



# News Release

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8:30 A.M. (Eastern) Wednesday, November 23, 2016

## UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE WEEKLY CLAIMS

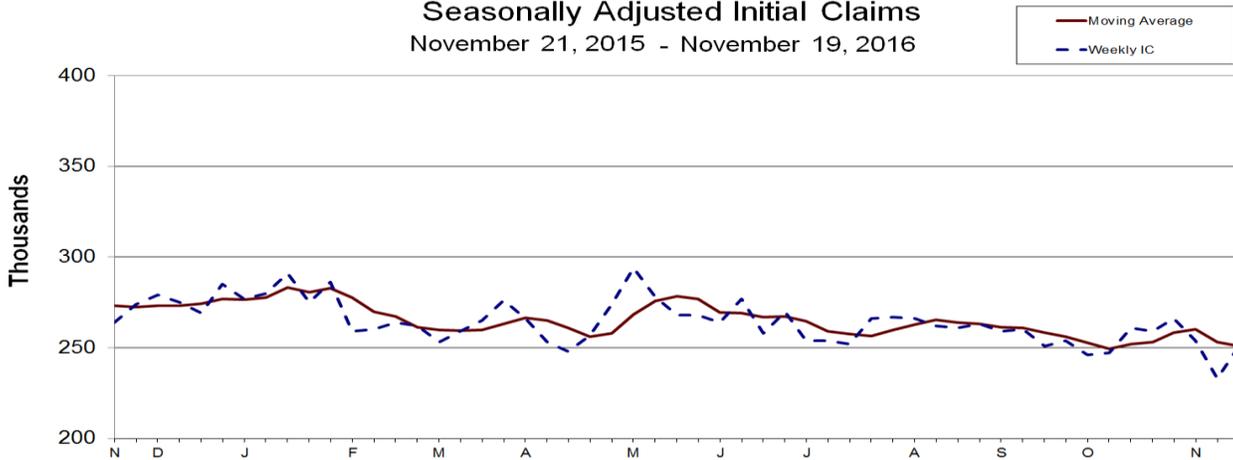
### SEASONALLY ADJUSTED DATA

In the week ending November 19, the advance figure for seasonally adjusted **initial claims** was 251,000, an increase of 18,000 from the previous week's revised level. The previous week's level was revised down by 2,000 from 235,000 to 233,000. The 4-week moving average was 251,000, a decrease of 2,000 from the previous week's revised average. The previous week's average was revised down by 500 from 253,500 to 253,000.

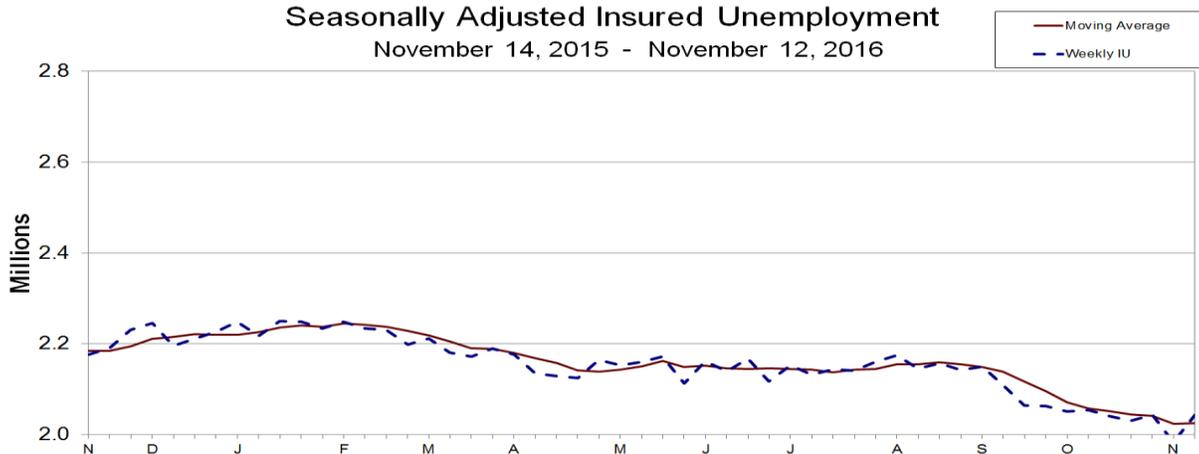
There were no special factors impacting this week's initial claims. This marks 90 consecutive weeks of initial claims below 300,000, the longest streak since 1970.

The advance seasonally adjusted **insured unemployment rate** was 1.5 percent for the week ending November 12, an increase of 0.1 percentage point from the previous week's unrevised rate. The advance number for seasonally adjusted **insured unemployment** during the week ending November 12 was 2,043,000, an increase of 60,000 from the previous week's revised level. The previous week's level was revised up 6,000 from 1,977,000 to 1,983,000. The 4-week moving average was 2,024,750, an increase of 750 from the previous week's revised average. The previous week's average was revised up by 1,500 from 2,022,500 to 2,024,000.

