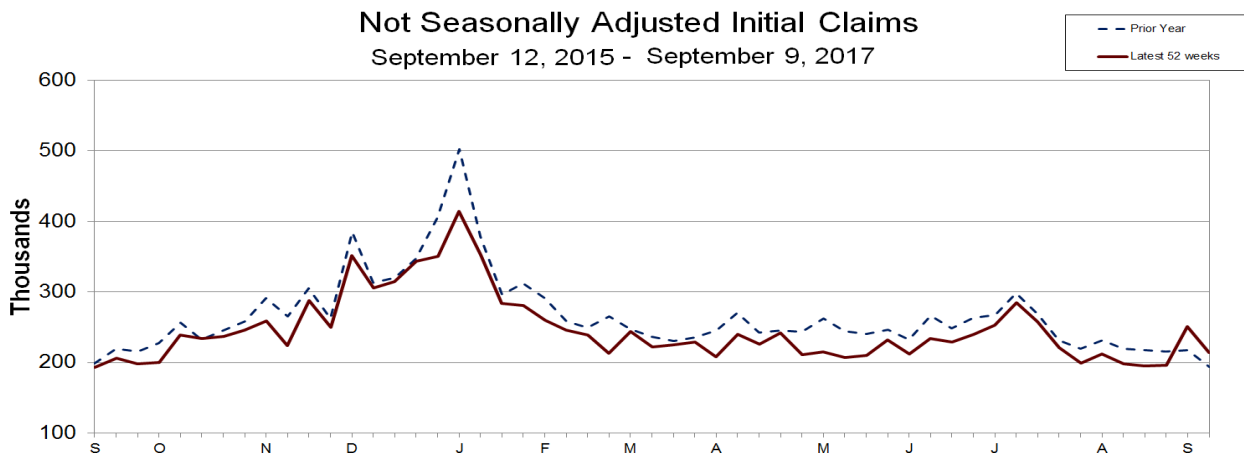
Seasonally Adjusted Insured Unemployment
September 3, 2016 - September 2, 2017



UNADJUSTED DATA

The advance number of actual initial claims under state programs, unadjusted, totaled 214,121 in the week ending September 9, a decrease of 36,500 (or -14.6 percent) from the previous week. The seasonal factors had expected a decrease of 26,224 (or -10.5 percent) from the previous week. There were 193,291 initial claims in the comparable week in 2016.

The advance unadjusted insured unemployment rate was 1.2 percent during the week ending September 2, a decrease of 0.1 percentage point from the prior week. The advance unadjusted number for persons claiming UI benefits in state programs totaled 1,707,094, a decrease of 105,422 (or -5.8 percent) from the preceding week. The seasonal factors had expected a decrease of 99,503 (or -5.5 percent) from the previous week. A year earlier the rate was 1.4 percent and the volume was 1,867,279.



The total number of people claiming benefits in all programs for the week ending August 26 was 1,843,455, a decrease of 28,887 from the previous week. There were 2,012,491 persons claiming benefits in all programs in the comparable week in 2016.

No state was triggered "on" the Extended Benefits program during the week ending August 26.

Initial claims for UI benefits filed by former Federal civilian employees totaled 772 in the week ending September 2, an increase of 166 from the prior week. There were 717 initial claims filed by newly discharged veterans, a decrease of 39 from the preceding week.

There were 8,357 former Federal civilian employees claiming UI benefits for the week ending August 26, a decrease of 240 from the previous week. Newly discharged veterans claiming benefits totaled 9,767, an increase of 6 from the prior week.

The highest insured unemployment rates in the week ending August 26 were in Puerto Rico (3.2), New Jersey (2.7), Connecticut (2.4), Alaska (2.1), Pennsylvania (2.1), California (2.0), Massachusetts (1.9), Rhode Island (1.9), Illinois (1.7), and New York (1.7).

The largest increases in initial claims for the week ending September 2 were in Texas (+51,683), Michigan (+3,541), Illinois (+775), Pennsylvania (+742), and Oregon (+633), while the largest decreases were in New York (-2,192), Indiana (-1,982), California (-1,042), Kentucky (-641), and Hawaii (-167).

UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE DATA FOR REGULAR STATE PROGRAMS

WEEK ENDING	September 9	September 2	Change	August 26	<u>Prior Year</u>¹
Initial Claims (SA)	284,000	298,000	-14,000	236,000	258,000
Initial Claims (NSA)	214,121	250,621	-36,500	196,227	193,291
4-Wk Moving Average (SA)	263,250	250,250	+13,000	236,750	258,750
WEEK ENDING	September 2	August 26	Change	August 19	<u>Prior Year</u>¹
Insured Unemployment (SA)	1,944,000	1,951,000	-7,000	1,945,000	2,139,000
Insured Unemployment (NSA)	1,707,094	1,812,516	-105,422	1,841,596	1,867,279
4-Wk Moving Average (SA)	1,948,500	1,951,000	-2,500	1,952,250	2,139,250
<u>Insured Unemployment Rate (SA)</u> ²	1.4%	1.4%	0.0	1.4%	1.6%
<u>Insured Unemployment Rate (NSA)</u> ²	1.2%	1.3%	-0.1	1.3%	1.4%

INITIAL CLAIMS FILED IN FEDERAL PROGRAMS (UNADJUSTED)

WEEK ENDING	September 2	August 26	Change	<u>Prior Year</u>¹
Federal Employees (UCFE)	772	606	+166	749
Newly Discharged Veterans (UCX)	717	756	-39	1,126

PERSONS CLAIMING UI BENEFITS IN ALL PROGRAMS (UNADJUSTED)

WEEK ENDING	August 26	August 19	Change	<u>Prior Year</u>¹
Regular State	1,809,633	1,838,546	-28,913	1,967,946
Federal Employees	8,357	8,597	-240	8,097
Newly Discharged Veterans	9,767	9,761	+6	13,482
<u>Extended Benefits</u> ³	0	0	0	0
<u>State Additional Benefits</u> ⁴	5,909	5,692	+217	6,124
<u>STC / Workshare</u> ⁵	9,789	9,746	+43	16,842
<u>TOTAL</u>	1,843,455	1,872,342	-28,887	2,012,491

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 139,989,708 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](#)

Advance State Claims - Not Seasonally Adjusted

STATE	Initial Claims Filed During Week Ended September 9			Insured Unemployment For Week Ended September 2		
	Advance	Prior Wk	Change	Advance	Prior Wk	Change
Alabama	1,954	2,254	-300	16,578	16,941	-363
Alaska	1,067	906	161	6,178	6,479	-301
Arizona	3,303	3,949	-646	27,194	31,730	-4,536
Arkansas	1,313	1,783	-470	11,867	13,116	-1,249
California	30,736	37,777	-7,041	305,378	327,903	-22,525
Colorado	1,530	1,700	-170	19,762	20,484	-722
Connecticut	2,576	2,790	-214	34,966	39,595	-4,629
Delaware	412	422	-10	4,957	6,151	-1,194
District of Columbia	522	341	181	8,022	8,851	-829
Florida *	6,843	7,062	-219	49,646	51,127	-1,481
Georgia *	4,725	4,903	-178	28,260	28,169	91
Hawaii	1,132	1,184	-52	7,497	7,373	124
Idaho	712	818	-106	3,976	4,626	-650
Illinois	7,682	8,303	-621	91,910	96,646	-4,736
Indiana	2,079	2,419	-340	16,422	14,705	1,717
Iowa	2,558	1,713	845	14,711	14,491	220
Kansas	1,338	1,556	-218	9,158	9,965	-807
Kentucky	1,784	1,959	-175	16,473	19,295	-2,822
Louisiana ^H	2,142	2,915	-773	18,641	20,810	-2,169
Maine	427	449	-22	3,732	4,108	-376
Maryland	2,617	3,250	-633	30,967	35,336	-4,369
Massachusetts	3,989	4,482	-493	59,048	65,572	-6,524
Michigan	5,427	10,026	-4,599	43,321	48,318	-4,997
Minnesota	2,725	2,615	110	27,668	26,811	857
Mississippi	1,040	1,180	-140	9,240	11,055	-1,815
Missouri	2,355	2,962	-607	20,456	22,770	-2,314
Montana	638	665	-27	4,115	4,641	-526
Nebraska	711	640	71	4,113	4,107	6
Nevada	2,697	2,503	194	18,734	19,751	-1,017
New Hampshire	375	507	-132	3,511	4,267	-756
New Jersey	7,367	7,807	-440	101,069	103,886	-2,817
New Mexico	723	796	-73	9,215	9,499	-284
New York	13,891	16,773	-2,882	153,636	156,511	-2,875
North Carolina	2,509	2,995	-486	20,237	22,465	-2,228
North Dakota	354	334	20	2,655	2,184	471
Ohio	5,174	5,467	-293	45,917	47,784	-1,867
Oklahoma	1,411	1,862	-451	14,448	14,582	-134
Oregon	3,260	3,576	-316	24,034	24,867	-833
Pennsylvania	11,072	12,141	-1,069	107,909	119,292	-11,383
Puerto Rico ¹	248	1,576	-1,328	23,661	28,471	-4,810
Rhode Island	731	770	-39	7,615	8,954	-1,339
South Carolina*	2,139	2,161	-22	14,686	15,092	-406
South Dakota	123	162	-39	966	985	-19
Tennessee	2,073	2,173	-100	17,614	19,329	-1,715
Texas ^H	51,988	63,788	-11,800	131,324	135,605	-4,281
Utah	782	1,000	-218	6,949	7,087	-138
Vermont	301	310	-9	2,595	3,028	-433
Virgin Islands*	45	40	5	455	434	21
Virginia	2,709	2,829	-120	23,668	23,982	-314
Washington	5,305	5,193	112	45,843	45,740	103
West Virginia	662	785	-123	8,974	8,809	165
Wisconsin	3,582	3,820	-238	25,027	26,339	-1,312
Wyoming	263	230	33	2,096	2,398	-302
US Total	214,121	250,621	-36,500	1,707,094	1,812,516	-105,422

