



# News Release

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8:30 A.M. (Eastern) Thursday, September 13, 2018

## UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE WEEKLY CLAIMS

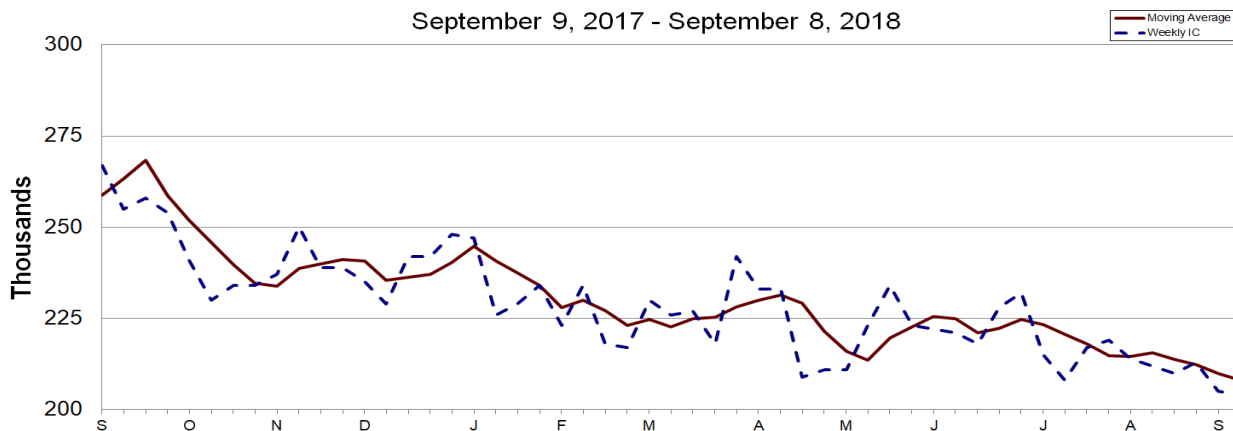
### SEASONALLY ADJUSTED DATA

In the week ending September 8, the advance figure for seasonally adjusted **initial claims** was 204,000, a decrease of 1,000 from the previous week's revised level. This is the lowest level for initial claims since December 6, 1969 when it was 202,000. The previous week's level was revised up by 2,000 from 203,000 to 205,000. The 4-week moving average was 208,000, a decrease of 2,000 from the previous week's revised average. This is the lowest level for this average since December 6, 1969 when it was 204,500. The previous week's average was revised up by 500 from 209,500 to 210,000.

The advance seasonally adjusted **insured unemployment rate** was 1.2 percent for the week ending September 1, unchanged from the previous week's unrevised rate. The advance number for seasonally adjusted **insured unemployment** during the week ending September 1 was 1,696,000, a decrease of 15,000 from the previous week's revised level. This is the lowest level for insured unemployment since December 1, 1973 when it was 1,692,000. The previous week's level was revised up 4,000 from 1,707,000 to 1,711,000. The 4-week moving average was 1,711,250, a decrease of 8,250 from the previous week's revised average. This is the lowest level for this average since November 24, 1973 when it was 1,706,000. The previous week's average was revised up by 1,000 from 1,718,500 to 1,719,500.

