



# News Release

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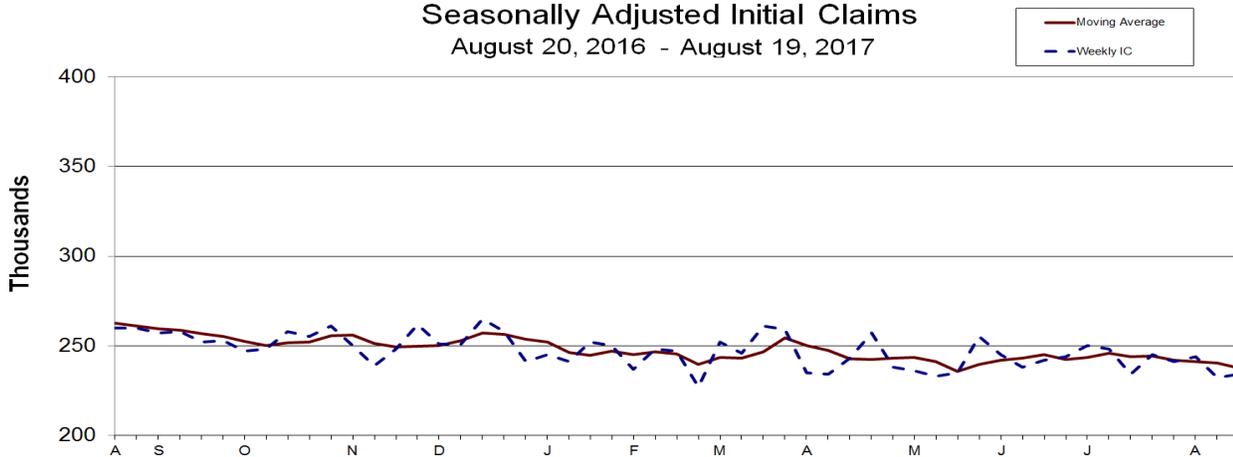
## UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE WEEKLY CLAIMS

### SEASONALLY ADJUSTED DATA

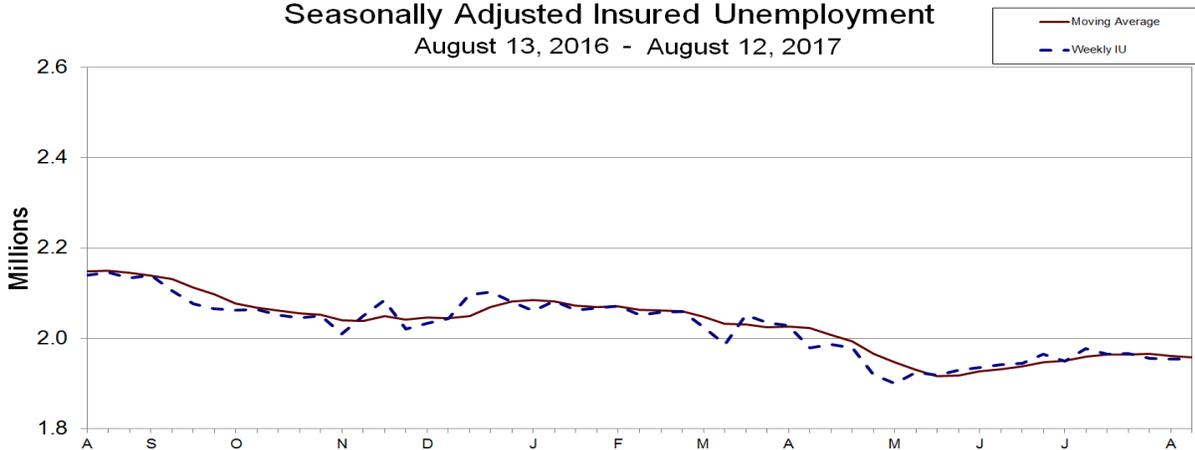
In the week ending August 19, the advance figure for seasonally adjusted **initial claims** was 234,000, an increase of 2,000 from the previous week's unrevised level of 232,000. The 4-week moving average was 237,750, a decrease of 2,750 from the previous week's unrevised average of 240,500.

