



News Release

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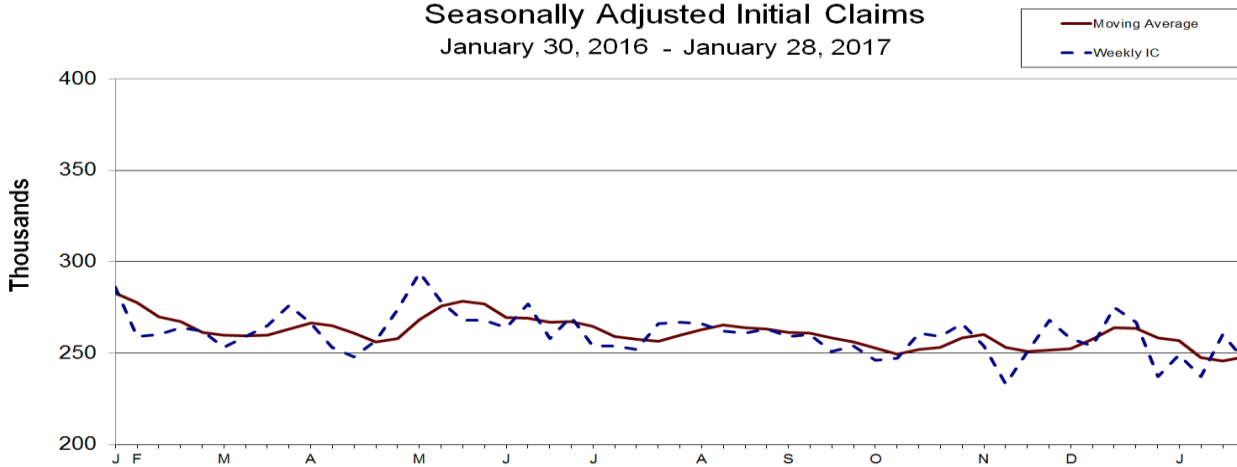
UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE WEEKLY CLAIMS

SEASONALLY ADJUSTED DATA

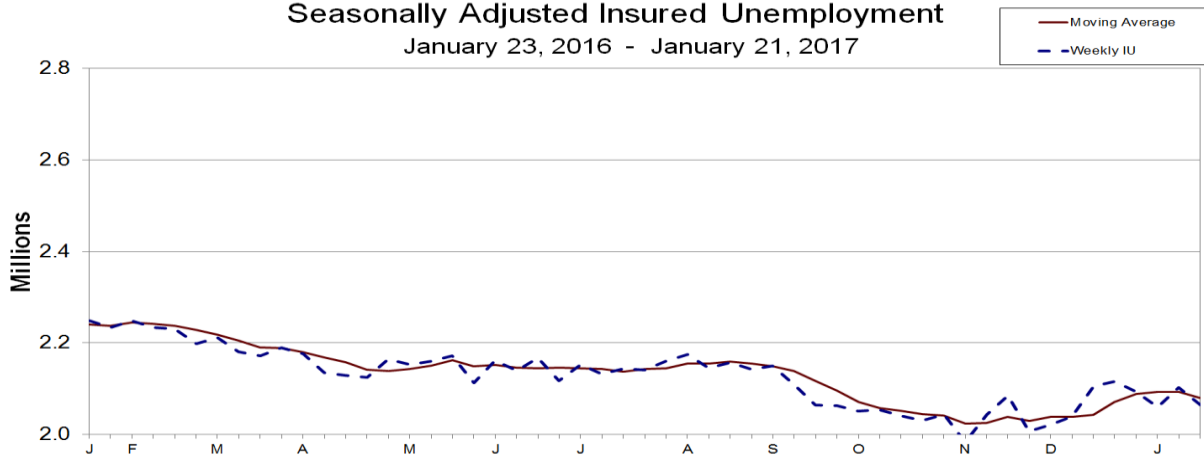
In the week ending January 28, the advance figure for seasonally adjusted **initial claims** was 246,000, a decrease of 14,000 from the previous week's revised level. The previous week's level was revised up by 1,000 from 259,000 to 260,000. The 4-week moving average was 248,000, an increase of 2,250 from the previous week's revised average. The previous week's average was revised up by 250 from 245,500 to 245,750.