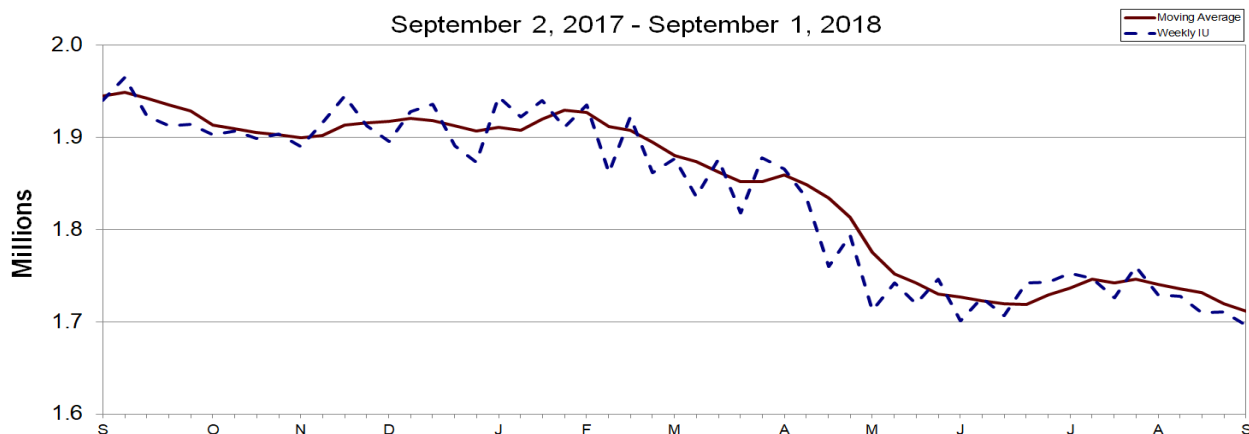
### Seasonally Adjusted Initial Claims

September 9, 2017 - September 8, 2018



### Seasonally Adjusted Insured Unemployment

September 2, 2017 - September 1, 2018



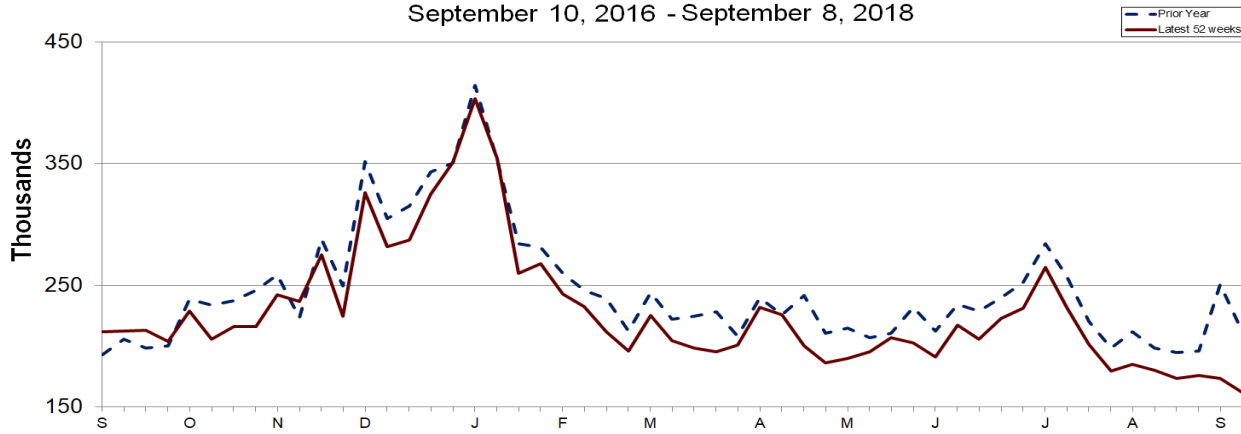
**UNADJUSTED DATA**

The advance number of actual initial claims under state programs, unadjusted, totaled 161,892 in the week ending September 8, a decrease of 11,665 (or -6.7 percent) from the previous week. The seasonal factors had expected a decrease of 10,655 (or -6.1 percent) from the previous week. There were 211,923 initial claims in the comparable week in 2017.

The advance unadjusted insured unemployment rate was 1.1 percent during the week ending September 1, unchanged from the prior week. The advance unadjusted number for persons claiming UI benefits in state programs totaled 1,492,538, a decrease of 107,457 (or -6.7 percent) from the preceding week. The seasonal factors had expected a decrease of 94,117 (or -5.9 percent) from the previous week. A year earlier the rate was 1.2 percent and the volume was 1,699,145.