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 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.

*Denotes OUI staff estimate.

^HAffected by Hurricane Harvey.

¹ Affected by Hurricane Irma.

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 3, 2016	257	-3	259.50	2,139	6	2,139.25	1.6
September 10, 2016	258	1	258.75	2,105	-34	2,130.75	1.5
September 17, 2016	252	-6	256.75	2,076	-29	2,113.25	1.5
September 24, 2016	253	1	255.00	2,066	-10	2,096.50	1.5
October 1, 2016	247	-6	252.50	2,063	-3	2,077.50	1.5
October 8, 2016	248	1	250.00	2,064	1	2,067.25	1.5
October 15, 2016	258	10	251.50	2,052	-12	2,061.25	1.5
October 22, 2016	255	-3	252.00	2,045	-7	2,056.00	1.5
October 29, 2016	261	6	255.50	2,050	5	2,052.75	1.5
November 5, 2016	250	-11	256.00	2,010	-40	2,039.25	1.5
November 12, 2016	239	-11	251.25	2,050	40	2,038.75	1.5
November 19, 2016	248	9	249.50	2,084	34	2,048.50	1.5
November 26, 2016	262	14	249.75	2,020	-64	2,041.00	1.5
December 3, 2016	251	-11	250.00	2,033	13	2,046.75	1.5
December 10, 2016	251	0	253.00	2,044	11	2,045.25	1.5
December 17, 2016	265	14	257.25	2,097	53	2,048.50	1.5
December 24, 2016	258	-7	256.25	2,102	5	2,069.00	1.5
December 31, 2016	241	-17	253.75	2,081	-21	2,081.00	1.5
January 7, 2017	245	4	252.25	2,061	-20	2,085.25	1.5
January 14, 2017	241	-4	246.25	2,083	22	2,081.75	1.5
January 21, 2017	252	11	244.75	2,063	-20	2,072.00	1.5
January 28, 2017	250	-2	247.00	2,067	4	2,068.50	1.5
February 4, 2017	237	-13	245.00	2,071	4	2,071.00	1.5
February 11, 2017	248	11	246.75	2,052	-19	2,063.25	1.5
February 18, 2017	247	-1	245.50	2,057	5	2,061.75	1.5
February 25, 2017	227	-20	239.75	2,059	2	2,059.75	1.5
March 4, 2017	252	25	243.50	2,025	-34	2,048.25	1.5
March 11, 2017	246	-6	243.00	1,987	-38	2,032.00	1.4
March 18, 2017	261	15	246.50	2,052	65	2,030.75	1.5
March 25, 2017	259	-2	254.50	2,035	-17	2,024.75	1.5
April 1, 2017	235	-24	250.25	2,028	-7	2,025.50	1.5
April 8, 2017	234	-1	247.25	1,978	-50	2,023.25	1.4
April 15, 2017	243	9	242.75	1,987	9	2,007.00	1.4
April 22, 2017	257	14	242.25	1,979	-8	1,993.00	1.4
April 29, 2017	238	-19	243.00	1,920	-59	1,966.00	1.4
May 6, 2017	236	-2	243.50	1,899	-21	1,946.25	1.4
May 13, 2017	233	-3	241.00	1,924	25	1,930.50	1.4
May 20, 2017	235	2	235.50	1,919	-5	1,915.50	1.4
May 27, 2017	255	20	239.75	1,929	10	1,917.75	1.4
June 3, 2017	245	-10	242.00	1,936	7	1,927.00	1.4
June 10, 2017	238	-7	243.25	1,942	6	1,931.50	1.4
June 17, 2017	242	4	245.00	1,945	3	1,938.00	1.4
June 24, 2017	244	2	242.25	1,965	20	1,947.00	1.4
July 1, 2017	250	6	243.50	1,949	-16	1,950.25	1.4
July 8, 2017	248	-2	246.00	1,977	28	1,959.00	1.4
July 15, 2017	234	-14	244.00	1,965	-12	1,964.00	1.4
July 22, 2017	245	11	244.25	1,967	2	1,964.50	1.4
July 29, 2017	241	-4	242.00	1,956	-11	1,966.25	1.4
August 5, 2017	244	3	241.00	1,954	-2	1,960.50	1.4
August 12, 2017	232	-12	240.50	1,954	0	1,957.75	1.4
August 19, 2017	235	3	238.00	1,945	-9	1,952.25	1.4
August 26, 2017	236	1	236.75	1,951	6	1,951.00	1.4
September 2, 2017	298	62	250.25	1,944	-7	1,948.50	1.4
September 9, 2017	284	-14	263.25				

