



News Release

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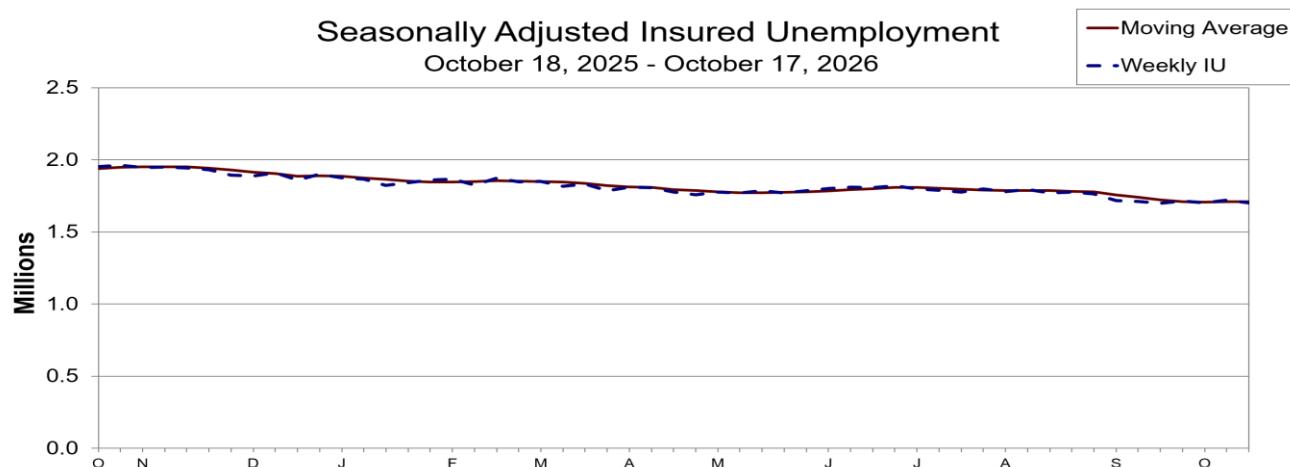
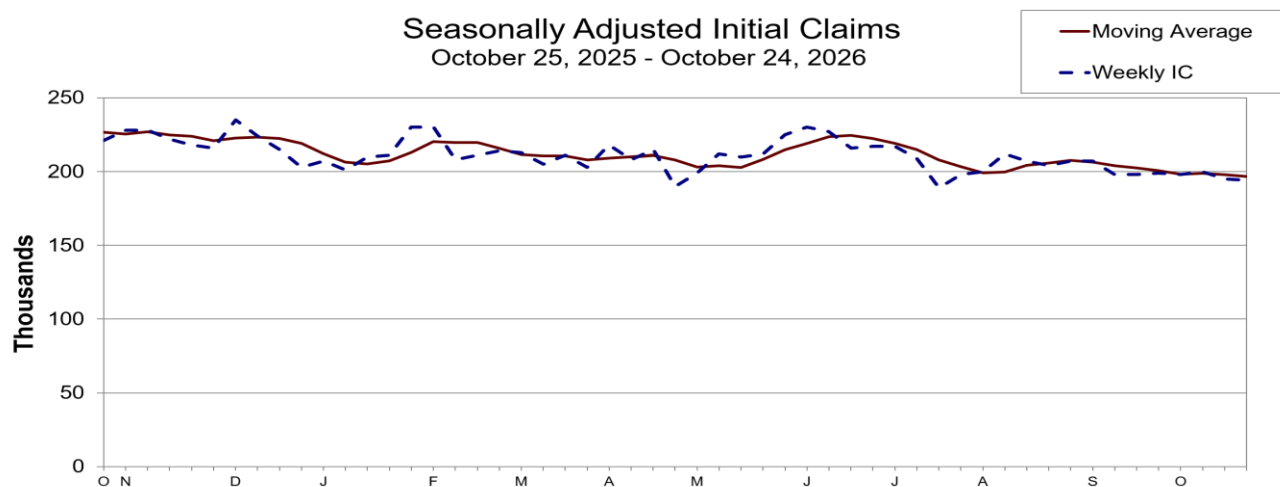
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8:30 A.M. (Eastern) Thursday, October 29, 2026

UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE WEEKLY CLAIMS

SEASONALLY ADJUSTED DATA

In the week ending October 24, the advance figure for seasonally adjusted **initial claims** was 194,000, a decrease of 1,000 from the previous week's revised level. The previous week's level was revised up by 1,000 from 194,000 to 195,000. The 4-week moving average was 196,750, a decrease of 1,250 from the previous week's revised average. The previous week's average was revised up by 250 from 197,750 to 198,000.