The advance seasonally adjusted **insured unemployment rate** was 1.4 percent for the week ending August 12, unchanged from the previous week's unrevised rate. The advance number for seasonally adjusted **insured unemployment** during the week ending August 12 was 1,954,000, unchanged from the previous week's revised level. The previous week's level was revised up 1,000 from 1,953,000 to 1,954,000. The 4-week moving average was 1,957,750, a decrease of 2,750 from the previous week's revised average. The previous week's average was revised up by 250 from 1,960,250 to 1,960,500.

Seasonally Adjusted Initial Claims  
August 20, 2016 - August 19, 2017



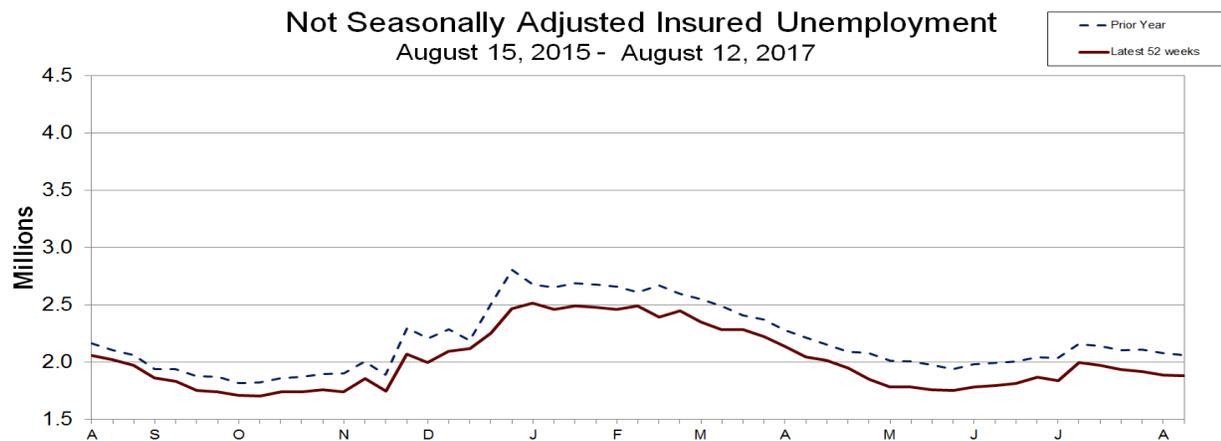
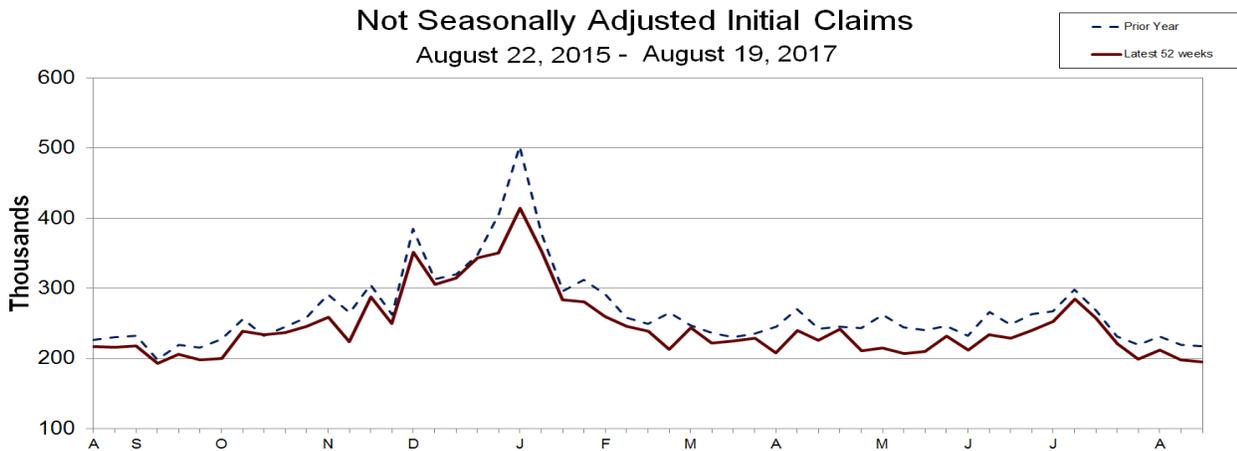
Seasonally Adjusted Insured Unemployment  
August 13, 2016 - August 12, 2017



