



News Release

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8:30 A.M. (Eastern) Thursday, August 11, 2016

UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE WEEKLY CLAIMS

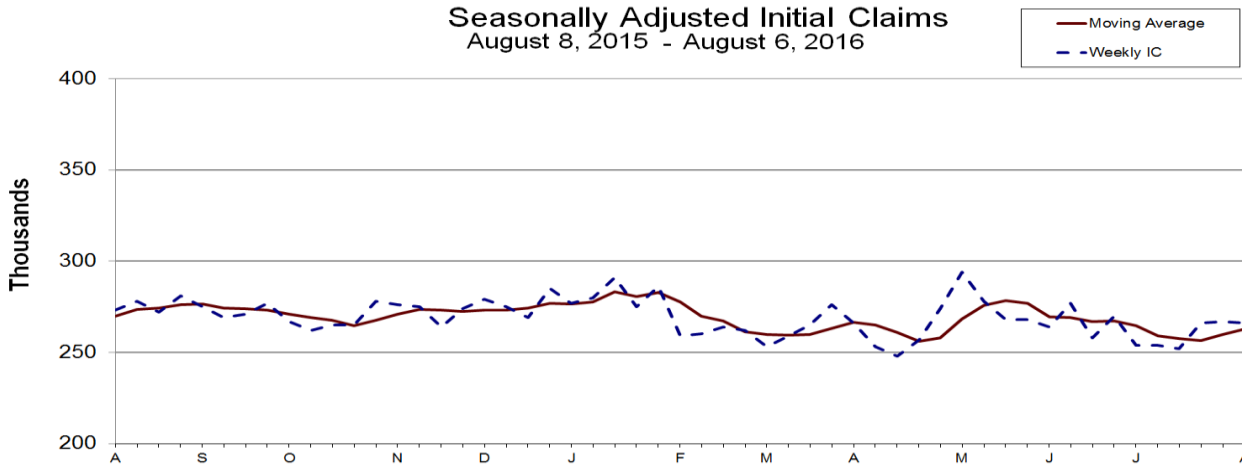
SEASONALLY ADJUSTED DATA

In the week ending August 6, the advance figure for seasonally adjusted **initial claims** was 266,000, a decrease of 1,000 from the previous week's revised level. The previous week's level was revised down by 2,000 from 269,000 to 267,000. The 4-week moving average was 262,750, an increase of 3,000 from the previous week's revised average. The previous week's average was revised down by 500 from 260,250 to 259,750.

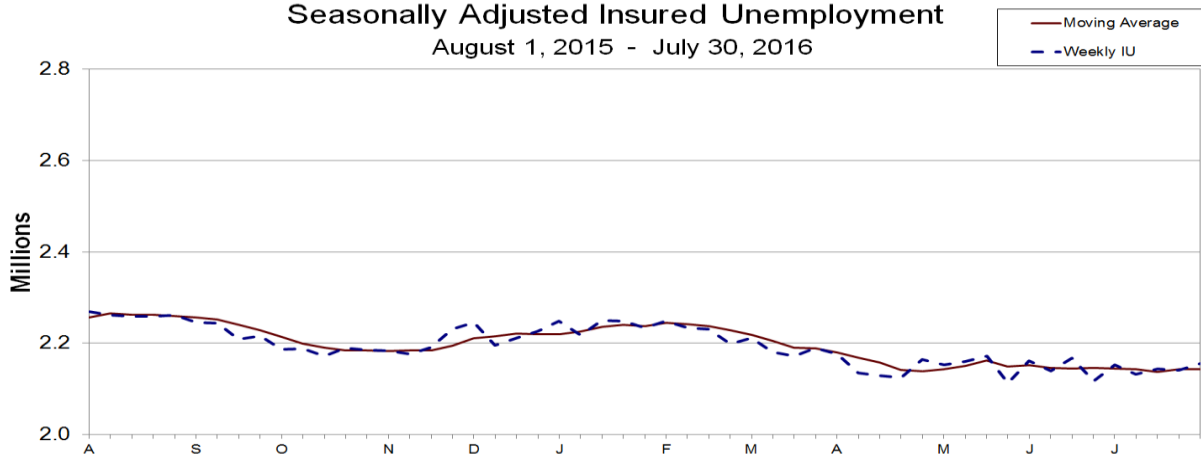
There were no special factors impacting this week's initial claims. This marks 75 consecutive weeks of initial claims below 300,000, the longest streak since 1970.