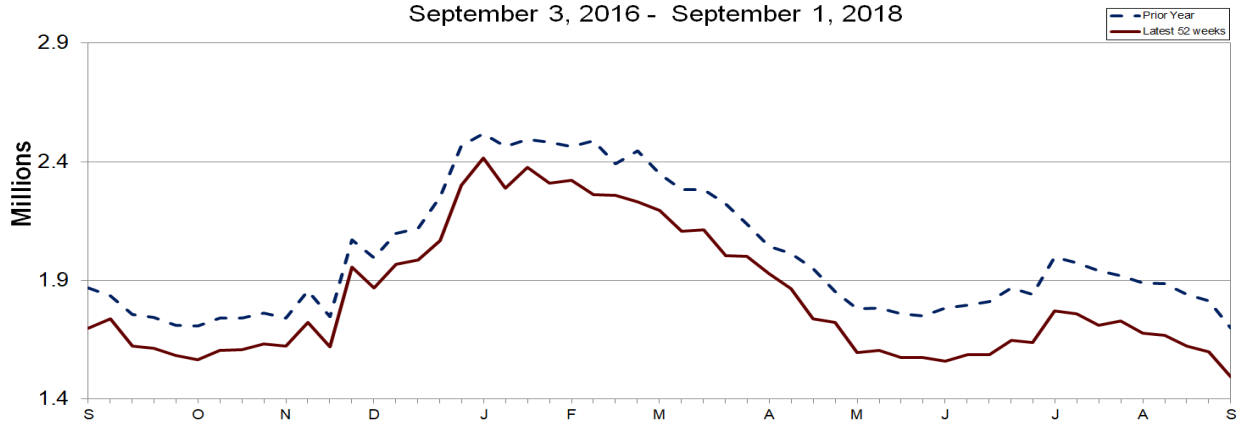
**Not Seasonally Adjusted Initial Claims**

September 10, 2016 - September 8, 2018



**Not Seasonally Adjusted Insured Unemployment**

September 3, 2016 - September 1, 2018



The total number of people claiming benefits in all programs for the week ending August 25 was 1,624,726, a decrease of 23,998 from the previous week. There were 1,843,455 persons claiming benefits in all programs in the comparable week in 2017.

No state was triggered "on" the Extended Benefits program during the week ending August 25.

Initial claims for UI benefits filed by former Federal civilian employees totaled 543 in the week ending September 1, a decrease of 53 from the prior week. There were 596 initial claims filed by newly discharged veterans, a decrease of 50 from the preceding week.

There were 7,510 former Federal civilian employees claiming UI benefits for the week ending August 25, an increase of 84 from the previous week. Newly discharged veterans claiming benefits totaled 7,429, a decrease of 204 from the prior week.

The highest insured unemployment rates in the week ending August 25 were in New Jersey (2.5), Connecticut (2.2), Pennsylvania (1.9), Puerto Rico (1.9), Rhode Island (1.9), California (1.8), Alaska (1.7), Massachusetts (1.6), and New York (1.5).

The largest increases in initial claims for the week ending September 1 were in Indiana (+992), Hawaii (+839), Washington (+638), Illinois (+559), and Ohio (+409), while the largest decreases were in Michigan (-1,415), New York (-894), Florida (-668), Texas (-655), and Connecticut (-333).

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UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE DATA FOR REGULAR STATE PROGRAMS

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<b>WEEK ENDING</b>	<b>September 8</b>	<b>September 1</b>	<b>Change</b>	<b>August 25</b>	<b><u>Prior Year</u><sup>1</sup></b>
Initial Claims (SA)	204,000	205,000	-1,000	213,000	267,000
Initial Claims (NSA)	161,892	173,557	-11,665	175,745	211,923
4-Wk Moving Average (SA)	208,000	210,000	-2,000	212,250	258,750
<b>WEEK ENDING</b>	<b>September 1</b>	<b>August 25</b>	<b>Change</b>	<b>August 18</b>	<b><u>Prior Year</u><sup>1</sup></b>
Insured Unemployment (SA)	1,696,000	1,711,000	-15,000	1,710,000	1,940,000
Insured Unemployment (NSA)	1,492,538	1,599,995	-107,457	1,624,222	1,699,145
4-Wk Moving Average (SA)	1,711,250	1,719,500	-8,250	1,731,750	1,945,000
<a href="#"><u>Insured Unemployment Rate (SA)</u><sup>2</sup></a>	1.2%	1.2%	0.0	1.2%	1.4%
<a href="#"><u>Insured Unemployment Rate (NSA)</u><sup>2</sup></a>	1.1%	1.1%	0.0	1.1%	1.2%

