



News Release

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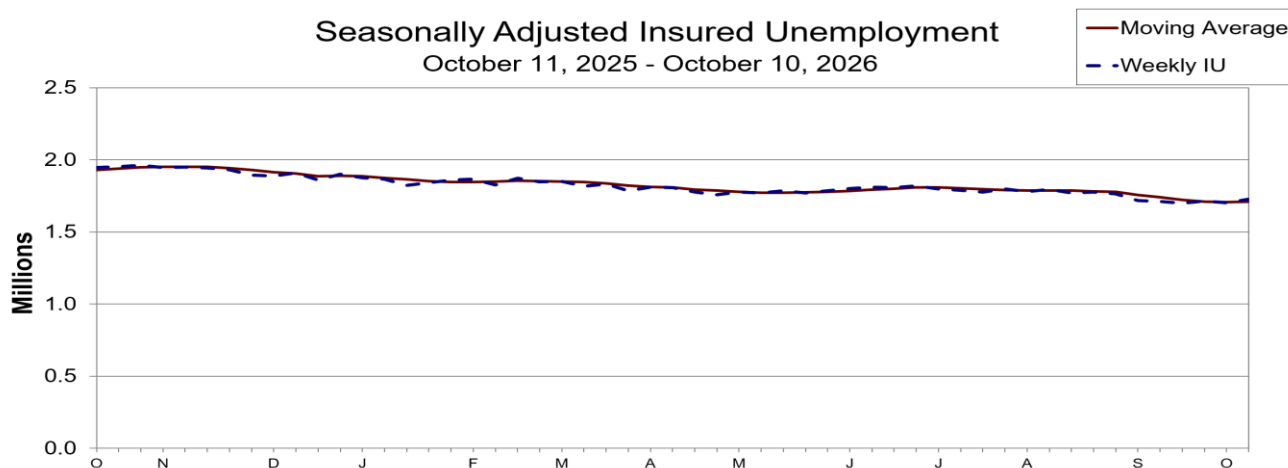
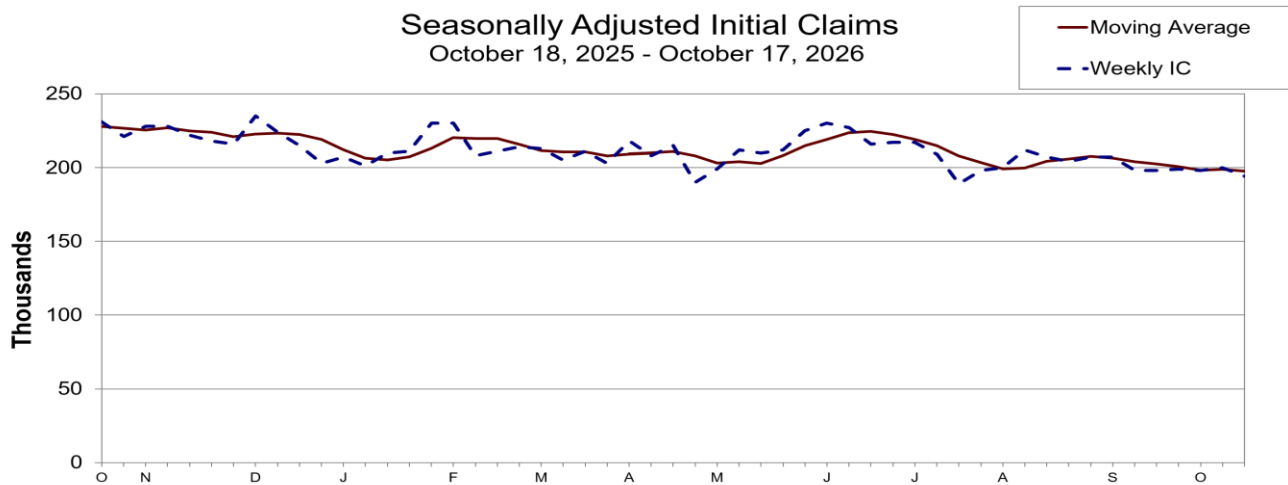
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8:30 A.M. (Eastern) Thursday, October 22, 2026

UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE WEEKLY CLAIMS

SEASONALLY ADJUSTED DATA

In the week ending October 17, the advance figure for seasonally adjusted **initial claims** was 194,000, a decrease of 6,000 from the previous week's revised level. The previous week's level was revised up by 1,000 from 199,000 to 200,000. The 4-week moving average was 197,750, a decrease of 1,000 from the previous week's revised average. The previous week's average was revised up by 250 from 198,500 to 198,750.

