



# News Release

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8:30 A.M. (Eastern) Thursday, September 12, 2019

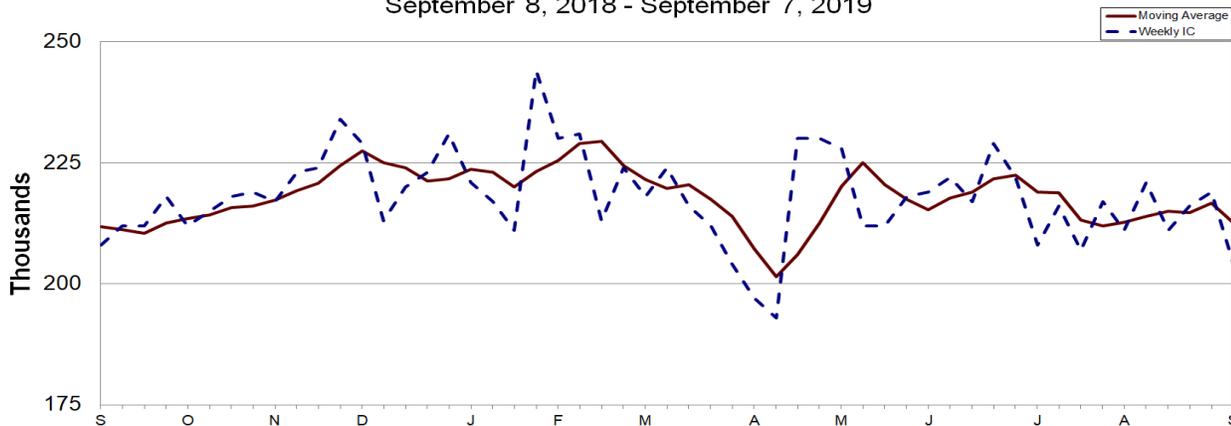
## UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE WEEKLY CLAIMS

### SEASONALLY ADJUSTED DATA

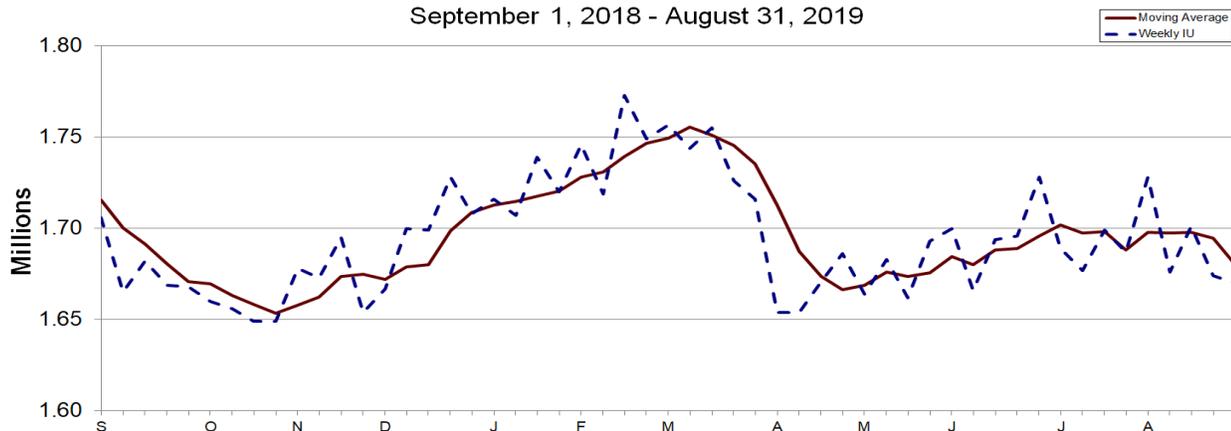
In the week ending September 7, the advance figure for seasonally adjusted **initial claims** was 204,000, a decrease of 15,000 from the previous week's revised level. The previous week's level was revised up by 2,000 from 217,000 to 219,000. The 4-week moving average was 212,500, a decrease of 4,250 from the previous week's revised average. The previous week's average was revised up by 500 from 216,250 to 216,750.