The advance seasonally adjusted **insured unemployment rate** was 1.6 percent for the week ending July 30, unchanged from the previous week's unrevised rate. The advance number for seasonally adjusted **insured unemployment** during the week ending July 30 was 2,155,000, an increase of 14,000 from the previous week's revised level. The previous week's level was revised up 3,000 from 2,138,000 to 2,141,000. The 4-week moving average was 2,143,000, an increase of 500 from the previous week's revised average. The previous week's average was revised up by 750 from 2,141,750 to 2,142,500.

Seasonally Adjusted Initial Claims
August 8, 2015 - August 6, 2016



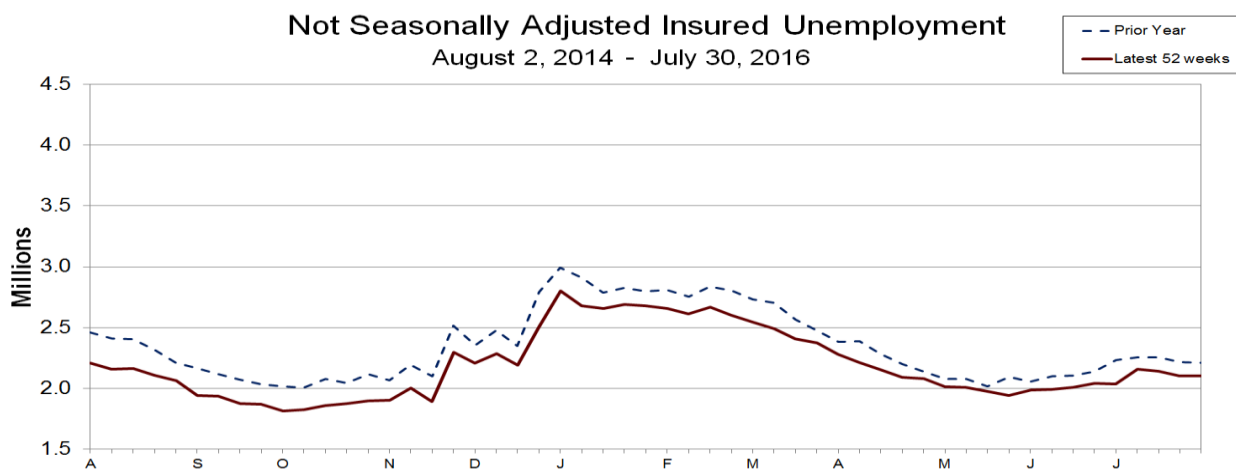
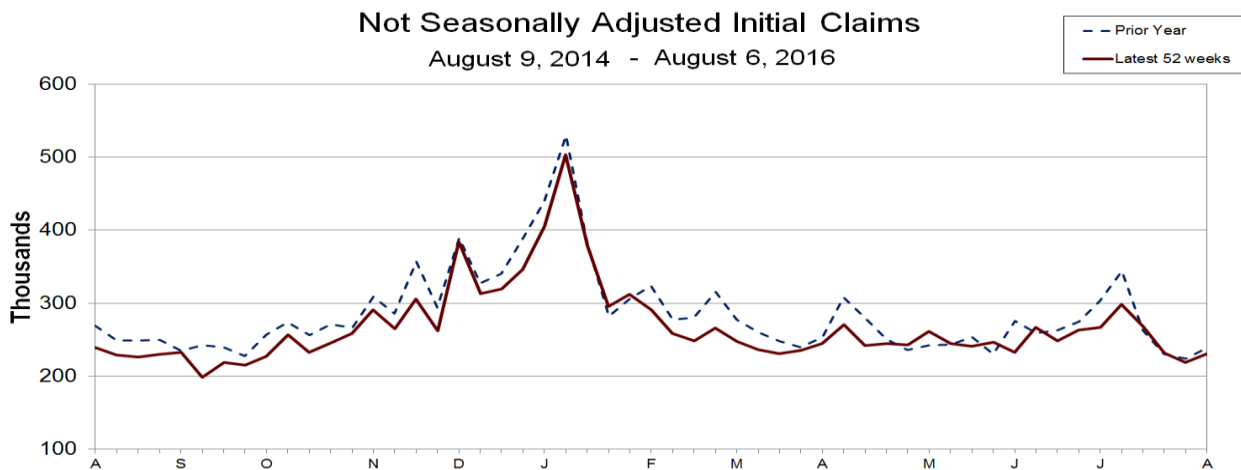
Seasonally Adjusted Insured Unemployment
August 1, 2015 - July 30, 2016



