



# News Release

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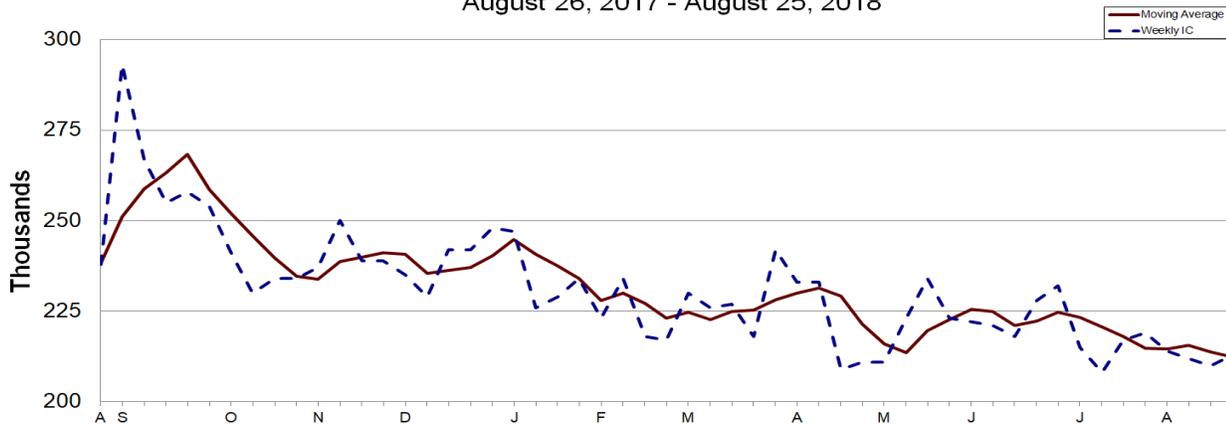
## UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE WEEKLY CLAIMS

### SEASONALLY ADJUSTED DATA

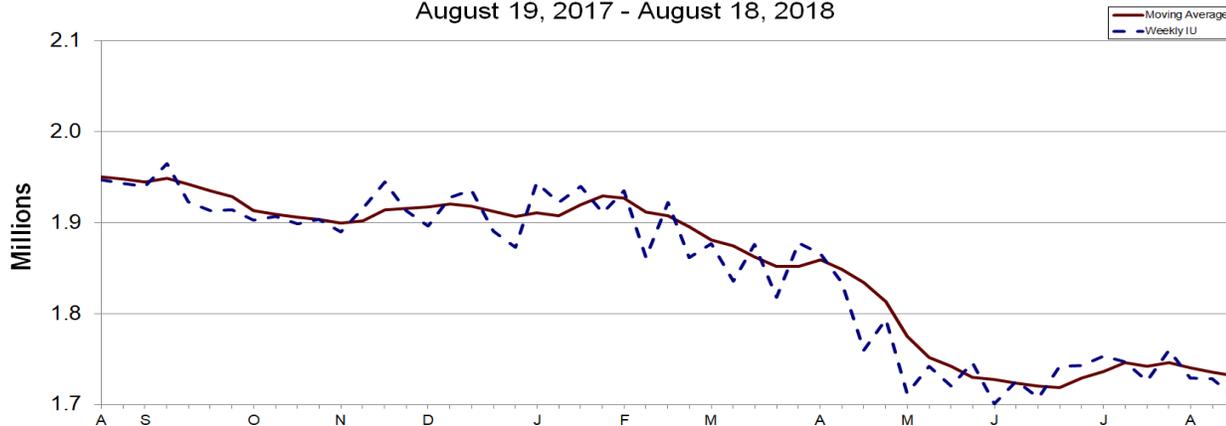
In the week ending August 25, the advance figure for seasonally adjusted **initial claims** was 213,000, an increase of 3,000 from the previous week's unrevised level of 210,000. The 4-week moving average was 212,250, a decrease of 1,500 from the previous week's unrevised average of 213,750. This is the lowest level for this average since December 13, 1969 when it was 210,750.