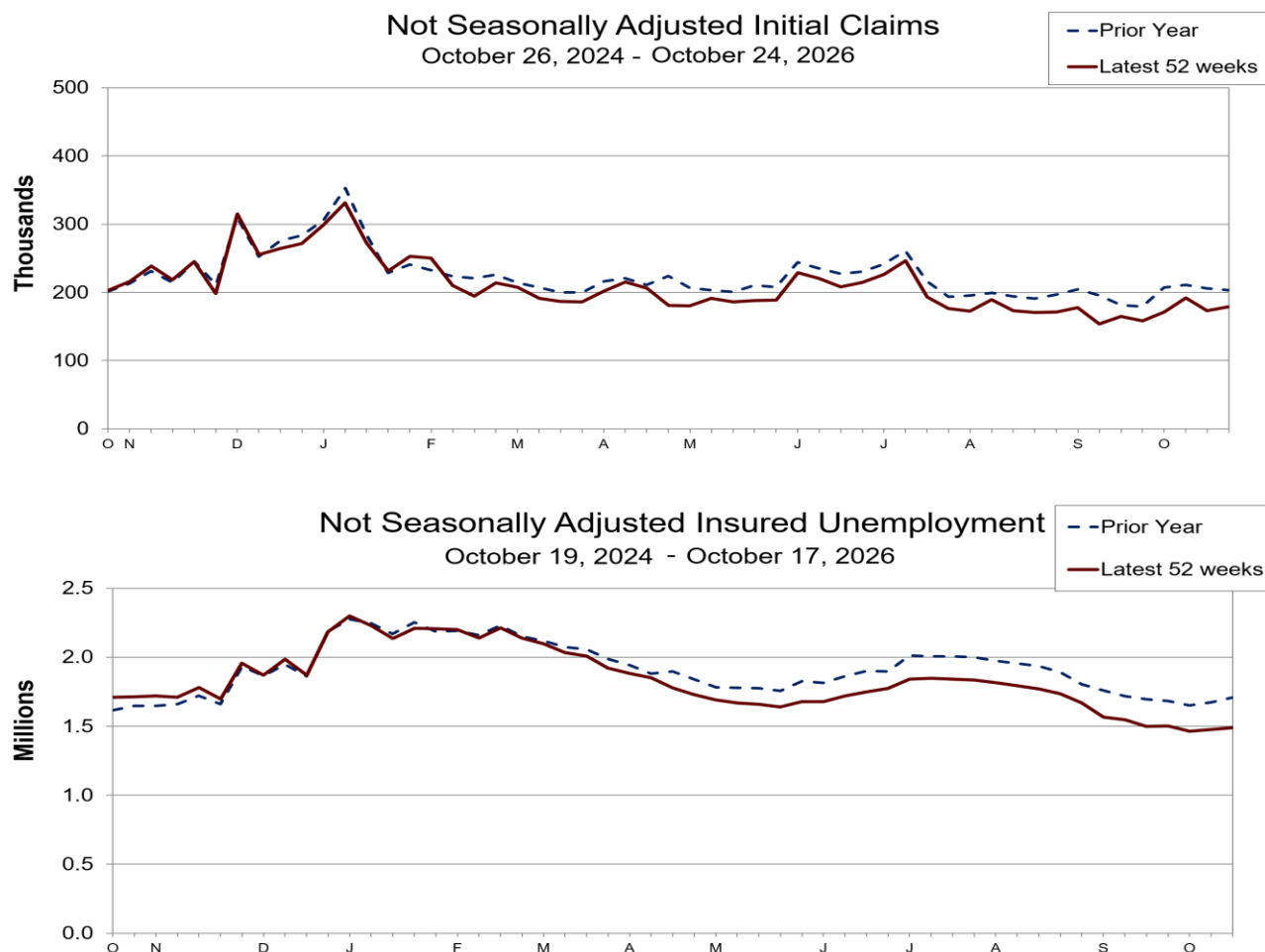
The advance seasonally adjusted **insured unemployment rate** was 1.1 percent for the week ending October 17, unchanged from the previous week's unrevised rate. The advance number for seasonally adjusted **insured unemployment** during the week ending October 17 was 1,701,000, a decrease of 21,000 from the previous week's revised level. The previous week's level was revised down by 6,000 from 1,728,000 to 1,722,000. The 4-week moving average was 1,710,000, an increase of 500 from the previous week's revised average. The previous week's average was revised down by 1,500 from 1,711,000 to 1,709,500.