UNADJUSTED DATA

The advance number of actual initial claims under state programs, unadjusted, totaled 231,356 in the week ending August 6, an increase of 12,173 (or 5.6 percent) from the previous week. The seasonal factors had expected an increase of 13,098 (or 6.0 percent) from the previous week. There were 239,326 initial claims in the comparable week in 2015.

The advance unadjusted insured unemployment rate was 1.5 percent during the week ending July 30, unchanged from the prior week. The advance unadjusted number for persons claiming UI benefits in state programs totaled 2,105,121, an increase of 110 (or 0.0 percent) from the preceding week. The seasonal factors had expected a decrease of 12,848 (or -0.6 percent) from the previous week. A year earlier the rate was 1.6 percent and the volume was 2,209,980.



The total number of people claiming benefits in all programs for the week ending July 23 was 2,144,819, a decrease of 34,998 from the previous week. There were 2,260,417 persons claiming benefits in all programs in the comparable week in 2015.

No state was triggered "on" the Extended Benefits program during the week ending July 23.

Initial claims for UI benefits filed by former Federal civilian employees totaled 772 in the week ending July 30, a decrease of 88 from the prior week. There were 1,055 initial claims filed by newly discharged veterans, a decrease of 34 from the preceding week.

There were 8,172 former Federal civilian employees claiming UI benefits for the week ending July 23, an increase of 612 from the previous week. Newly discharged veterans claiming benefits totaled 13,795, an increase of 664 from the prior week.

The highest insured unemployment rates in the week ending July 23 were in Puerto Rico (3.1), Alaska (2.7), Connecticut (2.7), New Jersey (2.7), Pennsylvania (2.4), West Virginia (2.3), California (2.2), Rhode Island (2.2), Wyoming (2.1), and Massachusetts (2.0).

The largest increases in initial claims for the week ending July 30 were in California (+487), Kansas (+405), Indiana (+315), Virginia (+292), and Washington (+285), while the largest decreases were in Michigan (-1,864), Illinois (-1,458), Oregon (-1,084), Georgia (-1,021), and Alabama (-908).

UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE DATA FOR REGULAR STATE PROGRAMS

WEEK ENDING	August 6	July 30	Change	July 23	<u>Prior Year</u> ¹
Initial Claims (SA)	266,000	267,000	-1,000	266,000	273,000
Initial Claims (NSA)	231,356	219,183	+12,173	231,689	239,326
4-Wk Moving Average (SA)	262,750	259,750	+3,000	256,500	269,750
WEEK ENDING	July 30	July 23	Change	July 16	<u>Prior Year</u> ¹
Insured Unemployment (SA)	2,155,000	2,141,000	+14,000	2,144,000	2,269,000
Insured Unemployment (NSA)	2,105,121	2,105,011	+110	2,141,451	2,209,980
4-Wk Moving Average (SA)	2,143,000	2,142,500	+500	2,136,500	2,257,000
<u>Insured Unemployment Rate (SA)</u> ²	1.6%	1.6%	0.0	1.6%	1.7%
<u>Insured Unemployment Rate (NSA)</u> ²	1.5%	1.5%	0.0	1.6%	1.6%