The advance seasonally adjusted **insured unemployment rate** was 1.2 percent for the week ending August 18, unchanged from the previous week's unrevised rate. The advance number for seasonally adjusted **insured unemployment** during the week ending August 18 was 1,708,000, a decrease of 20,000 from the previous week's revised level. The previous week's level was revised up 1,000 from 1,727,000 to 1,728,000. The 4-week moving average was 1,731,250, a decrease of 4,500 from the previous week's revised average. The previous week's average was revised up by 250 from 1,735,500 to 1,735,750.

Seasonally Adjusted Initial Claims  
August 26, 2017 - August 25, 2018



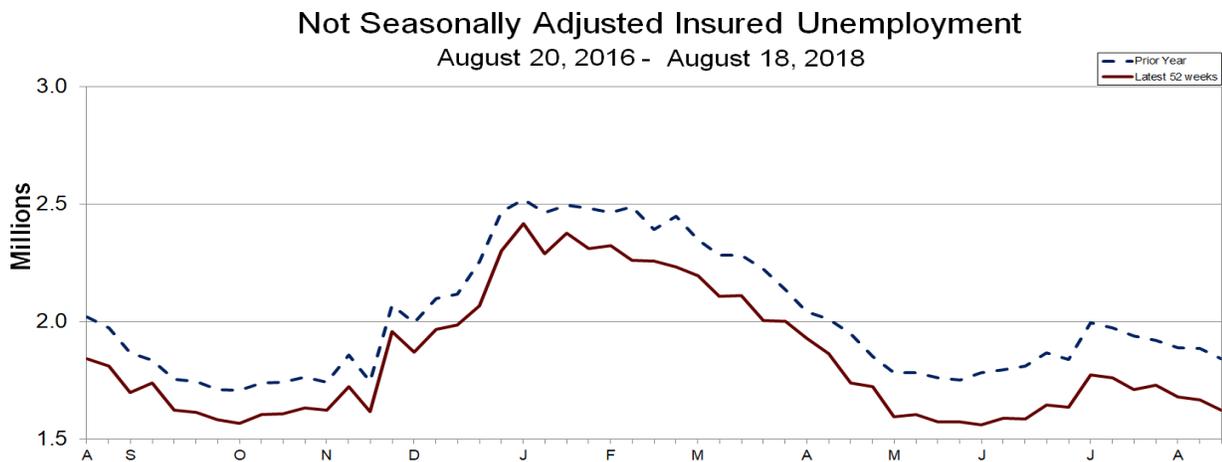
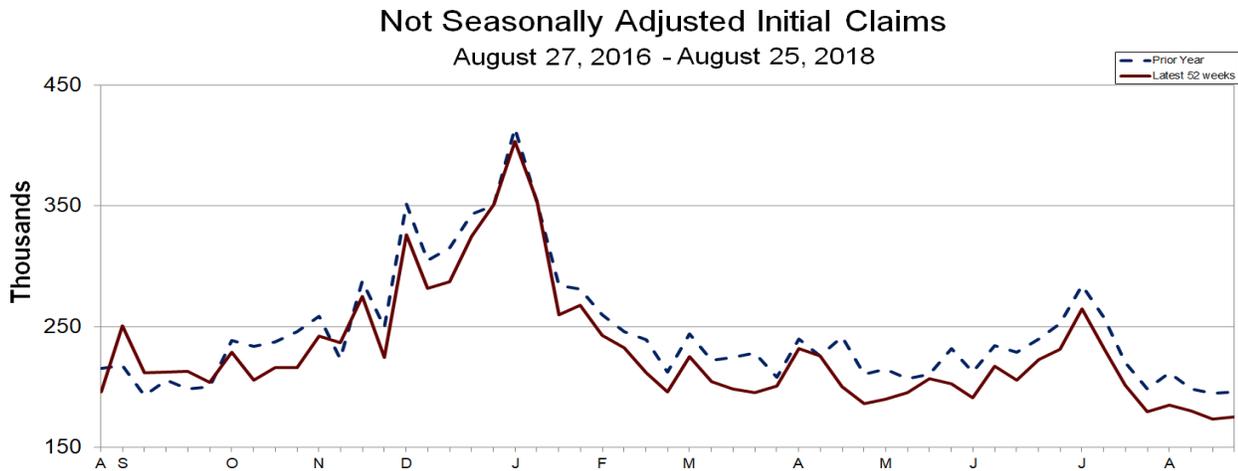
Seasonally Adjusted Insured Unemployment  
August 19, 2017 - August 18, 2018