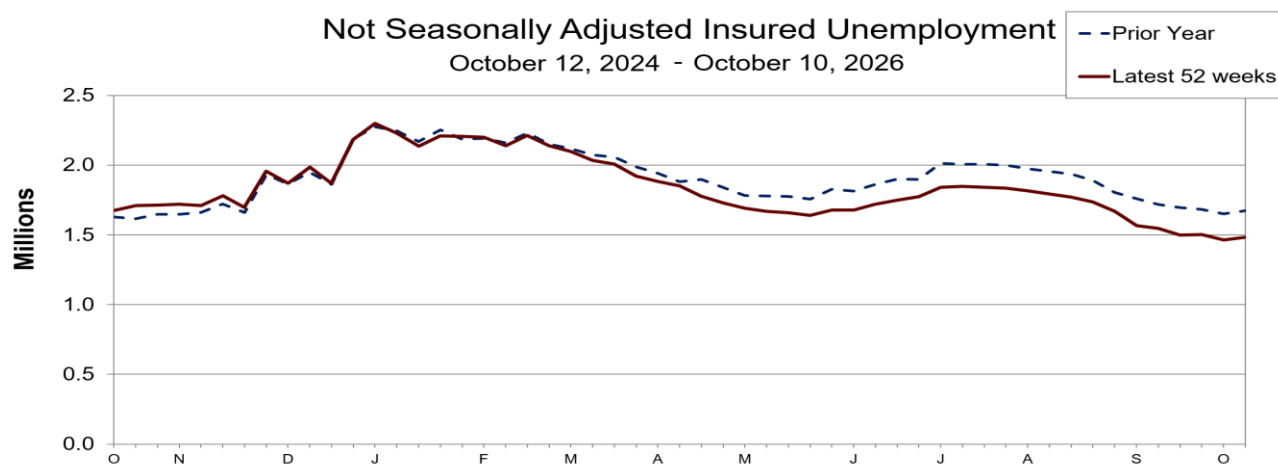
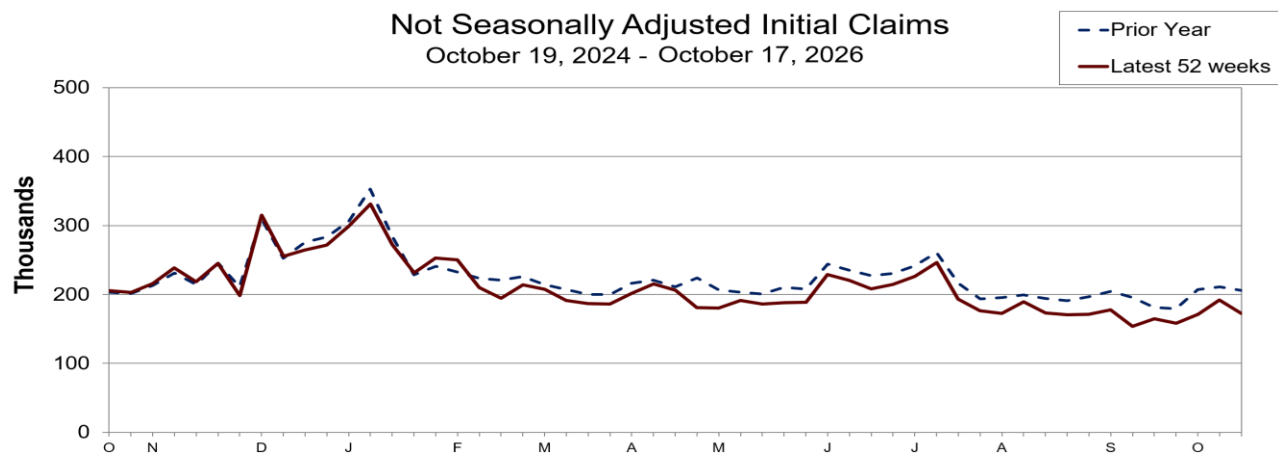
The advance seasonally adjusted **insured unemployment rate** was 1.1 percent for the week ending October 10, unchanged from the previous week's unrevised rate. The advance number for seasonally adjusted **insured unemployment** during the week ending October 10 was 1,728,000, an increase of 25,000 from the previous week's revised level. The previous week's level was revised down by 7,000 from 1,710,000 to 1,703,000. The 4-week moving average was 1,711,000, an increase of 4,000 from the previous week's revised average. The previous week's average was revised down by 1,750 from 1,708,750 to 1,707,000.