**UNADJUSTED DATA**

The advance number of actual initial claims under state programs, unadjusted, totaled 194,718 in the week ending August 19, a decrease of 3,562 (or -1.8 percent) from the previous week. The seasonal factors had expected a decrease of 4,881 (or -2.5 percent) from the previous week. There were 217,011 initial claims in the comparable week in 2016.

The advance unadjusted insured unemployment rate was 1.3 percent during the week ending August 12, unchanged from the prior week. The advance unadjusted number for persons claiming UI benefits in state programs totaled 1,885,443, a decrease of 4,270 (or -0.2 percent) from the preceding week. The seasonal factors had expected a decrease of 3,908 (or -0.2 percent) from the previous week. A year earlier the rate was 1.5 percent and the volume was 2,061,744.



The total number of people claiming benefits in all programs for the week ending August 5 was 1,920,823, a decrease of 31,581 from the previous week. There were 2,123,118 persons claiming benefits in all programs in the comparable week in 2016.

No state was triggered "on" the Extended Benefits program during the week ending August 5.

Initial claims for UI benefits filed by former Federal civilian employees totaled 770 in the week ending August 12, an increase of 58 from the prior week. There were 764 initial claims filed by newly discharged veterans, a decrease of 105 from the preceding week.

There were 8,853 former Federal civilian employees claiming UI benefits for the week ending August 5, a decrease of 68 from the previous week. Newly discharged veterans claiming benefits totaled 9,789, a decrease of 326 from the prior week.

The highest insured unemployment rates in the week ending August 5 were in Puerto Rico (3.8), New Jersey (2.7), Connecticut (2.4), Pennsylvania (2.2), Alaska (2.1), California (2.0), Rhode Island (2.0), Massachusetts (1.9), Illinois (1.8), Nevada (1.7), New York (1.7).

The largest increases in initial claims for the week ending August 12 were in Michigan (+672), New York (+311), Minnesota (+262), Tennessee (+154), and Idaho (+122), while the largest decreases were in California (-2,451), Kansas (-2,269), Missouri (-1,318), Kentucky (-1,164), and South Carolina (-987).

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UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE DATA FOR REGULAR STATE PROGRAMS

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<b>WEEK ENDING</b>	<b>August 19</b>	<b>August 12</b>	<b>Change</b>	<b>August 5</b>	<b><u>Prior Year</u><sup>1</sup></b>
Initial Claims (SA)	234,000	232,000	+2,000	244,000	260,000
Initial Claims (NSA)	194,718	198,280	-3,562	211,924	217,011
4-Wk Moving Average (SA)	237,750	240,500	-2,750	241,000	262,500
<b>WEEK ENDING</b>	<b>August 12</b>	<b>August 5</b>	<b>Change</b>	<b>July 29</b>	<b><u>Prior Year</u><sup>1</sup></b>
Insured Unemployment (SA)	1,954,000	1,954,000	0	1,956,000	2,139,000
Insured Unemployment (NSA)	1,885,443	1,889,713	-4,270	1,920,454	2,061,744
4-Wk Moving Average (SA)	1,957,750	1,960,500	-2,750	1,966,250	2,147,750
<u>Insured Unemployment Rate (SA)</u> <sup>2</sup>	1.4%	1.4%	0.0	1.4%	1.6%
<u>Insured Unemployment Rate (NSA)</u> <sup>2</sup>	1.3%	1.3%	0.0	1.4%	1.5%