## UNADJUSTED DATA

The advance number of actual initial claims under state programs, unadjusted, totaled 175,421 in the week ending August 25, an increase of 2,090 (or 1.2 percent) from the previous week. The seasonal factors had expected no change in the unadjusted data from the previous week. There were 196,227 initial claims in the comparable week in 2017.

The advance unadjusted insured unemployment rate was 1.1 percent during the week ending August 18, a decrease of 0.1 percentage point from the prior week. The advance unadjusted number for persons claiming UI benefits in state programs totaled 1,622,571, a decrease of 46,269 (or -2.8 percent) from the preceding week. The seasonal factors had expected a decrease of 27,641 (or -1.7 percent) from the previous week. A year earlier the rate was 1.3 percent and the volume was 1,841,596.



The total number of people claiming benefits in all programs for the week ending August 11 was 1,694,100, a decrease of 9,655 from the previous week. There were 1,916,598 persons claiming benefits in all programs in the comparable week in 2017.

No state was triggered "on" the Extended Benefits program during the week ending August 11.

Initial claims for UI benefits filed by former Federal civilian employees totaled 632 in the week ending August 18, a decrease of 53 from the prior week. There were 615 initial claims filed by newly discharged veterans, a decrease of 36 from the preceding week.

There were 7,832 former Federal civilian employees claiming UI benefits for the week ending August 11, an increase of 85 from the previous week. Newly discharged veterans claiming benefits totaled 7,410, a decrease of 210 from the prior week.

The highest insured unemployment rates in the week ending August 11 were in New Jersey (2.5), Connecticut (2.2), Pennsylvania (2.1), Puerto Rico (2.1), California (1.9), Rhode Island (1.9), Alaska (1.8), Massachusetts (1.6), the District of Columbia (1.5), Illinois (1.5), New York (1.5), and the Virgin Islands (1.5).

The largest increases in initial claims for the week ending August 18 were in California (+545), New Jersey (+465), Arkansas (+180), North Carolina (+127), and Missouri (+108), while the largest decreases were in Pennsylvania (-965), Georgia (-950), Michigan (-511), South Carolina (-501), and Illinois (-481).

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UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE DATA FOR REGULAR STATE PROGRAMS

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<b>WEEK ENDING</b>	<b>August 25</b>	<b>August 18</b>	<b>Change</b>	<b>August 11</b>	<b><u>Prior Year</u><sup>1</sup></b>
Initial Claims (SA)	213,000	210,000	+3,000	212,000	238,000
Initial Claims (NSA)	175,421	173,331	+2,090	180,038	196,227
4-Wk Moving Average (SA)	212,250	213,750	-1,500	215,500	238,250
<b>WEEK ENDING</b>	<b>August 18</b>	<b>August 11</b>	<b>Change</b>	<b>August 4</b>	<b><u>Prior Year</u><sup>1</sup></b>
Insured Unemployment (SA)	1,708,000	1,728,000	-20,000	1,729,000	1,947,000
Insured Unemployment (NSA)	1,622,571	1,668,840	-46,269	1,678,892	1,841,596
4-Wk Moving Average (SA)	1,731,250	1,735,750	-4,500	1,740,500	1,950,750
<a href="#"><u>Insured Unemployment Rate (SA)</u><sup>2</sup></a>	1.2%	1.2%	0.0	1.2%	1.4%
<a href="#"><u>Insured Unemployment Rate (NSA)</u><sup>2</sup></a>	1.1%	1.2%	-0.1	1.2%	1.3%