Initial Claims Filed During Week Ended September 2							Insured Unemployment For Week Ended August 26					
INITIAL CLAIMS							INSURED UNEMPLOYMENT					
STATE	STATE	CHANGE FROM				STATE	CHANGE FROM	STATE	STATE	ALL PROGRAMS EXCLUDING RAILROAD		RETIREMENT
		LAST WEEK	YEAR AGO	UCFE ₁	UCX ₁					LAST WEEK	YEAR AGO	
						(%) ₂						
Alabama	2254	-76	-295	10	5	16941	0.9	-728	-4083	62	121	17124
Alaska	906	8	-201	2	0	6479	2.1	-89	-1791	55	31	6565
Arizona	3949	177	-61	6	1	31730	1.2	-1326	-2849	101	90	31921
Arkansas	1783	138	43	5	6	13116	1.1	-313	-2255	51	62	13229
California	37777	-1042	-2463	149	146	327903	2.0	-1692	-9026	1738	2119	331760
Colorado	1700	121	-372	13	21	20484	0.8	-23	-3453	85	307	20876
Connecticut	2790	-109	-56	7	7	39595	2.4	-528	-3821	64	92	39751
Delaware	422	-21	-90	3	2	6151	1.4	304	-414	12	14	6177
District of Columbia	341	48	24	8	1	8851	1.6	-184	291	534	13	9398
Florida	7062	-116	-439	17	52	51127	0.6	-1638	-3774	201	227	51555
Georgia	4903	76	-867	28	34	28169	0.7	-195	-2155	168	264	28601
Hawaii	1184	-167	-156	2	13	7373	1.2	-7	152	64	89	7526
Idaho	818	-32	-87	3	0	4626	0.7	-225	-1228	23	7	4656
Illinois	8303	775	-4114	14	12	96646	1.7	-3083	-6939	376	265	97287
Indiana	2419	-1982	-407	6	6	14705	0.5	-146	-5333	40	42	14787
Iowa	1713	113	-446	3	3	14491	1.0	-824	-1389	42	45	14578
Kansas	1556	-125	-522	3	3	9965	0.7	-169	-1536	73	46	10084
Kentucky	1959	-641	-414	2	5	19295	1.1	1605	-1629	173	155	19623
Louisiana	2915	555	-152	4	11	20810	1.1	-729	-7336	55	26	20891
Maine	449	32	-108	0	0	4108	0.7	-181	-389	17	19	4144
Maryland	3250	106	-93	34	8	35336	1.4	-881	-897	306	167	35809
Massachusetts	4482	143	-380	8	20	65572	1.9	-497	-2449	129	197	65898
Michigan	10026	3541	4481	13	14	48318	1.2	2178	-2586	95	133	48546
Minnesota	2615	104	-264	1	1	26811	1.0	-791	-1823	54	93	26958
Mississippi	1180	37	-273	2	4	11055	1.0	-499	-1849	26	42	11123
Missouri	2962	-113	-865	22	0	22770	0.8	-463	-3827	284	42	23096
Montana	665	143	-43	3	2	4641	1.1	-90	-600	44	25	4710
Nebraska	640	-73	-78	1	1	4107	0.4	-190	77	10	12	4129
Nevada	2503	144	-34	2	3	19751	1.6	24	-1959	64	75	19890
New Hampshire	507	16	32	0	1	4267	0.7	-145	-373	4	3	4274
New Jersey	7807	-52	-525	23	20	103886	2.7	702	-2006	179	303	104368