The advance seasonally adjusted **insured unemployment rate** was 1.2 percent for the week ending August 31, unchanged from the previous week's unrevised rate. The advance number for seasonally adjusted **insured unemployment** during the week ending August 31 was 1,670,000, a decrease of 4,000 from the previous week's revised level. The previous week's level was revised up 12,000 from 1,662,000 to 1,674,000. The 4-week moving average was 1,680,250, a decrease of 14,500 from the previous week's revised average. The previous week's average was revised up by 3,000 from 1,691,750 to 1,694,750.

Seasonally Adjusted Initial Claims  
September 8, 2018 - September 7, 2019



Seasonally Adjusted Insured Unemployment  
September 1, 2018 - August 31, 2019



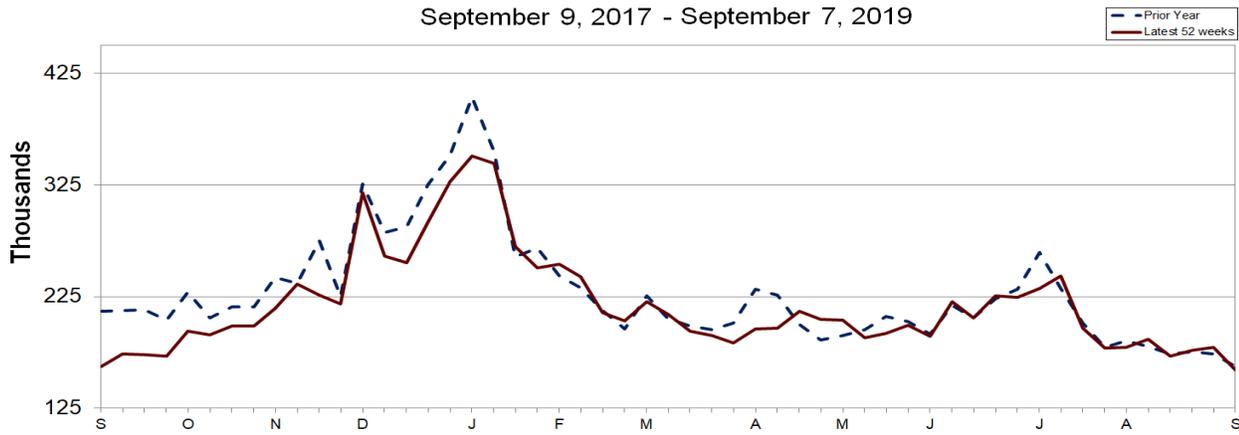
**UNADJUSTED DATA**

The advance number of actual initial claims under state programs, unadjusted, totaled 159,282 in the week ending September 7, a decrease of 20,232 (or -11.3 percent) from the previous week. The seasonal factors had expected a decrease of 9,183 (or -5.1 percent) from the previous week. There were 162,640 initial claims in the comparable week in 2018.

The advance unadjusted insured unemployment rate was 1.0 percent during the week ending August 31, a decrease of 0.1 percentage point from the prior week. The advance unadjusted number for persons claiming UI benefits in state programs totaled 1,472,897, a decrease of 94,016 (or -6.0 percent) from the preceding week. The seasonal factors had expected a decrease of 90,399 (or -5.8 percent) from the previous week. A year earlier the rate was 1.1 percent and the volume was 1,494,794.