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INITIAL CLAIMS FILED IN FEDERAL PROGRAMS (UNADJUSTED)

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<b>WEEK ENDING</b>	<b>August 18</b>	<b>August 11</b>	<b>Change</b>	<b><u>Prior Year</u><sup>1</sup></b>
Federal Employees (UCFE)	632	685	-53	689
Newly Discharged Veterans (UCX)	615	651	-36	743

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PERSONS CLAIMING UI BENEFITS IN ALL PROGRAMS (UNADJUSTED)

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<b>WEEK ENDING</b>	<b>August 11</b>	<b>August 4</b>	<b>Change</b>	<b><u>Prior Year</u><sup>1</sup></b>
Regular State	1,667,053	1,677,312	-10,259	1,882,971
Federal Employees	7,832	7,747	+85	8,566
Newly Discharged Veterans	7,410	7,620	-210	10,027
<a href="#"><u>Extended Benefits</u><sup>3</sup></a>	1	11	-10	0
<a href="#"><u>State Additional Benefits</u><sup>4</sup></a>	5,056	4,988	+68	5,524
<a href="#"><u>STC / Workshare</u><sup>5</sup></a>	6,748	6,077	+671	9,510
<b><u>TOTAL</u></b>	<b>1,694,100</b>	<b>1,703,755</b>	<b>-9,655</b>	<b>1,916,598</b>

**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 141,951,699 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 25			Insured Unemployment For Week Ended August 18		
	Advance	Prior Wk	Change	Advance	Prior Wk	Change
Alabama	1,891	2,151	-260	16,082	16,566	-484
Alaska	1,000	788	212	5,340	5,664	-324
Arizona	3,309	3,676	-367	26,428	30,477	-4,049
Arkansas	1,268	1,551	-283	10,059	11,495	-1,436
California	36,235	37,154	-919	312,519	319,025	-6,506
Colorado	1,549	1,555	-6	17,847	18,070	-223
Connecticut	2,546	2,720	-174	38,478	37,049	1,429
Delaware	404	427	-23	5,476	5,414	62
District of Columbia	506	432	74	7,869	8,281	-412
Florida	6,313	6,463	-150	39,547	46,735	-7,188
Georgia	3,968	4,713	-745	23,858	25,360	-1,502
Hawaii	887	1,002	-115	6,380	6,384	-4
Idaho	717	701	16	3,946	4,339	-393
Illinois	6,518	6,469	49	87,433	87,572	-139
Indiana	2,024	2,050	-26	13,625	13,148	477
Iowa	1,651	1,522	129	13,969	14,236	-267
Kansas	1,354	1,327	27	8,088	8,344	-256
Kentucky	1,569	1,757	-188	15,735	17,464	-1,729
Louisiana	1,964	2,193	-229	15,843	18,104	-2,261
Maine*	360	397	-37	3,842	4,024	-182
Maryland	2,499	2,845	-346	28,468	30,917	-2,449
Massachusetts	4,156	4,334	-178	53,315	54,323	-1,008
Michigan	5,403	4,567	836	41,696	39,790	1,906
Minnesota	2,462	2,223	239	25,382	25,024	358
Mississippi	795	904	-109	7,565	9,481	-1,916
Missouri	2,544	2,799	-255	20,277	23,815	-3,538
Montana	456	424	32	4,298	4,403	-105
Nebraska	548	568	-20	3,500	4,233	-733
Nevada	2,405	2,099	306	16,570	18,084	-1,514
New Hampshire	401	468	-67	3,488	3,776	-288
New Jersey	7,289	8,276	-987	98,863	97,886	977
New Mexico	688	673	15	8,002	8,608	-606
New York	16,816	11,912	4,904	138,552	134,263	4,289
North Carolina	2,645	2,749	-104	18,799	20,471	-1,672
North Dakota	262	241	21	2,028	1,935	93
Ohio	4,394	4,726	-332	42,711	44,750	-2,039
Oklahoma	1,145	1,159	-14	11,922	12,601	-679
Oregon	3,163	2,813	350	23,253	23,811	-558
Pennsylvania	11,018	10,435	583	114,346	117,464	-3,118
Puerto Rico	1,048	1,290	-242	16,190	17,638	-1,448
Rhode Island	766	830	-64	9,168	8,935	233
South Carolina	1,813	1,995	-182	16,294	17,129	-835
South Dakota	116	154	-38	903	1,022	-119
Tennessee	1,793	1,915	-122	16,720	18,680	-1,960
Texas	12,026	11,760	266	120,630	123,315	-2,685
Utah	915	863	52	6,798	7,297	-499
Vermont	263	265	-2	3,100	3,114	-14
Virgin Islands	4	16	-12	512	540	-28
Virginia	2,402	2,254	148	21,315	21,838	-523
Washington	5,247	4,672	575	41,893	41,439	454
West Virginia	654	691	-37	7,910	7,875	35
Wisconsin	3,050	3,180	-130	24,116	25,038	-922
Wyoming	202	183	19	1,623	1,594	29
US Total	175,421	173,331	2,090	1,622,571	1,668,840	-46,269