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INITIAL CLAIMS FILED IN FEDERAL PROGRAMS (UNADJUSTED)

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<b>WEEK ENDING</b>	<b>September 1</b>	<b>August 25</b>	<b>Change</b>	<b><u>Prior Year</u><sup>1</sup></b>
Federal Employees (UCFE)	543	596	-53	772
Newly Discharged Veterans (UCX)	596	646	-50	717

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PERSONS CLAIMING UI BENEFITS IN ALL PROGRAMS (UNADJUSTED)

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<b>WEEK ENDING</b>	<b>August 25</b>	<b>August 18</b>	<b>Change</b>	<b><u>Prior Year</u><sup>1</sup></b>
Regular State	1,598,216	1,622,646	-24,430	1,809,633
Federal Employees	7,510	7,426	+84	8,357
Newly Discharged Veterans	7,429	7,633	-204	9,767
<a href="#"><u>Extended Benefits</u><sup>3</sup></a>	3	2	+1	0
<a href="#"><u>State Additional Benefits</u><sup>4</sup></a>	5,009	4,910	+99	5,909
<a href="#"><u>STC / Workshare</u><sup>5</sup></a>	6,559	6,107	+452	9,789
<b><u>TOTAL</u></b>	<b>1,624,726</b>	<b>1,648,724</b>	<b>-23,998</b>	<b>1,843,455</b>

**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 141,951,699 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 8			Insured Unemployment For Week Ended September 1		
	Advance	Prior Wk	Change	Advance	Prior Wk	Change
Alabama	1,667	1,987	-320	15,340	15,668	-328
Alaska	903	839	64	5,097	5,348	-251
Arizona	2,988	3,532	-544	24,374	28,846	-4,472
Arkansas	1,230	1,423	-193	8,947	10,105	-1,158
California	31,705	35,413	-3,708	283,318	305,384	-22,066
Colorado	1,578	1,529	49	17,145	17,263	-118
Connecticut	2,159	2,214	-55	32,079	36,309	-4,230
Delaware	373	375	-2	4,318	5,711	-1,393
District of Columbia	456	370	86	7,348	7,928	-580
Florida	5,614	5,851	-237	37,276	43,042	-5,766
Georgia	3,822	4,270	-448	23,033	24,533	-1,500
Hawaii	1,346	1,710	-364	6,888	7,380	-492
Idaho	724	728	-4	3,259	3,764	-505
Illinois	7,273	7,027	246	78,172	81,629	-3,457
Indiana	2,255	2,951	-696	14,326	13,115	1,211
Iowa	2,502	1,699	803	12,095	12,652	-557
Kansas	1,816	1,234	582	7,491	7,882	-391
Kentucky	1,568	1,581	-13	15,981	16,162	-181
Louisiana	1,624	2,040	-416	14,880	17,277	-2,397
Maine*	345	448	-103	3,472	3,828	-356
Maryland	2,443	2,622	-179	26,411	29,816	-3,405
Massachusetts	3,915	3,947	-32	48,269	54,369	-6,100
Michigan	4,354	4,079	275	35,578	38,632	-3,054
Minnesota	2,615	2,460	155	24,419	23,982	437
Mississippi	603	884	-281	6,362	8,156	-1,794
Missouri	2,357	2,522	-165	17,824	20,417	-2,593
Montana	514	518	-4	3,612	3,860	-248
Nebraska	832	525	307	3,181	3,218	-37
Nevada	2,527	2,226	301	16,769	17,827	-1,058
New Hampshire	321	395	-74	2,955	3,747	-792
New Jersey	6,436	7,106	-670	95,590	97,347	-1,757
New Mexico	658	688	-30	7,562	7,907	-345
New York	12,183	15,871	-3,688	135,802	140,015	-4,213
North Carolina	2,471	2,474	-3	17,540	19,267	-1,727
North Dakota	244	208	36	1,693	1,656	37
Ohio	4,245	4,770	-525	39,232	40,787	-1,555
Oklahoma	1,086	1,112	-26	11,664	11,787	-123
Oregon	2,937	2,983	-46	22,061	22,869	-808
Pennsylvania	9,877	10,833	-956	98,465	111,111	-12,646
Puerto Rico	958	1,051	-93	14,011	15,821	-1,810
Rhode Island	629	700	-71	7,293	8,689	-1,396
South Carolina	1,639	1,828	-189	14,507	15,777	-1,270
South Dakota	121	134	-13	746	828	-82
Tennessee	1,798	1,803	-5	15,413	17,882	-2,469
Texas	10,916	11,301	-385	110,365	117,867	-7,502
Utah	821	854	-33	6,368	6,867	-499
Vermont	261	334	-73	2,313	2,687	-374
Virgin Islands	13	11	2	410	502	-92
Virginia	2,323	2,113	210	19,080	20,045	-965
Washington	5,255	5,866	-611	41,569	40,978	591
West Virginia	586	706	-120	7,198	6,964	234
Wisconsin	3,833	3,188	645	22,001	23,089	-1,088
Wyoming	173	224	-51	1,436	1,403	33
US Total	161,892	173,557	-11,665	1,492,538	1,599,995	-107,457