**Seasonally Adjusted Initial Claims**  
November 21, 2015 - November 19, 2016



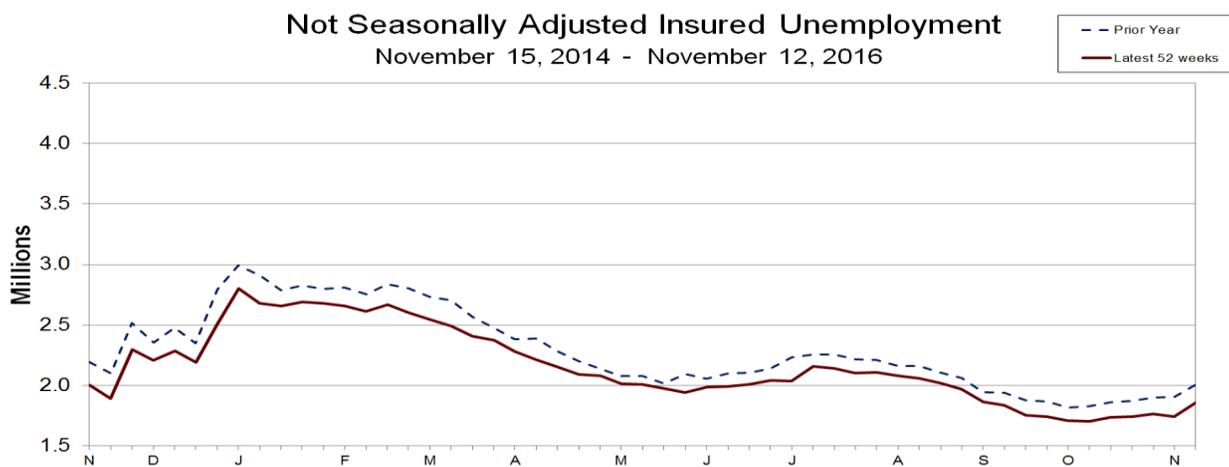
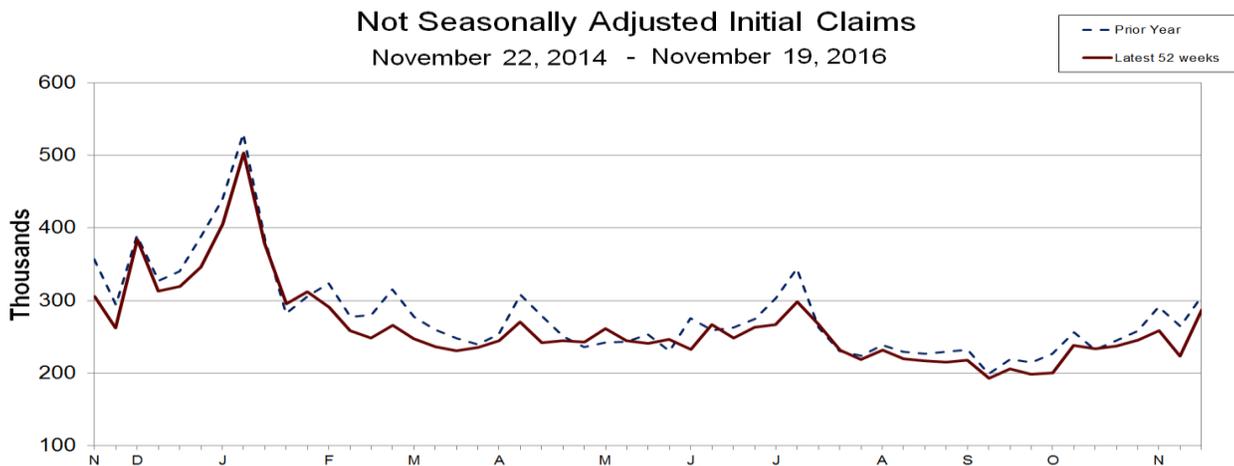
**Seasonally Adjusted Insured Unemployment**  
November 14, 2015 - November 12, 2016



## UNADJUSTED DATA

The advance number of actual initial claims under state programs, unadjusted, totaled 287,137 in the week ending November 19, an increase of 63,367 (or 28.3 percent) from the previous week. The seasonal factors had expected an increase of 43,401 (or 19.4 percent) from the previous week. There were 305,424 initial claims in the comparable week in 2015.

The advance unadjusted insured unemployment rate was 1.3 percent during the week ending November 12, unchanged from the prior week. The advance unadjusted number for persons claiming UI benefits in state programs totaled 1,857,154, an increase of 116,364 (or 6.7 percent) from the preceding week. The seasonal factors had expected an increase of 61,463 (or 3.5 percent) from the previous week. A year earlier the rate was 1.5 percent and the volume was 2,006,025.