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.

\*Denotes state estimate.

## 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 19, 2017	237	1	239.50	1,947	-3	1,950.75	1.4
August 26, 2017	238	1	238.25	1,943	-4	1,948.00	1.4
September 2, 2017	293	55	251.00	1,940	-3	1,945.00	1.4
September 9, 2017	267	-26	258.75	1,965	25	1,948.75	1.4
September 16, 2017	255	-12	263.25	1,923	-42	1,942.75	1.4
September 23, 2017	258	3	268.25	1,913	-10	1,935.25	1.4
September 30, 2017	254	-4	258.50	1,914	1	1,928.75	1.4
October 7, 2017	241	-13	252.00	1,903	-11	1,913.25	1.4
October 14, 2017	230	-11	245.75	1,907	4	1,909.25	1.4
October 21, 2017	234	4	239.75	1,899	-8	1,905.75	1.4
October 28, 2017	234	0	234.75	1,904	5	1,903.25	1.4
November 4, 2017	237	3	233.75	1,890	-14	1,900.00	1.3
November 11, 2017	250	13	238.75	1,916	26	1,902.25	1.4
November 18, 2017	239	-11	240.00	1,945	29	1,913.75	1.4
November 25, 2017	239	0	241.25	1,913	-32	1,916.00	1.4
December 2, 2017	235	-4	240.75	1,896	-17	1,917.50	1.3
December 9, 2017	229	-6	235.50	1,928	32	1,920.50	1.4
December 16, 2017	242	13	236.25	1,936	8	1,918.25	1.4
December 23, 2017	242	0	237.00	1,891	-45	1,912.75	1.3
December 30, 2017	248	6	240.25	1,873	-18	1,907.00	1.3
January 6, 2018	247	-1	244.75	1,944	71	1,911.00	1.4
January 13, 2018	226	-21	240.75	1,922	-22	1,907.50	1.4
January 20, 2018	229	3	237.50	1,940	18	1,919.75	1.4
January 27, 2018	234	5	234.00	1,911	-29	1,929.25	1.4
February 3, 2018	223	-11	228.00	1,935	24	1,927.00	1.4
February 10, 2018	234	11	230.00	1,862	-73	1,912.00	1.3
February 17, 2018	218	-16	227.25	1,922	60	1,907.50	1.4
February 24, 2018	217	-1	223.00	1,862	-60	1,895.25	1.3
March 3, 2018	230	13	224.75	1,877	15	1,880.75	1.3
March 10, 2018	226	-4	222.75	1,836	-41	1,874.25	1.3
March 17, 2018	227	1	225.00	1,876	40	1,862.75	1.3
March 24, 2018	218	-9	225.25	1,818	-58	1,851.75	1.3
March 31, 2018	242	24	228.25	1,878	60	1,852.00	1.3
April 7, 2018	233	-9	230.00	1,866	-12	1,859.50	1.3
April 14, 2018	233	0	231.50	1,834	-32	1,849.00	1.3
April 21, 2018	209	-24	229.25	1,760	-74	1,834.50	1.2
April 28, 2018	211	2	221.50	1,794	34	1,813.50	1.3
May 5, 2018	211	0	216.00	1,712	-82	1,775.00	1.2
May 12, 2018	223	12	213.50	1,742	30	1,752.00	1.2
May 19, 2018	234	11	219.75	1,720	-22	1,742.00	1.2
May 26, 2018	223	-11	222.75	1,746	26	1,730.00	1.2
June 2, 2018	222	-1	225.50	1,701	-45	1,727.25	1.2
June 9, 2018	221	-1	225.00	1,726	25	1,723.25	1.2
June 16, 2018	218	-3	221.00	1,707	-19	1,720.00	1.2
June 23, 2018	228	10	222.25	1,742	35	1,719.00	1.2
June 30, 2018	232	4	224.75	1,743	1	1,729.50	1.2
July 7, 2018	215	-17	223.25	1,753	10	1,736.25	1.2
July 14, 2018	208	-7	220.75	1,747	-6	1,746.25	1.2
July 21, 2018	217	9	218.00	1,726	-21	1,742.25	1.2
July 28, 2018	219	2	214.75	1,760	34	1,746.50	1.2
August 4, 2018	214	-5	214.50	1,729	-31	1,740.50	1.2
August 11, 2018	212	-2	215.50	1,728	-1	1,735.75	1.2
August 18, 2018	210	-2	213.75	1,708	-20	1,731.25	1.2
August 25, 2018	213	3	212.25				