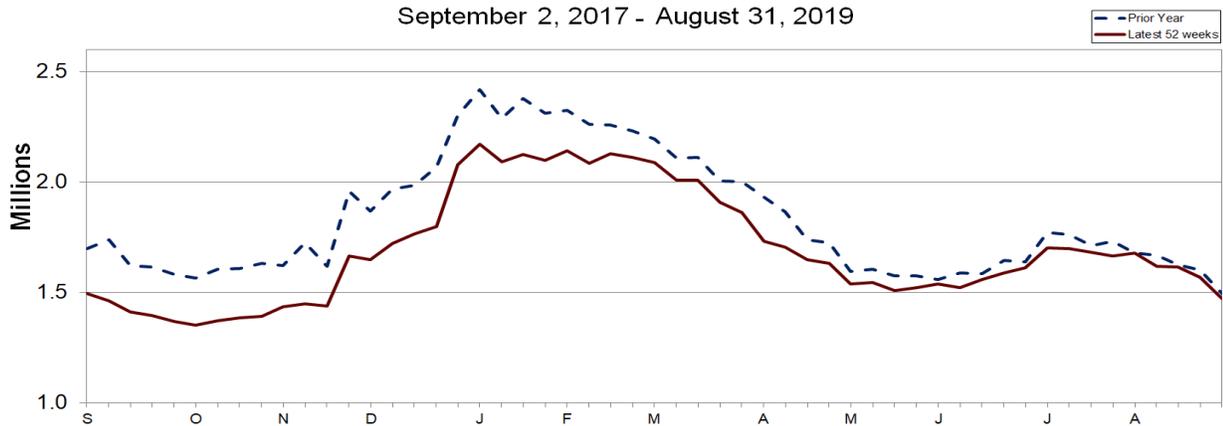
**Not Seasonally Adjusted Initial Claims**

September 9, 2017 - September 7, 2019



**Not Seasonally Adjusted Insured Unemployment**

September 2, 2017 - August 31, 2019



The total number of people claiming benefits in all programs for the week ending August 24 was 1,591,432, a decrease of 48,190 from the previous week. There were 1,624,726 persons claiming benefits in all programs in the comparable week in 2018.

No state was triggered "on" the Extended Benefits program during the week ending August 24.

Initial claims for UI benefits filed by former Federal civilian employees totaled 567 in the week ending August 31, a decrease of 77 from the prior week. There were 478 initial claims filed by newly discharged veterans, a decrease of 32 from the preceding week.

There were 6,620 former Federal civilian employees claiming UI benefits for the week ending August 24, a decrease of 204 from the previous week. Newly discharged veterans claiming benefits totaled 5,863, an increase of 266 from the prior week.

The highest insured unemployment rates in the week ending August 24 were in New Jersey (2.4), Connecticut (2.1), Puerto Rico (2.0), Pennsylvania (1.9), Rhode Island (1.8), California (1.7), Massachusetts (1.6), Alaska (1.5), New York (1.5), Illinois (1.4), and the Virgin Islands (1.4).

The largest increases in initial claims for the week ending August 31 were in Illinois (+3,728), Kansas (+983), Wisconsin (+597), Michigan (+562), and Texas (+429), while the largest decreases were in New York (-1,424), Florida (-659), New Jersey (-643), Iowa (-330), and Connecticut (-317).

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UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE DATA FOR REGULAR STATE PROGRAMS

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<b>WEEK ENDING</b>	<b>September 7</b>	<b>August 31</b>	<b>Change</b>	<b>August 24</b>	<b>Prior Year<sup>1</sup></b>
Initial Claims (SA)	204,000	219,000	-15,000	216,000	208,000
Initial Claims (NSA)	159,282	179,514	-20,232	176,865	162,640
4-Wk Moving Average (SA)	212,500	216,750	-4,250	214,750	211,750
<b>WEEK ENDING</b>	<b>August 31</b>	<b>August 24</b>	<b>Change</b>	<b>August 17</b>	<b>Prior Year<sup>1</sup></b>
Insured Unemployment (SA)	1,670,000	1,674,000	-4,000	1,701,000	1,706,000
Insured Unemployment (NSA)	1,472,897	1,566,913	-94,016	1,615,800	1,494,794
4-Wk Moving Average (SA)	1,680,250	1,694,750	-14,500	1,698,000	1,715,500
Insured Unemployment Rate (SA) <sup>2</sup>	1.2%	1.2%	0.0	1.2%	1.2%
Insured Unemployment Rate (NSA) <sup>2</sup>	1.0%	1.1%	-0.1	1.1%	1.1%