The advance seasonally adjusted **insured unemployment rate** was 1.5 percent for the week ending January 21, unchanged from the previous week's unrevised rate. The advance number for seasonally adjusted **insured unemployment** during the week ending January 21 was 2,064,000, a decrease of 39,000 from the previous week's revised level. The previous week's level was revised up 3,000 from 2,100,000 to 2,103,000. The 4-week moving average was 2,079,750, a decrease of 13,000 from the previous week's revised average. The previous week's average was revised up by 750 from 2,092,000 to 2,092,750.

Seasonally Adjusted Initial Claims
January 30, 2016 - January 28, 2017



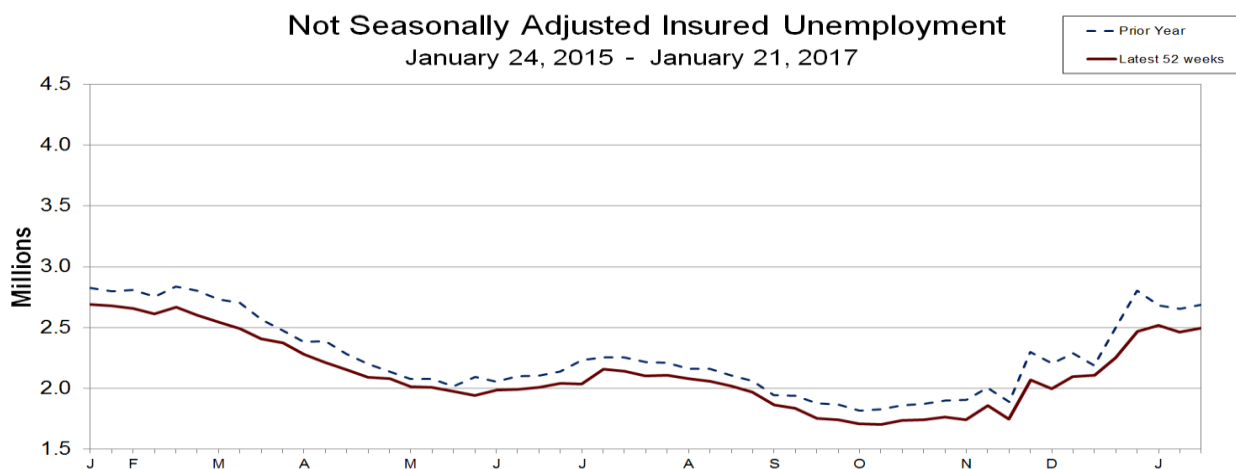
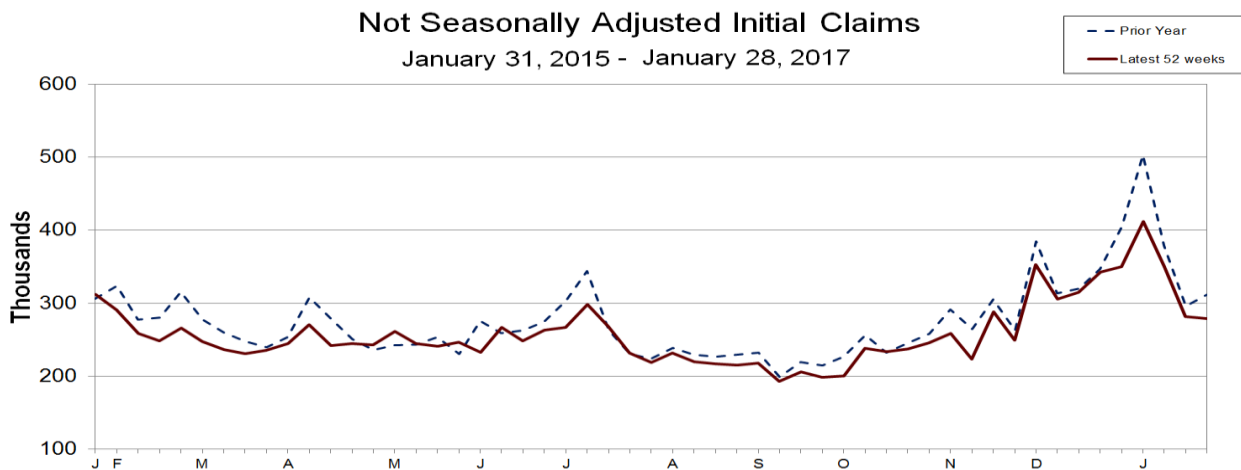
Seasonally Adjusted Insured Unemployment
January 23, 2016 - January 21, 2017



UNADJUSTED DATA

The advance number of actual initial claims under state programs, unadjusted, totaled 278,651 in the week ending January 28, a decrease of 3,136 (or -1.1 percent) from the previous week. The seasonal factors had expected an increase of 13,803 (or 4.9 percent) from the previous week. There were 311,940 initial claims in the comparable week in 2016.