STATE NAME	INITIAL CLAIMS FILED DURING WEEK ENDED AUGUST 18					INSURED UNEMPLOYMENT FOR WEEK ENDED AUGUST 11					ALL PROGRAMS EXCLUDING RAILROAD RETIREMENT	
	STATE	CHANGE FROM				STATE	CHANGE FROM					
		LAST WEEK	YEAR AGO	UCFE <sup>1</sup>	UCX <sup>1</sup>		(%) <sup>2</sup>	LAST WEEK	YEAR AGO	UCFE <sup>1</sup>		UCX <sup>1</sup>
Alabama	2151	-145	-327	12	4	16566	0.9	-941	-1936	68	83	16717
Alaska	788	64	-87	2	3	5664	1.8	-94	-1136	60	13	5737
Arizona	3676	-152	-309	4	4	30477	1.1	-889	-2974	101	79	30657
Arkansas	1551	180	-144	1	5	11495	1.0	-732	-2486	36	51	11582
California	37154	545	-689	121	125	319025	1.9	8570	-18702	1717	1569	322311
Colorado	1555	61	-156	15	16	18070	0.7	-424	-3632	97	215	18382
Connecticut	2720	-82	-460	9	8	37049	2.2	132	-3393	31	63	37143
Delaware	427	-125	-43	0	0	5414	1.2	-137	-624	9	13	5436
District of Columbia	432	-31	116	12	0	8281	1.5	-28	-880	322	11	8614
Florida	6463	-367	-1152	26	41	46735	0.6	1411	-7271	150	118	47003
Georgia	4713	-950	-901	37	34	25360	0.6	-1682	-3677	174	255	25789
Hawaii	1002	-178	6	1	8	6384	1.0	-349	-793	45	71	6500
Idaho	701	-17	-26	3	4	4339	0.6	-209	-720	12	22	4373
Illinois	6469	-481	-1704	9	10	87572	1.5	-928	-14094	312	214	88098
Indiana	2050	59	-621	0	1	13148	0.4	-324	-1719	23	32	13203
Iowa	1522	-264	-68	6	3	14236	0.9	-511	-1805	37	21	14294
Kansas	1327	35	-167	0	0	8344	0.6	-367	-3622	32	33	8409
Kentucky	1757	-414	-493	3	4	17464	1.0	402	-1580	93	104	17661
Louisiana	2193	82	-377	2	6	18104	1.0	-707	-4011	62	15	18181
Maine	397	23	-44	1	1	4024	0.7	-223	-386	17	15	4056
Maryland	2845	-254	-475	34	17	30917	1.2	-68	-5617	326	125	31368
Massachusetts	4334	-58	-128	9	13	54323	1.6	76	-12503	77	139	54539
Michigan	4567	-511	-1982	8	6	39790	0.9	-3696	-7862	73	84	39947
Minnesota	2223	-41	-287	4	5	25024	0.9	-865	-3363	40	64	25128
Mississippi	904	-108	-311	1	2	9481	0.9	-1360	-2872	41	20	9542
Missouri	2799	108	-268	29	7	23815	0.9	-1136	-3785	228	47	24090
Montana	424	-69	-136	2	0	4403	1.0	42	-646	45	23	4471
Nebraska	568	-125	-114	4	2	4233	0.4	11	-750	16	10	4259
Nevada	2099	-8	-318	3	2	18084	1.4	-576	-2038	57	59	18200