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INITIAL CLAIMS FILED IN FEDERAL PROGRAMS (UNADJUSTED)

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<b>WEEK ENDING</b>	<b>August 31</b>	<b>August 24</b>	<b>Change</b>	<b>Prior Year<sup>1</sup></b>
Federal Employees (UCFE)	567	644	-77	543
Newly Discharged Veterans (UCX)	478	510	-32	596

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PERSONS CLAIMING UI BENEFITS IN ALL PROGRAMS (UNADJUSTED)

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<b>WEEK ENDING</b>	<b>August 24</b>	<b>August 17</b>	<b>Change</b>	<b>Prior Year<sup>1</sup></b>
Regular State	1,564,184	1,613,393	-49,209	1,598,216
Federal Employees	6,620	6,824	-204	7,510
Newly Discharged Veterans	5,863	5,597	+266	7,429
Extended Benefits <sup>3</sup>	0	0	0	3
State Additional Benefits <sup>4</sup>	4,704	4,559	+145	5,009
STC / Workshare <sup>5</sup>	10,061	9,249	+812	6,559
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>1,591,432</b>	<b>1,639,622</b>	<b>-48,190</b>	<b>1,624,726</b>

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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 144,199,701 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 4-4 of this link: [Extensions and Special Programs PDF](#)
5. Information on STC/Worksharing can be found starting on page 4-8 of the following link: [Extensions and Special Programs PDF](#)

## Advance State Claims - Not Seasonally Adjusted

STATE	Initial Claims Filed During Week Ended September 7			Insured Unemployment For Week Ended August 31		
	Advance	Prior Wk	Change	Advance	Prior Wk	Change
Alabama	1,605	2,135	-530	14,555	15,707	-1,152
Alaska	782	682	100	4,458	4,616	-158
Arizona	3,170	3,622	-452	22,627	27,263	-4,636
Arkansas	2,017	1,454	563	9,440	10,774	-1,334
California	31,161	34,358	-3,197	276,582	290,655	-14,073
Colorado	1,487	1,510	-23	15,977	15,947	30
Connecticut	2,142	2,206	-64	31,272	35,463	-4,191
Delaware	409	445	-36	4,490	5,640	-1,150
District of Columbia	435	391	44	6,520	7,141	-621
Florida	4,550	5,646	-1,096	36,357	41,020	-4,663
Georgia	3,497	4,797	-1,300	23,423	24,822	-1,399
Hawaii	1,115	1,058	57	6,570	6,300	270
Idaho	566	700	-134	3,229	4,245	-1,016
Illinois	7,258	11,104	-3,846	78,804	83,897	-5,093
Indiana	2,120	1,979	141	13,524	13,207	317
Iowa	1,947	1,769	178	12,998	14,008	-1,010
Kansas	1,325	2,166	-841	8,873	7,473	1,400
Kentucky	1,725	1,842	-117	5,952	16,720	-10,768
Louisiana	1,527	1,881	-354	13,084	15,678	-2,594
Maine	380	388	-8	3,080	3,405	-325
Maryland	2,320	2,511	-191	24,293	28,493	-4,200
Massachusetts	4,203	4,025	178	50,809	56,130	-5,321
Michigan	3,875	4,353	-478	34,440	37,750	-3,310
Minnesota	2,513	2,216	297	23,894	23,412	482
Mississippi	810	1,052	-242	6,479	8,217	-1,738
Missouri	1,946	2,479	-533	14,692	17,951	-3,259
Montana	522	481	41	3,429	4,026	-597
Nebraska	461	886	-425	3,158	2,756	402
Nevada	2,235	2,438	-203	16,517	17,388	-871
New Hampshire	305	374	-69	2,740	3,440	-700
New Jersey	6,578	7,103	-525	94,014	94,789	-775
New Mexico	665	652	13	7,201	7,512	-311
New York	11,627	15,116	-3,489	132,970	136,816	-3,846
North Carolina	2,569	3,041	-472	17,225	19,361	-2,136
North Dakota	296	239	57	2,091	2,014	77
Ohio	4,446	4,715	-269	37,572	39,315	-1,743
Oklahoma	1,306	1,424	-118	13,530	14,283	-753
Oregon	3,180	3,191	-11	23,167	23,491	-324
Pennsylvania	9,812	11,186	-1,374	100,339	107,793	-7,454
Puerto Rico	1,114	961	153	16,404	16,802	-398
Rhode Island	626	617	9	7,133	8,363	-1,230
South Carolina	1,462	1,869	-407	13,328	14,280	-952
South Dakota	92	122	-30	801	876	-75
Tennessee	2,067	2,221	-154	14,815	16,597	-1,782
Texas	11,512	13,048	-1,536	118,964	118,901	63
Utah	832	821	11	5,685	5,965	-280
Vermont	259	205	54	2,059	2,563	-504
Virgin Islands	20	39	-19	460	452	8
Virginia	2,283	2,217	66	17,783	18,264	-481
Washington	5,231	4,944	287	41,710	42,522	-812
West Virginia	870	816	54	8,734	7,670	1,064
Wisconsin	3,824	3,787	37	23,064	23,279	-215
Wyoming	203	232	-29	1,582	1,461	121
US Total	159,282	179,514	-20,232	1,472,897	1,566,913	-94,016