UNADJUSTED DATA

The advance number of actual initial claims under state programs, unadjusted, totaled 172,390 in the week ending October 17, a decrease of 19,321 (or -10.1 percent) from the previous week. The seasonal factors had expected a decrease of 14,179 (or -7.4 percent) from the previous week. There were 205,653 initial claims in the comparable week in 2025.

The advance unadjusted insured unemployment rate was 1.0 percent during the week ending October 10, unchanged from the prior week. The advance unadjusted level of insured unemployment in state programs totaled 1,481,260, an increase of 18,771 (or 1.3 percent) from the preceding week. The seasonal factors had expected a decrease of 3,405 (or -0.2 percent) from the previous week. A year earlier the rate was 1.1 percent and the volume was 1,674,202.



The total number of continued weeks claimed for benefits in all programs for the week ending October 3 was 1,485,572, a decrease of 40,033 from the previous week. There were 1,686,437 weekly claims filed for benefits in all programs in the comparable week in 2025.

No state was triggered "on" the Extended Benefits program during the week ending October 3.

Initial claims for UI benefits filed by former Federal civilian employees totaled 544 in the week ending October 10, an increase of 81 from the prior week. There were 425 initial claims filed by newly discharged veterans, a decrease of 91 from the preceding week.

There were 5,036 continued weeks claimed filed by former Federal civilian employees the week ending October 3, a decrease of 2 from the previous week. Newly discharged veterans claiming benefits totaled 4,820, a decrease of 73 from the prior week.

The highest insured unemployment rates in the week ending October 3 were in New Jersey (2.0), Washington (1.8), California (1.7), Massachusetts (1.7), Nevada (1.6), Puerto Rico (1.6), Oregon (1.5), New York (1.4), Rhode Island (1.4), Illinois (1.3), and the Virgin Islands (1.3).

The largest increases in initial claims for the week ending October 10 were in Ohio (+3,918), Tennessee (+3,477), Pennsylvania (+1,954), California (+1,758), and Texas (+1,721), while the largest decreases were in Nevada (-444), Illinois (-148), Hawaii (-122), Iowa (-103), and New Hampshire (-74).

UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE DATA FOR REGULAR STATE PROGRAMS

WEEK ENDING	October 17	October 10	Change	October 3	Prior Year ¹
Initial Claims (SA)	194,000	200,000	-6,000	198,000	231,000
Initial Claims (NSA)	172,390	191,711	-19,321	171,170	205,653
4-Wk Moving Average (SA)	197,750	198,750	-1,000	198,250	227,750

WEEK ENDING	October 10	October 3	Change	September 26	Prior Year ¹
Insured Unemployment (SA)	1,728,000	1,703,000	+25,000	1,714,000	1,947,000
Insured Unemployment (NSA)	1,481,260	1,462,489	+18,771	1,502,912	1,674,202
4-Wk Moving Average (SA)	1,711,000	1,707,000	+4,000	1,710,500	1,931,250
Insured Unemployment Rate (SA) ²	1.1%	1.1%	0.0	1.1%	1.3%
Insured Unemployment Rate (NSA) ²	1.0%	1.0%	0.0	1.0%	1.1%

INITIAL CLAIMS FILED IN FEDERAL PROGRAMS (UNADJUSTED)

WEEK ENDING	October 10	October 3	Change	Prior Year ¹
Federal Employees (UCFE)	544	463	+81	7,291
Newly Discharged Veterans (UCX)	425	516	-91	510

CONTINUED WEEKS CLAIMED FILED FOR UI BENEFITS IN ALL PROGRAMS (UNADJUSTED)