UNADJUSTED DATA

The advance number of actual initial claims under state programs, unadjusted, totaled 178,851 in the week ending October 24, an increase of 5,648 (or 3.3 percent) from the previous week. The seasonal factors had expected an increase of 6,040 (or 3.5 percent) from the previous week. There were 203,012 initial claims in the comparable week in 2025.

The advance unadjusted insured unemployment rate was 1.0 percent during the week ending October 17, unchanged from the prior week. The advance unadjusted level of insured unemployment in state programs totaled 1,490,071, an increase of 14,007 (or 0.9 percent) from the preceding week. The seasonal factors had expected an increase of 32,725 (or 2.2 percent) from the previous week. A year earlier the rate was 1.1 percent and the volume was 1,708,691.



The total number of continued weeks claimed for benefits in all programs for the week ending October 10 was 1,500,078, an increase of 14,467 from the previous week. There were 1,712,123 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 10.

Initial claims for UI benefits filed by former Federal civilian employees totaled 442 in the week ending October 17, a decrease of 113 from the prior week. There were 387 initial claims filed by newly discharged veterans, a decrease of 40 from the preceding week.

There were 4,934 continued weeks claimed filed by former Federal civilian employees the week ending October 10, a decrease of 100 from the previous week. Newly discharged veterans claiming benefits totaled 5,875, an increase of 1,057 from the prior week.

The highest insured unemployment rates in the week ending October 10 were in Illinois (13.1), New Jersey (2.0), Washington (1.8), California (1.7), Massachusetts (1.7), Puerto Rico (1.6), Nevada (1.5), Oregon (1.5), Rhode Island (1.5), and New York (1.4).

The largest increases in initial claims for the week ending October 17 were in Michigan (+1,906), Kentucky (+471), South Carolina (+419), Wyoming (+63), and Vermont (+58), while the largest decreases were in Ohio (-4,478), Tennessee (-2,635), California (-1,930), New York (-1,554), and Pennsylvania (-1,532).

UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE DATA FOR REGULAR STATE PROGRAMS

WEEK ENDING	October 24	October 17	Change	October 10	Prior Year ¹
Initial Claims (SA)	194,000	195,000	-1,000	200,000	221,000
Initial Claims (NSA)	178,851	173,203	+5,648	191,797	203,012
4-Wk Moving Average (SA)	196,750	198,000	-1,250	198,750	226,750

WEEK ENDING	October 17	October 10	Change	October 3	Prior Year ¹
Insured Unemployment (SA)	1,701,000	1,722,000	-21,000	1,703,000	1,953,000
Insured Unemployment (NSA)	1,490,071	1,476,064	+14,007	1,462,482	1,708,691
4-Wk Moving Average (SA)	1,710,000	1,709,500	+500	1,707,000	1,939,250
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 17	October 10	Change	Prior Year ¹
Federal Employees (UCFE)	442	555	-113	10,064
Newly Discharged Veterans (UCX)	387	427	-40	434

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

WEEK ENDING	October 10	October 3	Change	Prior Year ¹
Regular State	1,472,151	1,458,084	+14,067	1,666,623
Federal Employees	4,934	5,034	-100	14,464
Newly Discharged Veterans	5,875	4,818	+1,057	4,678
Extended Benefits ³	32	4	+28	16
State Additional Benefits ⁴	3,609	3,608	+1	2,768
STC / Workshare ⁵	13,477	14,063	-586	23,574
TOTAL	1,500,078	1,485,611	+14,467	1,712,123