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INITIAL CLAIMS FILED IN FEDERAL PROGRAMS (UNADJUSTED)

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<b>WEEK ENDING</b>	<b>August 12</b>	<b>August 5</b>	<b>Change</b>	<b><u>Prior Year</u><sup>1</sup></b>
Federal Employees (UCFE)	770	712	+58	880
Newly Discharged Veterans (UCX)	764	869	-105	1,063

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PERSONS CLAIMING UI BENEFITS IN ALL PROGRAMS (UNADJUSTED)

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<b>WEEK ENDING</b>	<b>August 5</b>	<b>July 29</b>	<b>Change</b>	<b><u>Prior Year</u><sup>1</sup></b>
Regular State	1,886,771	1,917,448	-30,677	2,078,206
Federal Employees	8,853	8,921	-68	8,413
Newly Discharged Veterans	9,789	10,115	-326	13,295
<u>Extended Benefits</u> <sup>3</sup>	0	0	0	0
<u>State Additional Benefits</u> <sup>4</sup>	5,851	5,725	+126	6,439
<u>STC / Workshare</u> <sup>5</sup>	9,559	10,195	-636	16,765
<u>TOTAL</u>	1,920,823	1,952,404	-31,581	2,123,118

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 139,989,708 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 19			Insured Unemployment For Week Ended August 12		
	Advance	Prior Wk	Change	Advance	Prior Wk	Change
Alabama	2,303	2,520	-217	18,382	19,099	-717
Alaska	986	860	126	6,667	6,657	10
Arizona	3,825	4,230	-405	30,137	34,329	-4,192
Arkansas	1,586	1,541	45	13,399	14,884	-1,485
California	38,270	37,072	1,198	346,403	330,965	15,438
Colorado	1,711	1,719	-8	22,279	21,321	958
Connecticut	3,177	3,058	119	41,916	39,764	2,152
Delaware	455	483	-28	6,271	5,957	314
District of Columbia	566	311	255	8,662	9,155	-493
Florida	7,367	7,905	-538	49,410	53,872	-4,462
Georgia	5,381	5,351	30	27,540	28,883	-1,343
Hawaii	1,004	1,178	-174	7,499	7,454	45
Idaho	666	933	-267	4,804	5,138	-334
Illinois	8,262	8,312	-50	102,903	101,849	1,054
Indiana	2,754	2,709	45	15,120	14,979	141
Iowa	1,868	1,804	64	16,876	17,045	-169
Kansas	1,512	1,608	-96	12,440	12,065	375
Kentucky	2,252	2,323	-71	18,838	19,245	-407
Louisiana	2,377	2,725	-348	19,877	22,406	-2,529
Maine	416	425	-9	4,224	4,417	-193
Maryland	3,008	3,490	-482	33,297	36,774	-3,477
Massachusetts	4,415	4,729	-314	66,069	66,841	-772
Michigan	6,444	6,373	71	46,261	47,268	-1,007
Minnesota	2,592	2,791	-199	29,964	29,162	802
Mississippi	1,029	1,328	-299	11,266	13,432	-2,166
Missouri	2,860	3,250	-390	26,505	28,737	-2,232
Montana	538	582	-44	4,876	4,863	13
Nebraska	699	746	-47	5,036	5,076	-40
Nevada	2,579	2,283	296	18,844	20,884	-2,040
New Hampshire	460	526	-66	4,070	4,414	-344
New Jersey	8,468	8,369	99	104,851	103,957	894
New Mexico	886	885	1	10,054	10,584	-530
New York	14,533	14,015	518	151,561	151,580	-19
North Carolina	3,063	2,916	147	21,851	23,405	-1,554
North Dakota	426	285	141	2,962	2,571	391
Ohio	5,342	5,433	-91	51,102	52,122	-1,020
Oklahoma	1,390	1,354	36	14,739	15,513	-774
Oregon	3,043	3,492	-449	25,832	26,112	-280
Pennsylvania	11,404	12,221	-817	127,667	123,065	4,602
Puerto Rico	1,800	1,938	-138	30,891	33,678	-2,787
Rhode Island	814	836	-22	9,335	9,174	161
South Carolina	2,498	2,805	-307	17,038	17,002	36
South Dakota	130	159	-29	1,257	1,259	-2
Tennessee	2,143	2,505	-362	19,581	21,185	-1,604
Texas	13,389	13,218	171	149,915	146,399	3,516
Utah	904	949	-45	7,341	7,449	-108
Vermont	354	366	-12	3,605	3,429	176
Virgin Islands	21	39	-18	426	514	-88
Virginia	2,935	2,933	2	26,394	25,873	521
Washington	5,334	5,531	-197	48,515	46,646	1,869
West Virginia	737	933	-196	9,918	10,063	-145
Wisconsin	3,498	3,706	-208	28,241	28,641	-400
Wyoming	244	227	17	2,532	2,557	-25
US Total	194,718	198,280	-3,562	1,885,443	1,889,713	-4,270