WEEK ENDING	October 3	September 26	Change	Prior Year ¹
Regular State	1,458,105	1,498,988	-40,883	1,645,510
Federal Employees	5,036	5,038	-2	9,996
Newly Discharged Veterans	4,820	4,893	-73	4,535
Extended Benefits ³	4	40	-36	45
State Additional Benefits ⁴	3,581	3,533	+48	2,921
STC / Workshare ⁵	14,026	13,113	+913	23,430
TOTAL	1,485,572	1,525,605	-40,033	1,686,437

FOOTNOTES

SA - Seasonally Adjusted Data, NSA - Not Seasonally Adjusted Data Continued weeks claimed represent all weeks of benefits claimed during the week being reported, and do not represent weeks claimed by unique individuals.

1. Prior year is comparable to most recent data.
2. Most recent week used covered employment of 153,911,765 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 benefits, and when applicable, extended 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 4-11 of the following link: [Extensions and Special Programs PDF](#)

Advance State Claims - Not Seasonally Adjusted

STATE	Initial Claims Filed During Week Ended October 17			Insured Unemployment For Week Ended October 10		
	Advance	Prior Wk	Change	Advance	Prior Wk	Change
Alabama	1,373	1,736	-363	6,394	6,789	-395
Alaska	705	565	140	3,552	3,328	224
Arizona	2,189	2,475	-286	17,673	20,094	-2,421
Arkansas	1,079	1,450	-371	4,263	4,612	-349
California	38,846	40,515	-1,669	304,242	300,198	4,044
Colorado	3,128	3,375	-247	32,706	29,165	3,541
Connecticut	2,047	2,249	-202	19,551	18,852	699
Delaware	409	465	-56	4,330	4,085	245
District of Columbia	582	667	-85	6,411	6,602	-191
Florida	4,844	6,014	-1,170	26,454	29,827	-3,373
Georgia	3,453	3,696	-243	21,273	22,724	-1,451
Hawaii	1,392	1,337	55	7,578	7,319	259
Idaho	698	783	-85	3,819	3,949	-130
Illinois	5,969	6,599	-630	77,990	75,189	2,801
Indiana	2,072	2,776	-704	16,582	17,263	-681
Iowa	1,121	1,156	-35	5,805	6,344	-539
Kansas	822	1,208	-386	6,327	6,188	139
Kentucky	2,525	2,045	480	8,666	8,484	182
Louisiana	1,066	1,261	-195	4,454	5,423	-969
Maine	500	461	39	4,078	3,968	110
Maryland	1,694	2,252	-558	20,848	21,007	-159
Massachusetts*	4,424	4,512	-88	60,846	61,701	-855
Michigan	7,600	5,612	1,988	37,771	39,086	-1,315
Minnesota	3,169	3,236	-67	31,499	30,635	864
Mississippi	797	1,010	-213	5,449	5,618	-169
Missouri	1,891	2,392	-501	14,129	14,243	-114
Montana	618	629	-11	4,008	3,872	136
Nebraska	456	527	-71	3,859	4,313	-454
Nevada	2,492	2,827	-335	24,139	24,499	-360
New Hampshire	169	281	-112	2,606	3,193	-587
New Jersey	7,735	8,223	-488	83,855	84,007	-152
New Mexico	726	980	-254	8,716	8,371	345
New York	12,194	13,545	-1,351	133,700	132,247	1,453
North Carolina	2,685	2,936	-251	15,920	16,882	-962
North Dakota	245	230	15	1,477	1,388	89
Ohio	4,134	8,627	-4,493	37,908	34,645	3,263
Oklahoma	1,165	1,261	-96	9,097	9,132	-35
Oregon	4,482	4,100	382	31,347	29,751	1,596
Pennsylvania	7,807	9,427	-1,620	70,030	70,498	-468
Puerto Rico	1,102	1,531	-429	14,010	14,356	-346
Rhode Island	656	757	-101	7,301	6,993	308
South Carolina	2,484	2,176	308	14,379	13,583	796
South Dakota	184	200	-16	919	912	7
Tennessee	3,185	5,827	-2,642	14,941	13,176	1,765
Texas	13,459	14,795	-1,336	129,274	123,243	6,031
Utah	1,406	1,462	-56	10,203	10,105	98
Vermont	328	285	43	1,941	1,874	67
Virgin Islands	24	35	-11	472	444	28
Virginia	1,705	2,494	-789	20,530	19,226	1,304
Washington	5,379	5,513	-134	67,382	62,953	4,429
West Virginia	502	588	-86	4,882	4,581	301
Wisconsin	2,281	2,217	64	14,285	14,341	-56
Wyoming	392	391	1	1,389	1,211	178
US Total	172,390	191,711	-19,321	1,481,260	1,462,489	18,771

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 claims 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 estimate.