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 24			Insured Unemployment For Week Ended October 17		
	Advance	Prior Wk	Change	Advance	Prior Wk	Change
Alabama	1,408	1,450	-42	6,332	6,876	-544
Alaska	726	533	193	3,752	3,609	143
Arizona	2,129	2,394	-265	17,521	19,939	-2,418
Arkansas	990	1,145	-155	4,459	4,613	-154
California	39,900	38,585	1,315	309,219	300,430	8,789
Colorado	3,343	3,085	258	31,364	31,483	-119
Connecticut	2,074	2,033	41	19,789	18,541	1,248
Delaware	416	437	-21	4,298	4,038	260
District of Columbia	552	579	-27	6,420	6,480	-60
Florida	4,956	5,041	-85	26,919	29,636	-2,717
Georgia	3,569	3,647	-78	21,245	22,394	-1,149
Hawaii	1,185	1,376	-191	6,957	7,385	-428
Idaho	758	701	57	3,924	4,113	-189
Illinois	6,641	5,936	705	77,292	77,177	115
Indiana	2,399	2,062	337	16,720	16,658	62
Iowa	1,347	1,164	183	5,740	6,087	-347
Kansas	902	843	59	6,233	6,025	208
Kentucky	2,027	2,516	-489	9,643	8,437	1,206
Louisiana	1,025	1,179	-154	4,314	5,295	-981
Maine	598	496	102	4,180	4,071	109
Maryland	1,720	2,000	-280	20,850	20,828	22
Massachusetts	4,587	4,243	344	61,089	61,134	-45
Michigan	5,735	7,518	-1,783	38,739	39,063	-324
Minnesota	3,703	3,139	564	32,140	30,194	1,946
Mississippi	826	873	-47	5,324	5,675	-351
Missouri	1,933	1,987	-54	13,990	14,216	-226
Montana	687	612	75	4,532	4,043	489
Nebraska	464	475	-11	3,794	3,958	-164
Nevada	2,687	2,596	91	23,614	24,010	-396
New Hampshire	195	270	-75	2,568	3,197	-629
New Jersey	8,507	7,829	678	84,837	83,181	1,656
New Mexico	793	725	68	8,512	8,627	-115
New York	14,845	11,991	2,854	137,298	131,927	5,371
North Carolina	2,630	2,787	-157	15,848	16,880	-1,032
North Dakota	262	220	42	1,533	1,377	156
Ohio	4,859	4,149	710	34,975	38,072	-3,097
Oklahoma	994	1,223	-229	9,131	9,222	-91
Oregon	4,456	4,058	398	31,502	29,899	1,603
Pennsylvania	8,068	7,895	173	70,699	70,739	-40
Puerto Rico	1,060	1,147	-87	14,052	14,391	-339
Rhode Island	609	662	-53	7,367	7,129	238
South Carolina	2,484	2,595	-111	14,379	14,664	-285
South Dakota	221	180	41	955	935	20
Tennessee	2,204	3,192	-988	13,775	15,070	-1,295
Texas	14,755	13,402	1,353	129,657	128,684	973
Utah	1,313	1,405	-92	10,433	10,242	191
Vermont	355	343	12	2,017	1,867	150
Virgin Islands*	31	27	4	504	440	64
Virginia	2,176	1,766	410	20,478	18,778	1,700
Washington	5,275	5,447	-172	67,974	64,249	3,725
West Virginia	559	519	40	4,944	4,521	423
Wisconsin	2,522	2,272	250	14,670	14,290	380
Wyoming	391	454	-63	1,570	1,275	295
US Total	178,851	173,203	5,648	1,490,071	1,476,064	14,007

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	Initial Claims	Change from Prior Week	4-Week Average	Insured Unemployment	Change from Prior Week	4-Week Average	IUR
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	1,722	19	1,709.50	1.1
October 17, 2026	195	-5	198.00	1,701	-21	1,710.00	1.1
October 24, 2026	194	-1	196.75				