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.

## Seasonally Adjusted US Weekly UI Claims (in thousands)

Week Ending	Initial Claims	Change from		Insured Unemployment	Change from		IUR
		Prior Week	4-Week Average		Prior Week	4-Week Average	
September 1, 2018	210	-5	213.50	1,706	-7	1,715.50	1.2
September 8, 2018	208	-2	211.75	1,665	-41	1,700.25	1.2
September 15, 2018	212	4	211.25	1,682	17	1,691.50	1.2
September 22, 2018	212	0	210.50	1,669	-13	1,680.50	1.2
September 29, 2018	218	6	212.50	1,668	-1	1,671.00	1.2
October 6, 2018	212	-6	213.50	1,660	-8	1,669.75	1.2
October 13, 2018	215	3	214.25	1,656	-4	1,663.25	1.2
October 20, 2018	218	3	215.75	1,649	-7	1,658.25	1.2
October 27, 2018	219	1	216.00	1,649	0	1,653.50	1.2
November 3, 2018	217	-2	217.25	1,678	29	1,658.00	1.2
November 10, 2018	223	6	219.25	1,673	-5	1,662.25	1.2
November 17, 2018	224	1	220.75	1,695	22	1,673.75	1.2
November 24, 2018	234	10	224.50	1,654	-41	1,675.00	1.2
December 1, 2018	229	-5	227.50	1,667	13	1,672.25	1.2
December 8, 2018	213	-16	225.00	1,700	33	1,679.00	1.2
December 15, 2018	220	7	224.00	1,699	-1	1,680.00	1.2
December 22, 2018	223	3	221.25	1,728	29	1,698.50	1.2
December 29, 2018	231	8	221.75	1,708	-20	1,708.75	1.2
January 5, 2019	221	-10	223.75	1,716	8	1,712.75	1.2
January 12, 2019	217	-4	223.00	1,707	-9	1,714.75	1.2
January 19, 2019	211	-6	220.00	1,739	32	1,717.50	1.2
January 26, 2019	244	33	223.25	1,720	-19	1,720.50	1.2
February 2, 2019	230	-14	225.50	1,746	26	1,728.00	1.2
February 9, 2019	231	1	229.00	1,719	-27	1,731.00	1.2
February 16, 2019	213	-18	229.50	1,773	54	1,739.50	1.2
February 23, 2019	224	11	224.50	1,749	-24	1,746.75	1.2
March 2, 2019	218	-6	221.50	1,757	8	1,749.50	1.2
March 9, 2019	224	6	219.75	1,744	-13	1,755.75	1.2
March 16, 2019	216	-8	220.50	1,755	11	1,751.25	1.2
March 23, 2019	212	-4	217.50	1,726	-29	1,745.50	1.2
March 30, 2019	204	-8	214.00	1,716	-10	1,735.25	1.2
April 6, 2019	197	-7	207.25	1,654	-62	1,712.75	1.2
April 13, 2019	193	-4	201.50	1,654	0	1,687.50	1.2
April 20, 2019	230	37	206.00	1,671	17	1,673.75	1.2
April 27, 2019	230	0	212.50	1,686	15	1,666.25	1.2
May 4, 2019	228	-2	220.25	1,664	-22	1,668.75	1.2
May 11, 2019	212	-16	225.00	1,683	19	1,676.00	1.2
May 18, 2019	212	0	220.50	1,662	-21	1,673.75	1.2
May 25, 2019	218	6	217.50	1,693	31	1,675.50	1.2
June 1, 2019	219	1	215.25	1,700	7	1,684.50	1.2
June 8, 2019	222	3	217.75	1,666	-34	1,680.25	1.2
June 15, 2019	217	-5	219.00	1,694	28	1,688.25	1.2
June 22, 2019	229	12	221.75	1,696	2	1,689.00	1.2
June 29, 2019	222	-7	222.50	1,728	32	1,696.00	1.2
July 6, 2019	208	-14	219.00	1,689	-39	1,701.75	1.2
July 13, 2019	216	8	218.75	1,677	-12	1,697.50	1.2
July 20, 2019	207	-9	213.25	1,699	22	1,698.25	1.2
July 27, 2019	217	10	212.00	1,687	-12	1,688.00	1.2
August 3, 2019	211	-6	212.75	1,728	41	1,697.75	1.2
August 10, 2019	221	10	214.00	1,676	-52	1,697.50	1.2
August 17, 2019	211	-10	215.00	1,701	25	1,698.00	1.2
August 24, 2019	216	5	214.75	1,674	-27	1,694.75	1.2
August 31, 2019	219	3	216.75	1,670	-4	1,680.25	1.2
September 7, 2019	204	-15	212.50				