Seasonally Adjusted US Weekly UI Claims (in thousands)

Week Ending	Change from			Change from			IUR
	Initial Claims	Prior Week	4-Week Average	Insured Unemployment	Prior Week	4-Week Average	
October 11, 2025	222	-11	224.75	1,947	19	1,931.25	1.3
October 18, 2025	231	9	227.75	1,953	6	1,939.25	1.3
October 25, 2025	221	-10	226.75	1,962	9	1,947.50	1.3
November 1, 2025	228	7	225.50	1,946	-16	1,952.00	1.3
November 8, 2025	228	0	227.00	1,949	3	1,952.50	1.3
November 15, 2025	222	-6	224.75	1,943	-6	1,950.00	1.3
November 22, 2025	218	-4	224.00	1,932	-11	1,942.50	1.3
November 29, 2025	216	-2	221.00	1,894	-38	1,929.50	1.2
December 6, 2025	235	19	222.75	1,887	-7	1,914.00	1.2
December 13, 2025	224	-11	223.25	1,910	23	1,905.75	1.2
December 20, 2025	215	-9	222.50	1,860	-50	1,887.75	1.2
December 27, 2025	203	-12	219.25	1,900	40	1,889.25	1.2
January 3, 2026	207	4	212.25	1,875	-25	1,886.25	1.2
January 10, 2026	201	-6	206.50	1,865	-10	1,875.00	1.2
January 17, 2026	210	9	205.25	1,823	-42	1,865.75	1.2
January 24, 2026	211	1	207.25	1,842	19	1,851.25	1.2
January 31, 2026	230	19	213.00	1,859	17	1,847.25	1.2
February 7, 2026	230	0	220.25	1,865	6	1,847.25	1.2
February 14, 2026	208	-22	219.75	1,827	-38	1,848.25	1.2
February 21, 2026	211	3	219.75	1,871	44	1,855.50	1.2
February 28, 2026	214	3	215.75	1,847	-24	1,852.50	1.2
March 7, 2026	213	-1	211.50	1,851	4	1,849.00	1.2
March 14, 2026	205	-8	210.75	1,816	-35	1,846.25	1.2
March 21, 2026	211	6	210.75	1,832	16	1,836.50	1.2
March 28, 2026	203	-8	208.00	1,787	-45	1,821.50	1.2
April 4, 2026	218	15	209.25	1,809	22	1,811.00	1.2
April 11, 2026	208	-10	210.00	1,808	-1	1,809.00	1.2
April 18, 2026	215	7	211.00	1,776	-32	1,795.00	1.2
April 25, 2026	190	-25	207.75	1,758	-18	1,787.75	1.1
May 2, 2026	199	9	203.00	1,776	18	1,779.50	1.2
May 9, 2026	212	13	204.00	1,771	-5	1,770.25	1.2
May 16, 2026	210	-2	202.75	1,785	14	1,772.50	1.2
May 23, 2026	212	2	208.25	1,771	-14	1,775.75	1.2
May 30, 2026	225	13	214.75	1,786	15	1,778.25	1.2
June 6, 2026	230	5	219.25	1,800	14	1,785.50	1.2
June 13, 2026	227	-3	223.50	1,812	12	1,792.25	1.2
June 20, 2026	216	-11	224.50	1,806	-6	1,801.00	1.2
June 27, 2026	217	1	222.50	1,821	15	1,809.75	1.2
July 4, 2026	217	0	219.25	1,798	-23	1,809.25	1.2
July 11, 2026	209	-8	214.75	1,789	-9	1,803.50	1.2
July 18, 2026	189	-20	208.00	1,777	-12	1,796.25	1.2
July 25, 2026	198	9	203.25	1,799	22	1,790.75	1.2
August 1, 2026	200	2	199.00	1,781	-18	1,786.50	1.2
August 8, 2026	212	12	199.75	1,796	15	1,788.25	1.2
August 15, 2026	207	-5	204.25	1,771	-25	1,786.75	1.2
August 22, 2026	204	-3	205.75	1,775	4	1,780.75	1.2
August 29, 2026	207	3	207.50	1,765	-10	1,776.75	1.1
September 5, 2026	207	0	206.25	1,717	-48	1,757.00	1.1
September 12, 2026	198	-9	204.00	1,712	-5	1,742.25	1.1
September 19, 2026	198	0	202.50	1,699	-13	1,723.25	1.1
September 26, 2026	199	1	200.50	1,714	15	1,710.50	1.1
October 3, 2026	198	-1	198.25	1,703	-11	1,707.00	1.1
October 10, 2026	200	2	198.75	1,728	25	1,711.00	1.1
October 17, 2026	194	-6	197.75				