INITIAL CLAIMS FILED DURING WEEK ENDED OCTOBER 17						INSURED UNEMPLOYMENT FOR WEEK ENDED OCTOBER 10						
STATE NAME	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	1,450	-286	-735	7	4	6,876	0.3	87	-2,003	29	11	6,916
Alaska	533	-32	-86	0	0	3,609	1.1	281	-331	25	4	3,638
Arizona	2,394	-81	-218	2	5	19,939	0.6	-155	-4,392	60	54	20,053
Arkansas	1,145	-305	-189	2	1	4,613	0.4	1	-1,830	7	0	4,620
California	38,585	-1,930	-4,480	95	75	300,430	1.7	232	-36,803	712	1,253	302,395
Colorado	3,085	-290	-494	5	13	31,483	1.1	2,318	1,486	86	218	31,787
Connecticut	2,033	-216	-192	2	0	18,541	1.1	-311	-10,228	41	28	18,610
Delaware	437	-28	184	0	1	4,038	0.9	-47	-748	5	3	4,046
District of Columbia	579	-88	-1,023	19	2	6,480	1.2	-122	-3,433	343	2	6,825
Florida	5,041	-973	-520	19	25	29,636	0.3	-191	-4,029	84	109	29,829
Georgia	3,647	-49	-578	16	14	22,394	0.5	-330	-2,794	131	91	22,616
Hawaii	1,376	39	-26	1	11	7,385	1.2	50	1,410	51	42	7,478
Idaho	701	-82	-85	4	1	4,113	0.5	164	-557	15	12	4,140
Illinois	5,936	-663	-2,165	5	6	77,177	13.1	1,988	-11,494	305	1,011	78,493
Indiana	2,062	-714	-244	3	3	16,658	0.5	-605	-1,978	14	17	16,689
Iowa	1,164	8	-292	1	2	6,087	0.4	-257	-989	12	18	6,117
Kansas	843	-365	-199	0	2	6,025	0.4	-163	-1,042	15	20	6,060
Kentucky	2,516	471	-2,630	0	0	8,437	0.4	-47	-532	40	26	8,503
Louisiana	1,179	-82	-402	3	2	5,295	0.3	-128	-2,603	21	7	5,323
Maine	496	35	63	0	0	4,071	0.6	103	-638	18	11	4,100
Maryland	2,000	-252	-790	19	9	20,828	0.8	-179	-5,854	284	67	21,179
Massachusetts	4,243	-269	-735	2	2	61,134	1.7	-567	-4,922	118	115	61,367
Michigan	7,518	1,906	541	4	4	39,063	0.9	-23	-6,835	67	31	39,161
Minnesota	3,139	-97	-577	3	5	30,194	1.0	-441	-4,224	51	42	30,287
Mississippi	873	-137	-107	0	1	5,675	0.5	57	-328	23	8	5,706
Missouri	1,987	-405	-505	5	7	14,216	0.5	-27	-5,082	66	11	14,293
Montana	612	-17	-153	25	0	4,043	0.8	171	-117	37	10	4,090
Nebraska	475	-52	-63	0	1	3,958	0.4	-355	-897	10	6	3,974
Nevada	2,596	-231	-84	3	0	24,010	1.5	-489	-1,610	39	90	24,139
New Hampshire	270	-11	-145	1	0	3,197	0.5	4	-476	2	1	3,200
New Jersey	7,829	-394	-528	13	24	83,181	2.0	-826	-6,026	222	226	83,629
New Mexico	725	-255	-290	9	2	8,627	1.0	256	-1,283	78	41	8,746
New York	11,991	-1,554	-2,827	18	13	131,927	1.4	-320	-8,353	287	260	132,474
North Carolina	2,787	-149	-379	2	2	16,880	0.3	-2	-2,761	60	74	17,014
North Dakota	220	-10	-36	4	0	1,377	0.3	-11	-319	6	7	1,390
Ohio	4,149	-4,478	-447	8	9	38,072	0.7	3,427	-2,982	60	63	38,195
Oklahoma	1,223	-38	-179	6	6	9,222	0.6	90	-2,018	30	30	9,282
Oregon	4,058	-128	-409	20	5	29,899	1.5	171	-1,406	84	60	30,043
Pennsylvania	7,895	-1,532	-929	25	6	70,739	1.2	241	-10,468	285	110	71,134
Puerto Rico	1,147	-384	-406	4	5	14,391	1.6	35	-3,001	111	38	14,540
Rhode Island	662	-95	60	1	0	7,129	1.5	136	-881	23	18	7,170
South Carolina	2,595	419	123	4	7	14,664	0.6	1,081	292	47	56	14,767
South Dakota	180	-20	-34	1	1	935	0.2	23	-142	14	2	951
Tennessee	3,192	-2,635	-3,215	0	4	15,070	0.5	1,894	-2,934	30	28	15,128
Texas	13,402	-1,393	-3,340	36	72	128,684	0.9	5,441	-27,866	440	952	130,076
Utah	1,405	-57	113	22	3	10,242	0.6	137	-1,179	56	17	10,315
Vermont	343	58	38	1	0	1,867	0.6	-7	-67	10	2	1,879
Virgin Islands	27	-8	0	0	0	440	1.3	-4	76	14	2	456
Virginia	1,766	-728	-1,409	4	3	18,778	0.5	-448	-1,436	142	116	19,036
Washington	5,447	-66	-712	10	25	64,249	1.8	1,296	-6,127	158	430	64,837
West Virginia	519	-69	-108	0	3	4,521	0.7	-60	-1,047	29	11	4,561
Wisconsin	2,272	55	-567	5	1	14,290	0.5	-51	-4,024	32	13	14,335
Wyoming	454	63	-40	3	0	1,275	0.5	64	-313	5	1	1,281
Totals	173,203	-18,594	-32,450	442	387	1,476,064	1.0	13,582	-198,138	4,934	5,875	1,486,873

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 17, 2026

STATES WITH AN INCREASE OF MORE THAN 1,000

State	Change	State Supplied Comment
MI	+1,906	Layoffs in manufacturing industry.

STATES WITH A DECREASE OF MORE THAN 1,000

State	Change	State Supplied Comment
OH	-4,478	Fewer layoffs in manufacturing industry.
TN	-2,635	No comment.
CA	-1,930	No comment.
NY	-1,554	Fewer layoffs in health care and social assistance, finance and insurance, and construction industries.
PA	-1,532	Fewer layoffs in professional, scientific, and technical services; health care and social assistance; administrative and support and waste management and remediation services; and finance and insurance industries.
TX	-1,393	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. 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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