The total number of people claiming benefits in all programs for the week ending November 5 was 1,780,659, a decrease of 26,188 from the previous week. There were 1,955,068 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 November 5.

Initial claims for UI benefits filed by former Federal civilian employees totaled 1,027 in the week ending November 12, a decrease of 487 from the prior week. There were 853 initial claims filed by newly discharged veterans, a decrease of 224 from the preceding week.

There were 11,050 former Federal civilian employees claiming UI benefits for the week ending November 5, a decrease of 2,350 from the previous week. Newly discharged veterans claiming benefits totaled 12,761, a decrease of 677 from the prior week.

The highest insured unemployment rates in the week ending November 5 were in Alaska (3.4), Puerto Rico (2.6), New Jersey (2.2), Connecticut (2.0), California (1.9), Pennsylvania (1.8), Massachusetts (1.7), Nevada (1.7), Wyoming (1.7), Illinois (1.6), and West Virginia (1.6).

The largest increases in initial claims for the week ending November 12 were in Minnesota (+586), Nevada (+93), and North Dakota (+80), while the largest decreases were in California (-7,890), Illinois (-2,532), Texas (-2,169), Missouri (-1,898), and Pennsylvania (-1,643).

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UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE DATA FOR REGULAR STATE PROGRAMS

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WEEK ENDING	November 19	November 12	Change	November 5	<u>Prior Year</u> <sup>1</sup>
Initial Claims (SA)	251,000	233,000	+18,000	254,000	264,000
Initial Claims (NSA)	287,137	223,770	+63,367	258,600	305,424
4-Wk Moving Average (SA)	251,000	253,000	-2,000	260,000	273,250
WEEK ENDING	November 12	November 5	Change	October 29	<u>Prior Year</u> <sup>1</sup>
Insured Unemployment (SA)	2,043,000	1,983,000	+60,000	2,043,000	2,176,000
Insured Unemployment (NSA)	1,857,154	1,740,790	+116,364	1,763,156	2,006,025
4-Wk Moving Average (SA)	2,024,750	2,024,000	+750	2,041,750	2,183,500
<u>Insured Unemployment Rate (SA)</u> <sup>2</sup>	1.5%	1.4%	+0.1	1.5%	1.6%
<u>Insured Unemployment Rate (NSA)</u> <sup>2</sup>	1.3%	1.3%	0.0	1.3%	1.5%

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INITIAL CLAIMS FILED IN FEDERAL PROGRAMS (UNADJUSTED)

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WEEK ENDING	November 12	November 5	Change	<u>Prior Year</u> <sup>1</sup>
Federal Employees (UCFE)	1,027	1,514	-487	1,257
Newly Discharged Veterans (UCX)	853	1,077	-224	1,092

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PERSONS CLAIMING UI BENEFITS IN ALL PROGRAMS (UNADJUSTED)

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WEEK ENDING	November 5	October 29	Change	<u>Prior Year</u> <sup>1</sup>
Regular State	1,736,727	1,757,442	-20,715	1,900,036
Federal Employees	11,050	13,400	-2,350	13,146
Newly Discharged Veterans	12,761	13,438	-677	17,037
<u>Extended Benefits</u> <sup>3</sup>	0	0	0	0
<u>State Additional Benefits</u> <sup>4</sup>	7,093	7,068	+25	7,215
<u>STC / Workshare</u> <sup>5</sup>	13,028	15,499	-2,471	17,634
<u>TOTAL</u>	1,780,659	1,806,847	-26,188	1,955,068