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	Change from			Insured Unemployment	Change from		IUR
	Initial Claims	Prior Week	4-Week Average		Prior Week	4-Week Average	
August 13, 2016	261	-2	263.25	2,139	-22	2,147.75	1.6
August 20, 2016	260	-1	262.50	2,146	7	2,149.50	1.6
August 27, 2016	260	0	261.00	2,133	-13	2,144.75	1.5
September 3, 2016	257	-3	259.50	2,139	6	2,139.25	1.6
September 10, 2016	258	1	258.75	2,105	-34	2,130.75	1.5
September 17, 2016	252	-6	256.75	2,076	-29	2,113.25	1.5
September 24, 2016	253	1	255.00	2,066	-10	2,096.50	1.5
October 1, 2016	247	-6	252.50	2,063	-3	2,077.50	1.5
October 8, 2016	248	1	250.00	2,064	1	2,067.25	1.5
October 15, 2016	258	10	251.50	2,052	-12	2,061.25	1.5
October 22, 2016	255	-3	252.00	2,045	-7	2,056.00	1.5
October 29, 2016	261	6	255.50	2,050	5	2,052.75	1.5
November 5, 2016	250	-11	256.00	2,010	-40	2,039.25	1.5
November 12, 2016	239	-11	251.25	2,050	40	2,038.75	1.5
November 19, 2016	248	9	249.50	2,084	34	2,048.50	1.5
November 26, 2016	262	14	249.75	2,020	-64	2,041.00	1.5
December 3, 2016	251	-11	250.00	2,033	13	2,046.75	1.5
December 10, 2016	251	0	253.00	2,044	11	2,045.25	1.5
December 17, 2016	265	14	257.25	2,097	53	2,048.50	1.5
December 24, 2016	258	-7	256.25	2,102	5	2,069.00	1.5
December 31, 2016	241	-17	253.75	2,081	-21	2,081.00	1.5
January 7, 2017	245	4	252.25	2,061	-20	2,085.25	1.5
January 14, 2017	241	-4	246.25	2,083	22	2,081.75	1.5
January 21, 2017	252	11	244.75	2,063	-20	2,072.00	1.5
January 28, 2017	250	-2	247.00	2,067	4	2,068.50	1.5
February 4, 2017	237	-13	245.00	2,071	4	2,071.00	1.5
February 11, 2017	248	11	246.75	2,052	-19	2,063.25	1.5
February 18, 2017	247	-1	245.50	2,057	5	2,061.75	1.5
February 25, 2017	227	-20	239.75	2,059	2	2,059.75	1.5
March 4, 2017	252	25	243.50	2,025	-34	2,048.25	1.5
March 11, 2017	246	-6	243.00	1,987	-38	2,032.00	1.4
March 18, 2017	261	15	246.50	2,052	65	2,030.75	1.5
March 25, 2017	259	-2	254.50	2,035	-17	2,024.75	1.5
April 1, 2017	235	-24	250.25	2,028	-7	2,025.50	1.5
April 8, 2017	234	-1	247.25	1,978	-50	2,023.25	1.4
April 15, 2017	243	9	242.75	1,987	9	2,007.00	1.4
April 22, 2017	257	14	242.25	1,979	-8	1,993.00	1.4
April 29, 2017	238	-19	243.00	1,920	-59	1,966.00	1.4
May 6, 2017	236	-2	243.50	1,899	-21	1,946.25	1.4
May 13, 2017	233	-3	241.00	1,924	25	1,930.50	1.4
May 20, 2017	235	2	235.50	1,919	-5	1,915.50	1.4
May 27, 2017	255	20	239.75	1,929	10	1,917.75	1.4
June 3, 2017	245	-10	242.00	1,936	7	1,927.00	1.4
June 10, 2017	238	-7	243.25	1,942	6	1,931.50	1.4
June 17, 2017	242	4	245.00	1,945	3	1,938.00	1.4
June 24, 2017	244	2	242.25	1,965	20	1,947.00	1.4
July 1, 2017	250	6	243.50	1,949	-16	1,950.25	1.4
July 8, 2017	248	-2	246.00	1,977	28	1,959.00	1.4
July 15, 2017	234	-14	244.00	1,965	-12	1,964.00	1.4
July 22, 2017	245	11	244.25	1,967	2	1,964.50	1.4
July 29, 2017	241	-4	242.00	1,956	-11	1,966.25	1.4
August 5, 2017	244	3	241.00	1,954	-2	1,960.50	1.4
August 12, 2017	232	-12	240.50	1,954	0	1,957.75	1.4
August 19, 2017	234	2	237.75				