INITIAL CLAIMS FILED IN FEDERAL PROGRAMS (UNADJUSTED)

WEEK ENDING	July 30	July 23	Change	<u>Prior Year</u> ¹
Federal Employees (UCFE)	772	860	-88	848
Newly Discharged Veterans (UCX)	1,055	1,089	-34	1,307

PERSONS CLAIMING UI BENEFITS IN ALL PROGRAMS (UNADJUSTED)

WEEK ENDING	July 23	July 16	Change	<u>Prior Year</u> ¹
Regular State	2,100,051	2,136,125	-36,074	2,209,616
Federal Employees	8,172	7,560	+612	10,777
Newly Discharged Veterans	13,795	13,131	+664	18,392
<u>Extended Benefits</u> ³	0	0	0	0
<u>State Additional Benefits</u> ⁴	6,621	6,499	+122	6,403
<u>STC / Workshare</u> ⁵	16,180	16,502	-322	15,229
<u>TOTAL</u>	2,144,819	2,179,817	-34,998	2,260,417

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 137,652,280 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 August 6			Insured Unemployment For Week Ended July 30		
	Advance	Prior Wk	Change	Advance	Prior Wk	Change
Alabama	2,731	2,981	-250	22,119	24,149	-2,030
Alaska	1,100	841	259	7,989	8,437	-448
Arizona	4,214	4,404	-190	34,481	38,677	-4,196
Arkansas	1,843	1,786	57	16,569	18,173	-1,604
California	43,979	43,036	943	358,542	358,923	-381
Colorado	2,244	1,925	319	27,178	26,486	692
Connecticut	3,711	3,095	616	45,187	43,810	1,377
Delaware	588	544	44	6,658	7,195	-537
District of Columbia	681	370	311	8,497	8,809	-312
Florida	8,173	8,224	-51	52,153	57,186	-5,033
Georgia	5,981	6,275	-294	30,381	32,888	-2,507
Hawaii	1,236	1,096	140	7,784	7,514	270
Idaho	887	937	-50	5,706	6,576	-870
Illinois	9,532	8,872	660	114,562	111,421	3,141
Indiana	3,637	3,184	453	21,253	21,549	-296
Iowa	2,608	2,515	93	20,276	19,128	1,148
Kansas	2,257	2,417	-160	13,796	13,217	579
Kentucky	2,238	2,771	-533	22,001	22,899	-898
Louisiana	2,575	2,712	-137	27,718	27,766	-48
Maine	588	607	-19	4,831	5,114	-283
Maryland	3,804	3,641	163	35,269	38,558	-3,289
Massachusetts	5,274	4,786	488	66,212	68,780	-2,568
Michigan	6,512	8,838	-2,326	54,949	52,108	2,841
Minnesota	3,020	2,739	281	32,770	31,040	1,730
Mississippi	1,268	1,577	-309	14,996	17,056	-2,060
Missouri	4,399	3,779	620	38,815	28,585	10,230
Montana	603	544	59	5,344	6,064	-720
Nebraska	684	671	13	4,968	4,926	42
Nevada	2,547	2,471	76	21,045	23,118	-2,073
New Hampshire	610	564	46	4,624	4,952	-328
New Jersey	8,997	8,439	558	106,208	105,299	909
New Mexico	985	974	11	13,230	13,807	-577
New York	14,735	13,761	974	159,282	159,027	255
North Carolina	4,012	3,480	532	26,246	27,826	-1,580
North Dakota	530	340	190	5,577	4,057	1,520
Ohio	7,790	6,810	980	57,523	59,295	-1,772
Oklahoma	2,023	1,547	476	22,736	23,753	-1,017
Oregon	3,385	2,718	667	27,176	27,252	-76
Pennsylvania	15,623	13,247	2,376	141,645	136,389	5,256
Puerto Rico	2,539	990	1,549	30,451	27,730	2,721
Rhode Island	959	822	137	9,847	10,004	-157
South Carolina	2,543	2,698	-155	17,430	17,915	-485
South Dakota	193	205	-12	1,392	1,443	-51
Tennessee	2,532	2,531	1	21,096	23,520	-2,424
Texas	16,359	14,990	1,369	194,237	189,988	4,249
Utah	1,031	952	79	8,964	9,118	-154
Vermont	510	362	148	3,998	4,063	-65
Virgin Islands	30	59	-29	636	708	-72
Virginia	3,780	3,177	603	29,825	28,645	1,180
Washington	6,438	6,193	245	45,532	43,762	1,770
West Virginia	1,042	1,251	-209	15,392	15,679	-287
Wisconsin	5,360	5,074	286	34,767	34,749	18
Wyoming	436	361	75	5,258	5,878	-620
US Total	231,356	219,183	12,173	2,105,121	2,105,011	110