New Hampshire	468	-11	-21	1	0	3776	0.6	-10	-629	11	5	3792
New Jersey	8276	465	-280	18	16	97886	2.5	116	-5787	190	268	98344
New Mexico	673	9	-240	0	1	8608	1.1	-321	-1584	101	58	8767
New York	11912	-391	-2514	18	21	134263	1.5	-674	-17072	287	350	134900
North Carolina	2749	127	-174	9	7	20471	0.5	-414	-2834	104	158	20733
North Dakota	241	-9	-113	1	1	1935	0.5	-61	-482	192	3	2130
Ohio	4726	-257	-580	16	15	44750	0.8	-1478	-6506	107	145	45002
Oklahoma	1159	-12	-371	9	6	12601	0.8	-312	-2490	69	76	12746
Oregon	2813	-416	-233	9	8	23811	1.3	-454	-2022	147	103	24061
Pennsylvania	10435	-965	-955	51	30	117464	2.1	1726	-8924	419	309	118192
Puerto Rico	1290	-405	-569	3	6	17638	2.1	-1601	-13244	59	66	17763
Rhode Island	830	-45	12	11	1	8935	1.9	115	-157	17	21	8973
South Carolina	1995	-501	-520	7	5	17129	0.9	-425	-3	48	94	17271
South Dakota	154	34	5	3	0	1022	0.2	-54	-185	206	2	1230
Tennessee	1915	-222	-398	8	14	18680	0.6	-1695	-1211	73	71	18824
Texas	11760	102	-1530	67	110	123315	1.0	2303	-23240	949	1246	125510
Utah	863	-6	-34	23	1	7297	0.5	-146	-126	93	20	7410
Vermont	265	2	-101	2	0	3114	1.0	-27	-312	7	5	3126
Virgin Islands	16	6	-15	0	1	540	1.5	-24	118	8	0	549
Virginia	2254	-354	-470	7	12	21838	0.6	-89	-3696	202	223	22263
Washington	4672	-240	-578	4	20	41439	1.3	116	-5541	152	566	42157
West Virginia	691	-26	-103	0	4	7875	1.2	-563	-1662	36	25	7936
Wisconsin	3180	-340	-317	6	5	25038	0.9	-453	-3302	47	25	25110
Wyoming	183	-29	-35	1	0	1594	0.6	-25	-1166	7	3	1604
Totals	173331	-6707	-21799	632	615	1668840	1.2	-10052	-216934	7832	7410	1684083

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 18, 2018**

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STATES WITH A DECREASE OF MORE THAN 1,000

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<b>State</b>	<b>Change</b>	<b>State Supplied Comment</b>
None		

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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		

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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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