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 state estimate.

## 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 2, 2017	293	55	251.00	1,940	-3	1,945.00	1.4
September 9, 2017	267	-26	258.75	1,965	25	1,948.75	1.4
September 16, 2017	255	-12	263.25	1,923	-42	1,942.75	1.4
September 23, 2017	258	3	268.25	1,913	-10	1,935.25	1.4
September 30, 2017	254	-4	258.50	1,914	1	1,928.75	1.4
October 7, 2017	241	-13	252.00	1,903	-11	1,913.25	1.4
October 14, 2017	230	-11	245.75	1,907	4	1,909.25	1.4
October 21, 2017	234	4	239.75	1,899	-8	1,905.75	1.4
October 28, 2017	234	0	234.75	1,904	5	1,903.25	1.4
November 4, 2017	237	3	233.75	1,890	-14	1,900.00	1.3
November 11, 2017	250	13	238.75	1,916	26	1,902.25	1.4
November 18, 2017	239	-11	240.00	1,945	29	1,913.75	1.4
November 25, 2017	239	0	241.25	1,913	-32	1,916.00	1.4
December 2, 2017	235	-4	240.75	1,896	-17	1,917.50	1.3
December 9, 2017	229	-6	235.50	1,928	32	1,920.50	1.4
December 16, 2017	242	13	236.25	1,936	8	1,918.25	1.4
December 23, 2017	242	0	237.00	1,891	-45	1,912.75	1.3
December 30, 2017	248	6	240.25	1,873	-18	1,907.00	1.3
January 6, 2018	247	-1	244.75	1,944	71	1,911.00	1.4
January 13, 2018	226	-21	240.75	1,922	-22	1,907.50	1.4
January 20, 2018	229	3	237.50	1,940	18	1,919.75	1.4
January 27, 2018	234	5	234.00	1,911	-29	1,929.25	1.4
February 3, 2018	223	-11	228.00	1,935	24	1,927.00	1.4
February 10, 2018	234	11	230.00	1,862	-73	1,912.00	1.3
February 17, 2018	218	-16	227.25	1,922	60	1,907.50	1.4
February 24, 2018	217	-1	223.00	1,862	-60	1,895.25	1.3
March 3, 2018	230	13	224.75	1,877	15	1,880.75	1.3
March 10, 2018	226	-4	222.75	1,836	-41	1,874.25	1.3
March 17, 2018	227	1	225.00	1,876	40	1,862.75	1.3
March 24, 2018	218	-9	225.25	1,818	-58	1,851.75	1.3
March 31, 2018	242	24	228.25	1,878	60	1,852.00	1.3
April 7, 2018	233	-9	230.00	1,866	-12	1,859.50	1.3
April 14, 2018	233	0	231.50	1,834	-32	1,849.00	1.3
April 21, 2018	209	-24	229.25	1,760	-74	1,834.50	1.2
April 28, 2018	211	2	221.50	1,794	34	1,813.50	1.3
May 5, 2018	211	0	216.00	1,712	-82	1,775.00	1.2
May 12, 2018	223	12	213.50	1,742	30	1,752.00	1.2
May 19, 2018	234	11	219.75	1,720	-22	1,742.00	1.2
May 26, 2018	223	-11	222.75	1,746	26	1,730.00	1.2
June 2, 2018	222	-1	225.50	1,701	-45	1,727.25	1.2
June 9, 2018	221	-1	225.00	1,726	25	1,723.25	1.2
June 16, 2018	218	-3	221.00	1,707	-19	1,720.00	1.2
June 23, 2018	228	10	222.25	1,742	35	1,719.00	1.2
June 30, 2018	232	4	224.75	1,743	1	1,729.50	1.2
July 7, 2018	215	-17	223.25	1,753	10	1,736.25	1.2
July 14, 2018	208	-7	220.75	1,747	-6	1,746.25	1.2
July 21, 2018	217	9	218.00	1,726	-21	1,742.25	1.2
July 28, 2018	219	2	214.75	1,760	34	1,746.50	1.2
August 4, 2018	214	-5	214.50	1,729	-31	1,740.50	1.2
August 11, 2018	212	-2	215.50	1,728	-1	1,735.75	1.2
August 18, 2018	210	-2	213.75	1,710	-18	1,731.75	1.2
August 25, 2018	213	3	212.25	1,711	1	1,719.50	1.2
September 1, 2018	205	-8	210.00	1,696	-15	1,711.25	1.2
September 8, 2018	204	-1	208.00				