Initial Claims Filed During Week Ended August 12										Insured Unemployment For Week Ended August 5			
INITIAL CLAIMS										INSURED UNEMPLOYMENT			
STATE	STATE	CHANGE FROM				STATE	%	CHANGE FROM		UCFE	UCX	ALL PROGRAMS EXCLUDING RAILROAD RETIREMENT	
		LAST WEEK	YEAR AGO	UCFE	UCX			LAST WEEK	YEAR AGO				
Alabama	2520	-38	-219	13	10	19099	1.0	-403	-3919	69	119	19287	
Alaska	860	15	-165	2	2	6657	2.1	-180	-1569	70	38	6765	
Arizona	4230	-277	36	4	5	34329	1.3	-324	-3173	121	86	34536	
Arkansas	1541	-193	-389	5	2	14884	1.3	-328	-2164	51	68	15003	
California	37072	-2451	-4666	179	126	330965	2.0	-15997	-23087	1640	1943	334548	
Colorado	1719	-204	-344	10	23	21321	0.9	-500	-4102	110	345	21776	
Connecticut	3058	6	-586	9	3	39764	2.4	-320	-4374	85	107	39956	
Delaware	483	-62	-91	2	1	5957	1.4	-517	-597	17	13	5987	
District of Columbia	311	-34	-40	11	0	9155	1.6	41	360	648	11	9814	
Florida	7905	-179	-177	30	65	53872	0.7	-308	-3215	183	256	54311	
Georgia	5351	55	-586	21	33	28883	0.7	-321	-3123	199	272	29354	
Hawaii	1178	-38	135	4	9	7454	1.2	-111	517	48	89	7591	
Idaho	933	122	-140	4	3	5138	0.8	-112	-1112	23	12	5173	
Illinois	8312	-402	-558	10	14	101849	1.8	132	-7308	326	290	102465	
Indiana	2709	58	-237	4	10	14979	0.5	87	-6508	41	38	15058	
Iowa	1804	-547	89	4	3	17045	1.1	532	-1816	40	52	17137	
Kansas	1608	-2269	-356	0	1	12065	0.9	1657	-1017	55	46	12166	
Kentucky	2323	-1164	-433	10	3	19245	1.1	-308	-2264	212	154	19611	
Louisiana	2725	98	21	6	1	22406	1.2	-1186	-4945	62	34	22502	
Maine	425	-75	-125	0	1	4417	0.8	-164	-697	19	18	4454	
Maryland	3490	-99	-554	30	19	36774	1.5	155	-2196	329	176	37279	
Massachusetts	4729	-447	-60	9	18	66841	1.9	-320	-1648	167	192	67200	
Michigan	6373	672	155	11	20	47268	1.1	-3545	-7484	91	147	47506	
Minnesota	2791	262	35	2	3	29162	1.0	708	-1381	46	100	29308	
Mississippi	1328	-6	-232	4	4	13432	1.2	-1050	-2248	30	48	13510	
Missouri	3250	-1318	-900	42	0	28737	1.1	-408	-13815	181	45	28963	
Montana	582	26	-17	2	1	4863	1.1	-398	-884	55	32	4950	
Nebraska	746	10	79	1	1	5076	0.5	-39	311	10	14	5100	
Nevada	2283	-295	-35	3	2	20884	1.7	486	-1238	63	90	21037	
New Hampshire	526	1	-48	2	2	4414	0.7	17	-504	7	5	4426	
New Jersey	8369	-776	-344	28	22	103957	2.7	-842	-771	156	332	104445	
New Mexico	885	82	-58	4	2	10584	1.4	-301	-2755	103	74	10761	