The advance unadjusted insured unemployment rate was 1.8 percent during the week ending January 21, unchanged from the prior week. The advance unadjusted number for persons claiming UI benefits in state programs totaled 2,495,642, an increase of 31,293 (or 1.3 percent) from the preceding week. The seasonal factors had expected an increase of 77,799 (or 3.2 percent) from the previous week. A year earlier the rate was 2.0 percent and the volume was 2,688,858.



The total number of people claiming benefits in all programs for the week ending January 14 was 2,505,316, a decrease of 55,817 from the previous week. There were 2,703,853 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 January 14.

Initial claims for UI benefits filed by former Federal civilian employees totaled 1,007 in the week ending January 21, a decrease of 321 from the prior week. There were 776 initial claims filed by newly discharged veterans, a decrease of 182 from the preceding week.

There were 13,226 former Federal civilian employees claiming UI benefits for the week ending January 14, a decrease of 1,180 from the previous week. Newly discharged veterans claiming benefits totaled 12,263, a decrease of 532 from the prior week.

The highest insured unemployment rates in the week ending January 14 were in Alaska (4.6), Montana (3.3), Connecticut (3.0), New Jersey (3.0), Pennsylvania (2.9), Illinois (2.8), Rhode Island (2.7), West Virginia (2.7), Massachusetts (2.6), Puerto Rico (2.6), and Wyoming (2.6).

The largest increases in initial claims for the week ending January 21 were in California (+955) and Virginia (+529), while the largest decreases were in Pennsylvania (-9,362), New York (-6,802), Georgia (-5,690), Illinois (-4,920), and New Jersey (-3,799).

UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE DATA FOR REGULAR STATE PROGRAMS

WEEK ENDING	January 28	January 21	Change	January 14	<u>Prior Year</u> ¹
Initial Claims (SA)	246,000	260,000	-14,000	237,000	286,000
Initial Claims (NSA)	278,651	281,787	-3,136	350,307	311,940
4-Wk Moving Average (SA)	248,000	245,750	+2,250	247,500	283,000
WEEK ENDING	January 21	January 14	Change	January 7	<u>Prior Year</u> ¹
Insured Unemployment (SA)	2,064,000	2,103,000	-39,000	2,059,000	2,248,000
Insured Unemployment (NSA)	2,495,642	2,464,349	+31,293	2,518,590	2,688,858
4-Wk Moving Average (SA)	2,079,750	2,092,750	-13,000	2,093,250	2,240,750
<u>Insured Unemployment Rate (SA)</u> ²	1.5%	1.5%	0.0	1.5%	1.6%
<u>Insured Unemployment Rate (NSA)</u> ²	1.8%	1.8%	0.0	1.8%	2.0%

INITIAL CLAIMS FILED IN FEDERAL PROGRAMS (UNADJUSTED)

WEEK ENDING	January 21	January 14	Change	<u>Prior Year</u> ¹
Federal Employees (UCFE)	1,007	1,328	-321	937
Newly Discharged Veterans (UCX)	776	958	-182	1,078

PERSONS CLAIMING UI BENEFITS IN ALL PROGRAMS (UNADJUSTED)

WEEK ENDING	January 14	January 7	Change	<u>Prior Year</u> ¹
Regular State	2,460,515	2,515,294	-54,779	2,653,564
Federal Employees	13,226	14,406	-1,180	14,031
Newly Discharged Veterans	12,263	12,795	-532	16,177
<u>Extended Benefits</u> ³	0	0	0	0
<u>State Additional Benefits</u> ⁴	6,834	7,144	-310	6,922
<u>STC / Workshare</u> ⁵	12,478	11,494	+984	13,159
<u>TOTAL</u>	2,505,316	2,561,133	-55,817	2,703,853