STATE NAME	INITIAL CLAIMS FILED DURING WEEK ENDED SEPTEMBER 1					INSURED UNEMPLOYMENT FOR WEEK ENDED AUGUST 25					ALL PROGRAMS EXCLUDING RAILROAD RETIREMENT	
	STATE	CHANGE FROM		UCFE <sup>1</sup>	UCX <sup>1</sup>	STATE (%) <sup>2</sup>	CHANGE FROM		UCFE <sup>1</sup>	UCX <sup>1</sup>		
		LAST WEEK	YEAR AGO				LAST WEEK	YEAR AGO				
Alabama	1987	-61	-267	9	10	15668	0.8	-561	-1273	65	77	15810
Alaska	839	-35	-67	2	0	5348	1.7	-102	-1131	58	14	5420
Arizona	3532	67	-417	5	0	28846	1.1	-1330	-2884	80	67	28993
Arkansas	1423	48	-360	3	2	10105	0.9	-633	-3011	28	48	10181
California	35413	-309	-2364	130	124	305384	1.8	1602	-22519	1626	1554	308564
Colorado	1529	-28	-171	6	15	17263	0.7	-296	-3221	102	232	17597
Connecticut	2214	-333	-576	2	10	36309	2.2	-836	-3286	44	59	36412
Delaware	375	-49	-47	7	0	5711	1.3	387	-440	12	9	5732
District of Columbia	370	-22	29	7	0	7928	1.4	-251	-923	312	10	8250
Florida	5851	-668	-1211	16	32	43042	0.5	-587	-8085	163	133	43338
Georgia	4270	89	-633	24	29	24533	0.6	-627	-3636	172	252	24957
Hawaii	1710	839	526	5	13	7380	1.2	1268	7	58	88	7526
Idaho	728	-50	-90	0	0	3764	0.5	-432	-862	13	25	3802
Illinois	7027	559	-1276	6	4	81629	1.4	-4751	-15017	325	198	82152
Indiana	2951	992	532	4	6	13115	0.4	-3	-1590	27	31	13173
Iowa	1699	234	-14	3	2	12652	0.8	-982	-1839	36	26	12714
Kansas	1234	-104	-322	1	3	7882	0.6	-247	-2083	22	27	7931
Kentucky	1581	-8	-378	4	2	16162	0.9	296	-3133	89	92	16343
Louisiana	2040	-95	-875	5	8	17277	0.9	-334	-3533	65	15	17357
Maine	448	85	-1	0	0	3828	0.6	-153	-280	17	14	3859
Maryland	2622	-41	-628	21	8	29816	1.2	-660	-5520	334	120	30270
Massachusetts	3947	-269	-541	11	13	54369	1.6	406	-11174	84	136	54589
Michigan	4079	-1415	-5947	6	9	38632	0.9	-4293	-9686	56	67	38755
Minnesota	2460	112	-155	2	2	23982	0.8	-532	-2829	44	59	24085
Mississippi	884	-56	-296	0	0	8156	0.7	-249	-2899	40	21	8217
Missouri	2522	-135	-440	15	2	20417	0.7	-308	-2353	238	53	20708
Montana	518	55	-147	3	2	3860	0.9	-364	-781	40	20	3920
Nebraska	525	-21	-115	2	2	3218	0.3	-232	-889	17	11	3246
Nevada	2226	25	-277	2	4	17827	1.4	126	-1924	55	61	17943
New Hampshire	395	-47	-112	0	1	3747	0.6	-76	-520	4	1	3752
New Jersey	7106	-265	-701	16	20	97347	2.5	-489	-6539	220	264	97831
New Mexico	688	9	-108	1	2	7907	1.0	276	-1592	93	48	8048
New York	15871	-894	-902	32	22	140015	1.5	1891	-16496	294	340	140649