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.

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	
August 1, 2015	274	5	271.00	2,269	9	2,257.00	1.7
August 8, 2015	273	-1	269.75	2,261	-8	2,265.00	1.7
August 15, 2015	278	5	273.50	2,259	-2	2,262.25	1.7
August 22, 2015	272	-6	274.25	2,259	0	2,262.00	1.7
August 29, 2015	281	9	276.00	2,261	2	2,260.00	1.7
September 5, 2015	275	-6	276.50	2,246	-15	2,256.25	1.7
September 12, 2015	269	-6	274.25	2,244	-2	2,252.50	1.7
September 19, 2015	271	2	274.00	2,208	-36	2,239.75	1.6
September 26, 2015	277	6	273.00	2,216	8	2,228.50	1.6
October 3, 2015	267	-10	271.00	2,186	-30	2,213.50	1.6
October 10, 2015	262	-5	269.25	2,188	2	2,199.50	1.6
October 17, 2015	265	3	267.75	2,171	-17	2,190.25	1.6
October 24, 2015	265	0	264.75	2,190	19	2,183.75	1.6
October 31, 2015	278	13	267.50	2,185	-5	2,183.50	1.6
November 7, 2015	276	-2	271.00	2,183	-2	2,182.25	1.6
November 14, 2015	275	-1	273.50	2,176	-7	2,183.50	1.6
November 21, 2015	264	-11	273.25	2,191	15	2,183.75	1.6
November 28, 2015	274	10	272.25	2,230	39	2,195.00	1.6
December 5, 2015	279	5	273.00	2,245	15	2,210.50	1.7
December 12, 2015	275	-4	273.00	2,195	-50	2,215.25	1.6
December 19, 2015	269	-6	274.25	2,212	17	2,220.50	1.6
December 26, 2015	285	16	277.00	2,226	14	2,219.50	1.6
January 2, 2016	277	-8	276.50	2,248	22	2,220.25	1.6
January 9, 2016	280	3	277.75	2,217	-31	2,225.75	1.6
January 16, 2016	291	11	283.25	2,250	33	2,235.25	1.7
January 23, 2016	275	-16	280.75	2,248	-2	2,240.75	1.6
January 30, 2016	286	11	283.00	2,234	-14	2,237.25	1.6
February 6, 2016	259	-27	277.75	2,249	15	2,245.25	1.7
February 13, 2016	260	1	270.00	2,233	-16	2,241.00	1.6
February 20, 2016	264	4	267.25	2,231	-2	2,236.75	1.6
February 27, 2016	262	-2	261.25	2,198	-33	2,227.75	1.6
March 5, 2016	253	-9	259.75	2,212	14	2,218.50	1.6
March 12, 2016	259	6	259.50	2,180	-32	2,205.25	1.6
March 19, 2016	265	6	259.75	2,172	-8	2,190.50	1.6
March 26, 2016	276	11	263.25	2,189	17	2,188.25	1.6
April 2, 2016	266	-10	266.50	2,176	-13	2,179.25	1.6
April 9, 2016	253	-13	265.00	2,135	-41	2,168.00	1.6
April 16, 2016	248	-5	260.75	2,129	-6	2,157.25	1.6
April 23, 2016	257	9	256.00	2,124	-5	2,141.00	1.6
April 30, 2016	274	17	258.00	2,165	41	2,138.25	1.6
May 7, 2016	294	20	268.25	2,153	-12	2,142.75	1.6
May 14, 2016	278	-16	275.75	2,160	7	2,150.50	1.6
May 21, 2016	268	-10	278.50	2,172	12	2,162.50	1.6
May 28, 2016	268	0	277.00	2,112	-60	2,149.25	1.5
June 4, 2016	264	-4	269.50	2,162	50	2,151.50	1.6
June 11, 2016	277	13	269.25	2,139	-23	2,146.25	1.6
June 18, 2016	258	-19	266.75	2,167	28	2,145.00	1.6
June 25, 2016	270	12	267.25	2,117	-50	2,146.25	1.5
July 2, 2016	254	-16	264.75	2,153	36	2,144.00	1.6
July 9, 2016	254	0	259.00	2,132	-21	2,142.25	1.5
July 16, 2016	252	-2	257.50	2,144	12	2,136.50	1.6
July 23, 2016	266	14	256.50	2,141	-3	2,142.50	1.6
July 30, 2016	267	1	259.75	2,155	14	2,143.00	1.6
August 6, 2016	266	-1	262.75				