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 138,930,224 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 January 28			Insured Unemployment For Week Ended January 21		
	Advance	Prior Wk	Change	Advance	Prior Wk	Change
Alabama	2,735	2,960	-225	19,677	21,477	-1,800
Alaska	1,563	1,412	151	14,788	14,606	182
Arizona	4,006	3,944	62	23,085	25,912	-2,827
Arkansas	1,812	2,054	-242	16,259	17,441	-1,182
California	54,366	61,914	-7,548	437,567	382,714	54,853
Colorado	2,578	2,863	-285	29,830	31,827	-1,997
Connecticut	5,383	5,311	72	53,207	49,138	4,069
Delaware	728	781	-53	7,701	7,173	528
District of Columbia	732	318	414	8,477	8,873	-396
Florida	7,810	7,392	418	37,978	44,993	-7,015
Georgia	6,901	6,956	-55	33,208	35,336	-2,128
Hawaii	1,353	1,165	188	8,236	8,227	9
Idaho	1,814	2,017	-203	14,319	15,044	-725
Illinois	11,931	11,558	373	156,310	161,477	-5,167
Indiana	4,737	3,945	792	32,912	32,061	851
Iowa	3,241	2,815	426	37,558	35,288	2,270
Kansas	2,618	2,643	-25	17,728	16,950	778
Kentucky	2,762	3,025	-263	25,396	26,787	-1,391
Louisiana	2,492	2,458	34	22,272	22,654	-382
Maine	1,004	1,143	-139	10,355	10,104	251
Maryland	3,990	4,223	-233	40,550	43,584	-3,034
Massachusetts	6,889	7,060	-171	89,843	89,335	508
Michigan	10,735	10,602	133	87,276	92,965	-5,689
Minnesota	4,190	4,148	42	71,228	67,077	4,151
Mississippi	1,153	1,330	-177	10,474	12,624	-2,150
Missouri	4,696	4,947	-251	35,007	36,280	-1,273
Montana	1,045	1,149	-104	14,018	14,560	-542
Nebraska	1,031	1,053	-22	9,274	9,172	102
Nevada	3,354	2,832	522	23,341	24,828	-1,487
New Hampshire	644	752	-108	5,435	5,722	-287
New Jersey	10,202	10,629	-427	122,844	117,467	5,377
New Mexico	1,020	1,170	-150	12,522	12,870	-348
New York	17,923	17,413	510	186,539	185,442	1,097
North Carolina	4,146	4,003	143	26,774	28,323	-1,549
North Dakota	1,010	793	217	11,322	9,056	2,266
Ohio	11,965	8,208	3,757	84,621	84,655	-34
Oklahoma	1,604	1,803	-199	17,855	18,661	-806
Oregon	7,285	6,607	678	37,390	37,968	-578
Pennsylvania	19,446	19,654	-208	153,294	161,464	-8,170
Puerto Rico	1,939	2,430	-491	20,660	22,855	-2,195
Rhode Island	1,396	1,390	6	13,079	12,410	669
South Carolina	2,537	2,707	-170	16,695	17,288	-593
South Dakota	295	287	8	3,773	3,812	-39
Tennessee	2,958	3,365	-407	22,128	22,686	-558
Texas	15,008	15,064	-56	166,299	161,675	4,624
Utah	1,547	1,480	67	14,934	14,802	132
Vermont	561	611	-50	6,585	6,385	200
Virgin Islands	25	22	3	620	482	138
Virginia	4,389	4,393	-4	30,876	30,590	286
Washington	4,839	5,331	-492	70,727	68,663	2,064
West Virginia	1,485	1,662	-177	17,311	17,698	-387
Wisconsin	8,180	7,486	694	59,121	57,785	1,336
Wyoming	598	509	89	6,364	7,083	-719
US Total	278,651	281,787	-3,136	2,495,642	2,464,349	31,293