North Carolina	2474	-61	-521	12	9	19267	0.5	-653	-3198	93	164	19524
North Dakota	208	-6	-126	1	1	1656	0.4	-142	-528	30	3	1689
Ohio	4770	409	-697	7	16	40787	0.8	-2082	-6997	119	147	41053
Oklahoma	1112	-136	-750	5	2	11787	0.8	-476	-2795	69	76	11932
Oregon	2983	-194	-593	13	9	22869	1.2	-415	-1998	111	95	23075
Pennsylvania	10833	-184	-1308	43	24	111111	1.9	-2056	-8181	436	300	111847
Puerto Rico	1051	-61	-525	1	3	15821	1.9	-470	-12650	64	87	15972
Rhode Island	700	-60	-70	5	1	8689	1.9	-332	-265	21	26	8736
South Carolina	1828	-101	-333	7	13	15777	0.8	-886	685	48	96	15921
South Dakota	134	3	-28	1	0	828	0.2	-92	-157	28	1	857
Tennessee	1803	-62	-370	9	9	17882	0.6	-26	-1447	77	123	18082
Texas	11301	-655	-52487	54	120	117867	1.0	-840	-17738	959	1239	120065
Utah	854	-54	-146	14	2	6867	0.5	-247	-220	107	20	6994
Vermont	334	61	24	1	1	2687	0.9	-252	-341	8	7	2702
Virgin Islands	11	3	-29	1	0	502	1.4	-10	68	0	16	521
Virginia	2113	-80	-716	6	15	20045	0.5	-974	-3937	230	224	20499
Washington	5866	638	673	5	19	40978	1.3	225	-4762	176	573	41727
West Virginia	706	6	-79	1	1	6964	1.1	-401	-1845	41	30	7035
Wisconsin	3188	137	-632	5	4	23089	0.8	-982	-3250	47	27	23163
Wyoming	224	0	-6	2	0	1403	0.5	-40	-995	13	3	1419
Totals	173557	-2188	-77070	543	596	1599995	1.1	-24227	-212492	7510	7429	1614937

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.

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**UNADJUSTED INITIAL CLAIMS FOR WEEK ENDED SEPTEMBER 1, 2018**

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STATES WITH AN INCREASE OF MORE THAN 1,000

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<b>State</b>	<b>Change</b>	<b>State Supplied Comment</b>
None		

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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>
MI	-1,415	Fewer layoffs in the wholesale trade industry.

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## 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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U.S. Department of Labor  
Employment and Training Administration  
Washington, D.C. 20210  
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Program Contacts:  
Tony Sznoluch: (202) 693-3176  
Sandra Trujillo: (202) 693-2933  
Media Contact: (202) 693-4676