STATE NAME	INITIAL CLAIMS FILED DURING WEEK ENDED AUGUST 31					INSURED UNEMPLOYMENT FOR WEEK ENDED AUGUST 24					ALL PROGRAMS EXCLUDING RAILROAD RETIREMENT	
	STATE	CHANGE FROM				STATE (%) <sup>2</sup>	CHANGE FROM					
		LAST WEEK	YEAR AGO	UCFE <sup>1</sup>	UCX <sup>1</sup>		LAST WEEK	YEAR AGO	UCFE <sup>1</sup>	UCX <sup>1</sup>		
Alabama	2135	80	148	13	8	15707	0.8	-241	39	76	53	15836
Alaska	682	-19	-157	1	3	4616	1.5	-240	-732	61	18	4695
Arizona	3622	87	90	4	1	27263	1.0	-542	-1583	70	54	27387
Arkansas	1454	-147	31	1	1	10774	0.9	-138	669	51	29	10854
California	34358	-238	-1055	124	103	290655	1.7	-17107	-14729	1371	1297	293323
Colorado	1510	24	-19	9	12	15947	0.6	-351	-1316	86	184	16217
Connecticut	2206	-317	-8	8	3	35463	2.1	-737	-846	34	50	35547
Delaware	445	10	70	1	3	5640	1.3	401	-71	17	10	5667
District of Columbia	391	-49	21	11	0	7141	1.2	-95	-787	259	4	7404
Florida	5646	-659	-205	22	16	41020	0.5	-2779	-2022	154	116	41290
Georgia	4797	347	527	24	23	24822	0.6	-727	289	161	173	25156
Hawaii	1058	-78	-652	4	7	6300	1.0	-245	-1080	42	59	6401
Idaho	700	-1	-28	3	6	4245	0.6	-159	481	8	11	4264
Illinois	11104	3728	4077	8	11	83897	1.4	-1135	2268	307	180	84384
Indiana	1979	-10	-972	2	2	13207	0.4	46	92	21	23	13251
Iowa	1769	-330	70	2	1	14008	0.9	-674	1356	34	15	14057
Kansas	2166	983	932	1	1	7473	0.6	-36	-409	26	22	7521
Kentucky	1842	-132	251	0	1	16720	0.9	-591	558	186	86	16992
Louisiana	1881	-91	-159	3	7	15678	0.8	-463	-1599	51	16	15745
Maine	388	38	-60	0	0	3405	0.6	-208	-423	9	12	3426
Maryland	2511	-193	-151	16	4	28493	1.1	-467	-1363	289	75	28857
Massachusetts	4025	-11	78	14	9	56130	1.6	-327	1761	94	109	56333
Michigan	4353	562	274	7	3	37750	0.9	-1400	-882	72	69	37891
Minnesota	2216	77	-244	3	5	23412	0.8	-722	-570	44	58	23514
Mississippi	1052	139	168	1	3	8217	0.7	-363	61	65	25	8307
Missouri	2479	-144	-43	12	5	17951	0.7	-516	-2466	86	35	18072
Montana	481	-41	-37	7	1	4026	0.9	-361	166	37	11	4074
Nebraska	886	402	361	2	3	2756	0.3	-313	-462	16	9	2781
Nevada	2438	186	212	1	1	17388	1.3	510	-439	38	41	17467
New Hampshire	374	-53	-21	0	0	3440	0.5	-88	-307	3	6	3449
New Jersey	7103	-643	-3	6	13	94789	2.4	-720	-2558	166	182	95137