New Mexico	796	-17	-150	2	3	9499	1.2	-329	-2511	80	84	9663
New York	16773	-2192	948	37	40	156511	1.7	1415	-4960	367	488	157366
North Carolina	2995	216	-657	7	6	22465	0.5	-619	-2786	81	184	22730
North Dakota	334	9	38	1	1	2184	0.5	-47	-725	28	2	2214
Ohio	5467	269	-1144	8	25	47784	0.9	-1372	-3974	105	227	48116
Oklahoma	1862	417	99	13	8	14582	1.0	-135	-7007	79	91	14752
Oregon	3576	633	179	9	12	24867	1.4	-351	-1122	119	130	25116
Pennsylvania	12141	742	-3072	58	32	119292	2.1	-2349	-13084	413	320	120025
Puerto Rico	1576	-58	-21	0	7	28471	3.2	-1156	4819	91	74	28636
Rhode Island	770	2	-32	1	1	8954	1.9	-400	-708	40	24	9018
South Carolina	2161	-7	-132	6	9	15092	0.8	-1087	-1270	55	83	15230
South Dakota	162	5	-26	0	0	985	0.2	-129	-232	32	6	1023
Tennessee	2173	108	-300	10	1	19329	0.7	45	-67	412	138	19879
Texas	63788	51683	48081	173	118	135605	1.2	-8359	-41434	653	1560	137818
Utah	1000	34	-112	28	2	7087	0.5	-129	-1055	126	28	7241
Vermont	310	28	-52	0	1	3028	1.0	-312	-500	11	4	3043
Virgin Islands	40	-21	-60	0	0	434	1.2	-100	-196	4	0	438
Virginia	2829	294	836	12	21	23982	0.7	-866	748	240	433	24655
Washington	5193	299	-1016	4	22	45740	1.5	-635	4435	175	687	46602
West Virginia	785	-6	-193	2	2	8809	1.3	-316	-4251	42	33	8884
Wisconsin	3820	211	-922	6	4	26339	0.9	-984	-4916	52	29	26420
Wyoming	230	17	-161	1	0	2398	0.9	-42	-2405	23	16	2437
Totals	250621	54394	32906	772	717	1812516	1.3	-29080	-160450	8357	9767	1830640

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.

UNADJUSTED INITIAL CLAIMS FOR WEEK ENDED SEPTEMBER 2, 2017

STATES WITH AN INCREASE OF MORE THAN 1,000

State	Change	State Supplied Comment
TX	+51,683	Layoffs in the manufacturing, administrative, support, waste management and remediation service, finance and insurance, and retail industries.
MI	+3,541	Layoffs in the wholesale trade industry.

STATES WITH A DECREASE OF MORE THAN 1,000

State	Change	State Supplied Comment
NY	-2,192	Fewer layoffs in the transportation and warehousing, manufacturing, and educational service industries.
IN	-1,982	No comment.
CA	-1,042	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](#)

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