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	
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	2,160	19	2,144.25	1.6
August 6, 2016	266	-1	262.75	2,175	15	2,155.00	1.6
August 13, 2016	262	-4	265.25	2,145	-30	2,155.25	1.6
August 20, 2016	261	-1	264.00	2,157	12	2,159.25	1.6
August 27, 2016	263	2	263.00	2,142	-15	2,154.75	1.6
September 3, 2016	259	-4	261.25	2,149	7	2,148.25	1.6
September 10, 2016	260	1	260.75	2,108	-41	2,139.00	1.5
September 17, 2016	251	-9	258.25	2,064	-44	2,115.75	1.5
September 24, 2016	254	3	256.00	2,062	-2	2,095.75	1.5
October 1, 2016	246	-8	252.75	2,050	-12	2,071.00	1.5
October 8, 2016	247	1	249.50	2,054	4	2,057.50	1.5
October 15, 2016	261	14	252.00	2,040	-14	2,051.50	1.5
October 22, 2016	259	-2	253.25	2,030	-10	2,043.50	1.5
October 29, 2016	266	7	258.25	2,043	13	2,041.75	1.5
November 5, 2016	254	-12	260.00	1,983	-60	2,024.00	1.4
November 12, 2016	233	-21	253.00	2,043	60	2,024.75	1.5
November 19, 2016	251	18	251.00	2,084	41	2,038.25	1.5
November 26, 2016	268	17	251.50	2,007	-77	2,029.25	1.5
December 3, 2016	258	-10	252.50	2,021	14	2,038.75	1.5
December 10, 2016	254	-4	257.75	2,039	18	2,037.75	1.5
December 17, 2016	275	21	263.75	2,105	66	2,043.00	1.5
December 24, 2016	267	-8	263.50	2,116	11	2,070.25	1.5
December 31, 2016	237	-30	258.25	2,093	-23	2,088.25	1.5
January 7, 2017	249	12	257.00	2,059	-34	2,093.25	1.5
January 14, 2017	237	-12	247.50	2,103	44	2,092.75	1.5
January 21, 2017	260	23	245.75	2,064	-39	2,079.75	1.5
January 28, 2017	246	-14	248.00				