New Mexico	652	-16	-36	2	3	7512	0.9	-238	-395	80	41	7633
New York	15116	-1424	-755	26	22	136816	1.5	2527	-3199	298	290	137404
North Carolina	3041	164	567	8	18	19361	0.4	-751	94	93	106	19560
North Dakota	239	-301	31	0	0	2014	0.5	212	358	41	3	2058
Ohio	4715	-218	-55	7	8	39315	0.7	-1732	-1472	105	124	39544
Oklahoma	1424	-200	312	6	2	14283	0.9	-185	2496	47	57	14387
Oregon	3191	-73	208	16	9	23491	1.2	-360	622	100	66	23657
Pennsylvania	11186	242	353	65	25	107793	1.9	-6322	-3318	442	200	108435
Puerto Rico	961	-257	-90	2	4	16802	2.0	-1319	981	131	62	16995
Rhode Island	617	-136	-83	0	1	8363	1.8	-125	-326	14	14	8391
South Carolina	1869	-72	41	5	9	14280	0.7	-903	-1497	45	53	14378
South Dakota	122	-22	-12	2	0	876	0.2	-162	48	25	1	902
Tennessee	2221	227	418	2	3	16597	0.6	-13	-1285	77	101	16775
Texas	13048	429	1747	90	85	118901	1.0	-5013	1034	709	1073	120683
Utah	821	-29	-33	8	1	5965	0.4	-317	-902	70	13	6048
Vermont	205	-57	-129	2	0	2563	0.8	-423	-124	6	0	2569
Virgin Islands	39	-7	28	0	0	452	1.4	24	-50	4	0	456
Virginia	2217	163	104	6	9	18264	0.5	-993	-1781	147	162	18573
Washington	4944	164	-922	8	16	42522	1.3	-707	1544	176	423	43121
West Virginia	816	-25	110	1	5	7670	1.1	-304	706	31	25	7726
Wisconsin	3787	597	599	1	2	23279	0.8	-878	190	42	13	23334
Wyoming	232	-7	8	0	0	1461	0.6	-117	58	3	4	1468
Totals	179514	2649	5907	567	478	1566913	1.1	-48887	-33122	6620	5863	1579396

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 AUGUST 31, 2019**

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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>
IL	+3,728	Layoffs in the manufacturing, construction, and administrative and support and waste management and remediation service industries.

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

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<b>State</b>	<b>Change</b>	<b>State Supplied Comment</b>
NY	-1,424	Fewer layoffs in the transportation and warehousing, educational service, and arts, entertainment, and recreation industries.

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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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