STATE NAME	INITIAL CLAIMS FILED DURING WEEK ENDED OCTOBER 10					INSURED UNEMPLOYMENT FOR WEEK ENDED OCTOBER 3						
	STATE	CHANGE FROM		UCFE ¹	UCX ¹	STATE	(%) ²	CHANGE FROM		UCFE ¹	UCX ¹	TOTAL INSURED UNEMPLOYMENT
		LAST WEEK	YEAR AGO					LAST WEEK	YEAR AGO			
Alabama	1,736	70	-631	9	1	6,789	0.3	-124	-1,718	30	11	6,948
Alaska	565	69	-50	2	2	3,328	1.0	82	-381	29	4	3,274
Arizona	2,475	157	-389	11	4	20,094	0.6	-792	-4,761	63	25	20,958
Arkansas	1,450	421	36	0	0	4,612	0.4	-256	-1,829	10	0	4,879
California	40,515	1,758	-2,704	119	83	300,198	1.7	-10,120	-34,732	701	1,186	312,258
Colorado	3,375	190	-69	11	23	29,165	1.0	-196	-375	86	212	29,641
Connecticut	2,249	188	-141	2	3	18,852	1.1	-2,127	-9,985	42	29	21,064
Delaware	465	19	210	1	1	4,085	0.9	-424	-544	7	2	4,520
District of Columbia	667	22	-861	21	0	6,602	1.2	-149	-2,986	368	4	7,159
Florida	6,014	702	-326	20	29	29,827	0.3	-1,097	-4,459	116	68	31,085
Georgia	3,696	12	-761	24	27	22,724	0.5	-374	-3,481	160	100	23,359
Hawaii	1,337	-122	159	1	10	7,319	1.2	-330	1,913	33	45	7,743
Idaho	783	109	-83	6	1	3,949	0.5	5	-655	10	11	3,962
Illinois	6,599	-148	-3,197	6	4	75,189	1.3	-3,755	-12,937	311	117	79,360
Indiana	2,776	536	-242	7	3	17,263	0.5	592	-2,189	15	18	16,700
Iowa	1,156	-103	-297	2	2	6,344	0.4	-91	-712	17	4	6,455
Kansas	1,208	277	-48	1	0	6,188	0.4	153	-818	18	17	6,066
Kentucky	2,045	821	111	0	0	8,484	0.4	348	-2,234	52	39	8,207
Louisiana	1,261	82	-411	3	1	5,423	0.3	-50	-2,641	16	9	5,505
Maine	461	-30	-59	1	0	3,968	0.6	-136	-767	14	11	4,127
Maryland	2,252	-18	-739	21	7	21,007	0.8	-212	-5,695	301	65	21,599
Massachusetts	4,512	71	-785	3	4	61,701	1.7	-1,319	-4,544	164	132	63,285
Michigan	5,612	1,195	-497	10	2	39,086	0.9	114	-7,511	73	40	39,072
Minnesota	3,236	191	-318	2	5	30,635	1.1	-402	-3,761	55	52	31,145
Mississippi	1,010	183	-32	2	1	5,618	0.5	-80	-219	27	9	5,736
Missouri	2,392	215	-460	2	1	14,243	0.5	-711	-4,771	73	8	15,030
Montana	629	71	-52	19	0	3,872	0.8	233	-96	28	6	3,665
Nebraska	527	-3	-108	2	1	4,313	0.4	-191	-520	12	8	4,521
Nevada	2,827	-444	-85	5	1	24,499	1.6	12	-444	45	85	24,616
New Hampshire	281	-74	-195	1	2	3,193	0.5	-55	-391	2	1	3,251
New Jersey	8,223	-25	-745	18	15	84,007	2.0	-422	-6,523	215	222	84,847
New Mexico	980	264	-122	13	6	8,371	1.0	-172	-1,294	72	28	8,638
New York	13,545	647	-1,003	25	20	132,247	1.4	-4,841	-6,400	292	268	137,669
North Carolina	2,936	134	-343	1	0	16,882	0.3	-288	-2,828	58	82	17,308
North Dakota	230	3	-29	2	0	1,388	0.3	-94	-274	12	7	1,495
Ohio	8,627	3,918	3,425	7	8	34,645	0.6	919	-6,860	60	64	33,854
Oklahoma	1,261	133	-392	7	6	9,132	0.6	-164	-1,788	28	33	9,356