Initial Claims Filed During Week Ended July 30

Insured Unemployment For Week Ended July 23
INSURED UNEMPLOYMENT

STATE	INITIAL CLAIMS							CHANGE FROM				ALL PROGRAMS EXCLUDING RAILROAD RETIREMENT
	STATE	LAST WEEK	YEAR AGO	UCFE ¹	UCX ¹	STATE	(%) ²	LAST WEEK	YEAR AGO	UCFE ¹	UCX ¹	
Alabama	2981	-908	63	13	21	24149	1.3	-725	-1068	93	134	24376
Alaska	841	-61	2	2	1	8437	2.7	300	1469	81	45	8563
Arizona	4404	-416	19	9	8	38677	1.5	458	-1094	261	155	39093
Arkansas	1786	-185	-356	4	11	18173	1.6	340	-4019	50	105	18328
California	43036	487	1165	202	209	358923	2.2	7934	-6113	1493	2715	363131
Colorado	1925	28	-169	12	30	26486	1.1	-705	-1972	141	533	27160
Connecticut	3095	-298	-3	5	5	43810	2.7	114	241	52	124	43986
Delaware	544	57	-99	2	2	7195	1.7	663	-404	12	19	7226
District of Columbia	370	2	10	4	0	8809	1.6	206	-377	256	8	9073
Florida	8224	-258	-2126	19	68	57186	0.7	-483	-14650	197	365	57748
Georgia	6275	-1021	420	25	51	32888	0.8	-1060	-6013	201	415	33504
Hawaii	1096	7	3	3	17	7514	1.2	140	168	75	144	7733
Idaho	937	84	180	2	0	6576	1.0	181	162	24	46	6646
Illinois	8872	-1458	237	10	15	111421	1.9	-5647	-4677	381	351	112153
Indiana	3184	315	-207	9	10	21549	0.7	-586	21	56	84	21689
Iowa	2515	-96	-74	0	4	19128	1.3	261	916	37	68	19233
Kansas	2417	405	188	11	7	13217	1.0	-1313	-886	98	87	13402
Kentucky	2771	-553	-1	36	8	22899	1.3	-465	-586	175	293	23367
Louisiana	2712	-168	233	3	13	27766	1.5	23	175	62	44	27872
Maine	607	-173	-45	2	1	5114	0.9	-141	-984	27	26	5167
Maryland	3641	149	50	27	16	38558	1.6	155	-3249	251	197	39006
Massachusetts	4786	-116	201	9	17	68780	2.0	1180	-2199	155	293	69228
Michigan	8838	-1864	3138	15	18	52108	1.3	-15374	-4869	106	193	52407
Minnesota	2739	65	-72	5	7	31040	1.1	-1430	-1106	46	123	31209
Mississippi	1577	28	-217	6	3	17056	1.6	-136	-780	86	52	17194
Missouri	3779	-333	-329	40	4	28585	1.1	-3509	-7508	136	94	28815
Montana	544	-73	-148	3	0	6064	1.4	-112	141	38	36	6138
Nebraska	671	6	-36	5	3	4926	0.5	-82	-2202	20	17	4963
Nevada	2471	-107	32	3	11	23118	1.9	7	-3456	69	121	23308
New Hampshire	564	15	2	1	2	4952	0.8	-52	-434	6	14	4972