Initial Claims Filed During Week Ended January

21

Insured Unemployment For Week Ended January 14

STATE	INITIAL CLAIMS CHANGE FROM							INSURED UNEMPLOYMENT 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	2960	-1485	-266	16	16	21477	1.2	-1715	-2368	64	121	21662
Alaska	1412	-154	-64	6	2	14606	4.6	-838	-682	217	52	14875
Arizona	3944	-733	-270	9	1	25912	1.0	-121	-1177	280	115	26307
Arkansas	2054	-690	-295	7	8	17441	1.5	-572	-4332	84	102	17627
California	61914	955	8478	226	162	382714	2.3	-37092	-22566	2598	2391	387703
Colorado	2863	-683	-268	25	30	31827	1.3	3979	-2818	343	471	32641
Connecticut	5311	-1421	673	17	9	49138	3.0	8	1702	80	118	49336
Delaware	781	-433	-209	1	3	7173	1.7	-37	-730	13	20	7206
District of Columbia	318	-75	24	25	1	8873	1.6	-264	411	322	9	9204
Florida	7392	-1337	-833	27	42	44993	0.6	1733	-6774	224	264	45481
Georgia	6956	-5690	183	46	36	35336	0.9	-7466	-3667	230	386	35952
Hawaii	1165	-323	171	4	13	8227	1.4	-522	1839	58	135	8420
Idaho	2017	-652	118	29	1	15044	2.3	293	870	383	49	15476
Illinois	11558	-4920	-1343	13	13	161477	2.8	11544	-4110	320	358	162155
Indiana	3945	-998	-948	9	4	32061	1.1	347	-3346	76	68	32205
Iowa	2815	-817	-533	7	2	35288	2.3	-42	-803	59	58	35405
Kansas	2643	-1830	-339	6	6	16950	1.3	941	-2139	70	66	17086
Kentucky	3025	-1056	-889	12	9	26787	1.5	1283	-2791	200	209	27196
Louisiana	2458	-419	-474	0	3	22654	1.2	-711	-875	41	46	22741
Maine	1143	-589	-104	2	0	10104	1.7	74	-2191	44	21	10169
Maryland	4223	-1262	-589	22	19	43584	1.8	114	-2993	316	192	44092
Massachusetts	7060	-2603	-395	8	18	89335	2.6	769	-3784	198	213	89746
Michigan	10602	-2141	614	24	17	92965	2.2	-4797	-12507	234	187	93386
Minnesota	4148	-1863	-1097	10	6	67077	2.4	-3954	-3716	151	100	67328
Mississippi	1330	-422	-244	14	3	12624	1.2	-777	-1380	111	41	12776
Missouri	4947	-2046	-1922	8	2	36280	1.4	-1688	-8056	236	89	36605
Montana	1149	-463	-122	37	1	14560	3.3	788	265	622	38	15220
Nebraska	1053	-103	-92	6	4	9172	1.0	-358	-250	22	11	9205
Nevada	2832	-484	-21	10	2	24828	2.0	368	-2470	187	114	25129
New Hampshire	752	-186	-77	2	1	5722	0.9	58	-1041	8	5	5735
New Jersey	10629	-3799	693	7	23	117467	3.0	-843	-4153	221	395	118083
New Mexico	1170	-152	-83	7	5	12870	1.7	-115	-1429	328	66	13264
New York	17413	-6802	-2998	25	37	185442	2.1	-3892	-12772	313	564	186319
North Carolina	4003	-582	279	14	8	28323	0.7	629	-4456	149	287	28759
North Dakota	793	-383	-253	2	3	9056	2.2	-130	-1073	24	13	9093
Ohio	8208	-1890	-2196	9	27	84655	1.6	-1168	-9557	151	313	85119
Oklahoma	1803	-120	-109	8	7	18661	1.2	-663	-3538	75	152	18888
Oregon	6607	-35	1295	79	15	37968	2.1	728	578	792	167	38927
Pennsylvania	19654	-9362	-1242	93	49	161464	2.9	2202	-21946	630	456	162550
Puerto Rico	2430	-182	219	2	6	22855	2.6	-1203	-4383	44	114	23013
Rhode Island	1390	-791	-492	2	2	12410	2.7	436	207	19	30	12459
South Carolina	2707	-1341	-114	8	14	17288	0.9	-2067	-2271	68	139	17495
South Dakota	287	-163	-39	3	1	3812	0.9	-78	178	54	5	3871
Tennessee	3365	-1199	-425	8	2	22686	0.8	40	-6268	420	52	23158
Texas	15064	-2519	-1774	59	121	161675	1.4	-8376	-14067	629	2133	164437
Utah	1480	-565	-98	16	4	14802	1.1	459	-616	419	24	15245
Vermont	611	-65	-142	2	0	6385	2.1	-106	-367	19	4	6408
Virgin Islands	22	-22	-7	0	0	482	1.3	-188	-70	6	6	494
Virginia	4393	529	299	22	13	30590	0.9	-132	-2703	285	453	31328
Washington	5331	-846	-2487	0	0	68663	2.2	2022	2570	443	718	69824
West Virginia	1662	-475	-411	5	1	17698	2.7	-375	-4710	52	51	17801
Wisconsin	7486	-2577	-2685	5	2	57785	2.1	-3311	-8178	129	54	57968
Wyoming	509	-256	-246	3	2	7083	2.6	545	-886	165	18	7266
Totals	281787	-68520	-14149	1007	776	2464349	1.8	-54241	-192389	13226	12263	2489838

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 JANUARY 21, 2017

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
PA	-9,362	Fewer layoffs in the transportation and warehousing, construction, and administrative, support, waste management and remediation service industries.
NY	-6,802	Fewer layoffs in the construction, accommodation and food service, and transportation and warehousing industries.
GA	-5,690	Fewer layoffs in the manufacturing, accommodation and food service, and transportation and warehousing industries.
IL	-4,920	No comment.
NJ	-3,799	Fewer layoffs in the construction, manufacturing, transportation and warehousing, administrative, support, waste management and remediation service, and trade industries.
MA	-2,603	Fewer layoffs in the construction, manufacturing, administrative, support, waste management and remediation service, and accommodation and food service industries.
WI	-2,577	No comment.
TX	-2,519	No comment.
MI	-2,141	No comment.
MO	-2,046	Fewer layoffs in the construction, manufacturing, and administrative, support, waste management and remediation service industries.
OH	-1,890	No comment.
MN	-1,863	Fewer layoffs in the construction industry.
KS	-1,830	No comment.
AL	-1,485	Fewer layoffs in the manufacturing, construction, administrative, support, waste management and remediation service industries.
CT	-1,421	Fewer layoffs in the manufacturing industry.
SC	-1,341	No comment.
FL	-1,337	Fewer layoffs in the construction, manufacturing, wholesale trade, retail trade, and service industries.
MD	-1,262	No comment.
TN	-1,199	No comment.
KY	-1,056	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. 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 17-157-NAT

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