Oregon	4,100	0	-378	8	2	29,751	1.5	0	-1,129	63	58	29,872
Pennsylvania	9,427	1,954	-487	17	19	70,498	1.2	-1,096	-10,671	280	104	71,992
Puerto Rico	1,531	121	-186	7	3	14,356	1.6	-705	-3,017	110	35	15,236
Rhode Island	757	159	19	0	2	6,993	1.4	-171	-1,100	20	16	7,204
South Carolina	2,176	226	-150	13	6	13,583	0.6	-73	-457	46	52	13,755
South Dakota	200	54	-32	0	1	912	0.2	-35	-136	14	1	959
Tennessee	5,827	3,477	-145	1	3	13,176	0.4	-422	-801	37	33	13,673
Texas	14,795	1,721	-1,679	54	84	123,243	0.9	-10,758	-20,988	446	891	135,426
Utah	1,462	194	-110	16	5	10,105	0.6	20	-1,256	46	21	10,154
Vermont	285	-43	-15	0	0	1,874	0.6	-36	29	7	2	1,921
Virgin Islands	35	-18	-13	0	0	444	1.3	-6	14	14	4	452
Virginia	2,494	150	-1,884	13	4	19,226	0.5	-93	334	140	116	19,572
Washington	5,513	725	-997	21	16	62,953	1.8	-301	-6,259	136	437	63,808
West Virginia	588	101	-142	0	3	4,581	0.7	8	-1,074	24	14	4,606
Wisconsin	2,217	100	-565	6	4	14,341	0.5	-197	-2,518	31	13	14,577
Wyoming	391	129	-69	1	0	1,211	0.4	-44	-260	7	1	1,263
Totals	191,711	20,541	-19,066	544	425	1,462,489	1.0	-40,423	-189,499	5,036	4,820	1,512,827

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.

UNADJUSTED INITIAL CLAIMS FOR WEEK ENDED OCTOBER 10, 2026

STATES WITH AN INCREASE OF MORE THAN 1,000

State	Change	State Supplied Comment
OH	+3,918	Layoffs in manufacturing industry.
TN	+3,477	Layoffs in educational services and manufacturing industries.
PA	+1,954	Layoffs in administrative and support and waste management and remediation services; professional, scientific, and technical services; and health care and social assistance industries.
CA	+1,758	No comment.
TX	+1,721	Layoffs in transportation and warehousing, accommodation and food services, and information industries
MI	+1,195	Layoffs in manufacturing industry.

STATES WITH A DECREASE OF MORE THAN 1,000

State	Change	State Supplied Comment
None		

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. On a weekly basis, continued claims are also referred to as insured unemployment, as continued claims reflect a good approximation of the current number of insured unemployed workers filing for UI benefits. The count of U.S. continued weeks claimed is also a good indicator of labor market conditions. 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. For further questions on the seasonal adjustment methodology, please see the [official release page for the UI claims seasonal adjustment factors](#) or contact BLS directly through the [Local Area Unemployment Statistics web contact form](#).

[Weekly Claims Archives](#) [Weekly Claims Data](#)

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