New Jersey	8439	-31	704	14	22	105299	2.7	315	-7717	207	388	105894
New Mexico	974	-102	5	2	1	13807	1.8	79	480	158	66	14031
New York	13761	-426	-415	32	53	159027	1.8	-445	-8194	347	602	159976
North Carolina	3480	-168	-501	13	26	27826	0.7	-100	-7678	95	302	28223
North Dakota	340	-21	-105	8	1	4057	0.9	-120	401	188	3	4248
Ohio	6810	-867	237	8	30	59295	1.1	-567	27	101	340	59736
Oklahoma	1547	-196	-36	1	12	23753	1.5	-735	511	60	134	23947
Oregon	2718	-1084	-1200	12	10	27252	1.5	-855	-3495	171	157	27580
Pennsylvania	13247	-794	-1489	59	38	136389	2.4	-8515	-2830	478	479	137346
Puerto Rico	990	-895	-948	0	9	27730	3.1	-1234	-9035	73	136	27939
Rhode Island	822	-38	-152	2	1	10004	2.2	-59	-281	14	22	10040
South Carolina	2698	-448	44	4	12	17915	0.9	-420	-794	47	131	18093
South Dakota	205	-6	21	10	0	1443	0.4	-27	-38	264	6	1713
Tennessee	2531	-397	-651	1	3	23520	0.8	91	-5785	61	243	23824
Texas	14990	-848	-1291	73	160	189988	1.7	-2293	7451	573	2455	193016
Utah	952	-164	-159	10	3	9118	0.7	-61	-446	108	26	9252
Vermont	362	-277	-26	2	0	4063	1.4	101	91	12	4	4079
Virgin Islands	59	30	16	0	2	708	1.9	116	-122	2	8	718
Virginia	3177	292	-738	6	17	28645	0.8	-782	-710	251	469	29365
Washington	6193	285	170	21	83	43762	1.4	638	-1668	159	766	44687
West Virginia	1251	-159	21	2	3	15679	2.3	-765	327	35	54	15768
Wisconsin	5074	264	-540	5	7	34749	1.3	-926	-6182	60	72	34881
Wyoming	361	-16	51	0	0	5878	2.1	-18	1132	23	31	5932
Totals	219183	-12506	-4921	772	1055	2105011	1.5	-36440	-109908	8172	13795	2126978

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 JULY 30, 2016

STATES WITH AN INCREASE OF MORE THAN 1,000

State	Change	State Supplied Comment
None		

STATES WITH A DECREASE OF MORE THAN 1,000

State	Change	State Supplied Comment
MI	-1,864	Fewer layoffs in the wholesale trade industry.
IL	-1,458	No comment.
OR	-1,084	No comment.
GA	-1,021	Fewer layoffs in the manufacturing, and administrative, support, waste management and remediation service industries.

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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