New York	14015	311	-286	30	41	151580	1.7	-2	-6946	352	471	152403	
North Carolina	2916	-270	-493	10	12	23405	0.6	-423	-3710	83	198	23686	
North Dakota	285	-48	-37	4	1	2571	0.6	6	-1336	202	2	2775	
Ohio	5433	-691	-1044	12	22	52122	1.0	-862	-5630	88	228	52438	
Oklahoma	1354	-221	-1012	11	8	15513	1.0	31	-7481	71	92	15676	
Oregon	3492	109	-1219	17	8	26112	1.4	122	-1439	150	127	26389	
Pennsylvania	12221	-609	-1913	58	37	123065	2.2	-3206	-11007	467	374	123906	
Puerto Rico	1938	-413	127	3	6	33678	3.8	343	4905	80	92	33850	
Rhode Island	836	-38	50	3	1	9174	2.0	-36	-471	24	29	9227	
South Carolina	2805	-987	441	8	14	17002	0.9	980	-1044	58	86	17146	
South Dakota	159	0	-45	3	1	1259	0.3	-63	-42	240	4	1503	
Tennessee	2505	154	-53	8	4	21185	0.7	-2131	654	403	57	21645	
Texas	13218	-863	-2378	101	131	146399	1.3	-1343	-36134	642	1505	148546	
Utah	949	31	-80	13	3	7449	0.6	-60	-1344	148	29	7626	
Vermont	366	-26	-184	0	2	3429	1.1	-39	-459	10	8	3447	
Virgin Islands	39	8	-14	0	0	514	1.4	116	-134	6	2	522	
Virginia	2933	-57	-1069	12	23	25873	0.7	-76	-2589	288	454	26615	
Washington	5531	-359	-71	4	27	46646	1.5	541	3047	183	702	47531	
West Virginia	933	64	-115	2	3	10063	1.5	26	-4763	40	34	10137	
Wisconsin	3706	-284	-920	5	9	28641	1.0	-351	-6006	50	33	28724	
Wyoming	227	12	-165	0	2	2557	1.0	-147	-2882	11	16	2584	
Totals	198280	-13644	-21290	770	764	1889713	1.3	-30741	-193537	8853	9789	1908355	

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.

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**UNADJUSTED INITIAL CLAIMS FOR WEEK ENDED AUGUST 12, 2017**

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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		

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

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<b>State</b>	<b>Change</b>	<b>State Supplied Comment</b>
CA	-2,451	Fewer layoffs in the service industry.
KS	-2,269	No comment.
MO	-1,318	Fewer layoffs in the manufacturing, administrative, support, waste management and remediation service, and health care and social assistance industries.
KY	-1,164	No comment.

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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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Release Number: USDL 17-1167-NAT

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