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 138,322,138 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 November 19			Insured Unemployment For Week Ended November 12		
	Advance	Prior Wk	Change	Advance	Prior Wk	Change
Alabama	2,516	2,591	-75	18,287	19,585	-1,298
Alaska	2,240	1,631	609	12,051	10,835	1,216
Arizona	3,999	3,374	625	24,992	25,763	-771
Arkansas	2,302	1,786	516	13,563	13,891	-328
California	54,184	39,455	14,729	360,871	311,269	49,602
Colorado	3,412	2,059	1,353	26,124	23,249	2,875
Connecticut	3,966	2,580	1,386	35,767	32,378	3,389
Delaware	755	555	200	5,515	4,749	766
District of Columbia	702	338	364	7,996	8,180	-184
Florida	7,215	7,229	-14	38,764	44,329	-5,565
Georgia	6,434	5,215	1,219	28,334	27,834	500
Hawaii	1,397	930	467	7,947	6,985	962
Idaho	1,714	1,348	366	6,352	6,720	-368
Illinois	13,511	7,694	5,817	97,193	90,011	7,182
Indiana	4,317	2,947	1,370	19,554	18,645	909
Iowa	4,355	2,193	2,162	17,509	15,123	2,386
Kansas	2,416	1,752	664	10,808	9,940	868
Kentucky	3,473	3,003	470	18,926	21,786	-2,860
Louisiana	3,004	2,386	618	23,178	23,117	61
Maine	1,035	907	128	5,240	4,933	307
Maryland	3,990	3,075	915	30,210	32,769	-2,559
Massachusetts	6,419	5,998	421	58,452	58,035	417
Michigan	10,396	8,314	2,082	46,372	43,603	2,769
Minnesota	6,942	5,368	1,574	38,533	31,924	6,609
Mississippi	1,395	1,391	4	9,518	10,344	-826
Missouri	4,498	1,865	2,633	21,417	21,565	-148
Montana	1,850	1,286	564	7,325	6,637	688
Nebraska	1,017	796	221	4,220	3,998	222
Nevada	2,880	2,702	178	20,303	20,677	-374
New Hampshire	587	528	59	3,594	3,780	-186
New Jersey	10,891	10,076	815	94,638	85,576	9,062
New Mexico	1,159	1,157	2	11,430	11,265	165
New York	17,726	15,752	1,974	138,752	133,047	5,705
North Carolina	4,435	3,917	518	22,744	24,344	-1,600
North Dakota	1,695	646	1,049	4,265	2,612	1,653
Ohio	9,772	7,451	2,321	51,327	49,841	1,486
Oklahoma	3,027	1,503	1,524	18,674	20,206	-1,532
Oregon	5,247	3,990	1,257	27,779	25,604	2,175
Pennsylvania	18,337	14,700	3,637	111,886	101,500	10,386
Puerto Rico	1,373	991	382	21,834	22,460	-626
Rhode Island	945	1,021	-76	7,264	6,691	573
South Carolina	3,090	2,579	511	14,336	14,686	-350
South Dakota	410	287	123	1,561	1,330	231
Tennessee	2,552	2,834	-282	16,240	16,726	-486
Texas	18,484	15,829	2,655	161,737	147,819	13,918
Utah	1,713	1,485	228	8,873	8,416	457
Vermont	678	542	136	3,845	3,185	660
Virgin Islands	16	20	-4	952	542	410
Virginia	4,017	2,785	1,232	24,082	22,667	1,415
Washington	9,450	7,481	1,969	49,343	45,816	3,527
West Virginia	1,524	938	586	12,016	10,980	1,036
Wisconsin	6,888	5,952	936	29,797	28,175	1,622
Wyoming	787	538	249	4,864	4,648	216
US Total	287,137	223,770	63,367	1,857,154	1,740,790	116,364

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	
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	2,160	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				

## Initial Claims Filed During Week Ended November

12

INITIAL CLAIMS  
CHANGE FROMInsured Unemployment For Week Ended November 5  
INSURED UNEMPLOYMENT

## CHANGE FROM

STATE	STATE	LAST WEEK	YEAR AGO	UCFE <sup>1</sup> UCX <sup>1</sup>		STATE	(%) <sup>2</sup>	LAST WEEK	YEAR AGO	UCFE <sup>1</sup> UCX <sup>1</sup>		ALL PROGRAMS EXCLUDING RAILROAD RETIREMENT
				UCFE <sup>1</sup>	UCX <sup>1</sup>					UCFE <sup>1</sup>	UCX <sup>1</sup>	
Alabama	2591	-444	-239	8	17	19585	1.1	290	-1667	73	131	19789
Alaska	1631	-223	-53	11	0	10835	3.4	229	-508	132	37	11004
Arizona	3374	-810	-300	23	4	25763	1.0	-2223	-2306	147	128	26038
Arkansas	1786	-448	-1005	7	6	13891	1.2	-38	-4711	72	88	14051
California	39455	-7890	-6396	257	159	311269	1.9	-9343	-5139	1905	2699	315873
Colorado	2059	-654	-834	33	29	23249	0.9	-1539	-2689	156	473	23878
Connecticut	2580	-641	154	6	9	32378	2.0	-611	113	62	94	32534
Delaware	555	-55	-222	3	3	4749	1.1	-606	-940	14	16	4779
District of Columbia	338	-105	15	8	0	8180	1.5	23	-37	260	9	8449
Florida	7229	-447	-441	20	61	44329	0.6	486	-7909	188	309	44826
Georgia	5215	-894	-2147	25	39	27834	0.7	-1450	-7123	362	345	28541
Hawaii	930	-309	-38	1	9	6985	1.2	-179	586	52	118	7155
Idaho	1348	-331	-644	33	5	6720	1.0	252	-328	88	35	6843
Illinois	7694	-2532	-3277	6	13	90011	1.6	-1272	-14747	363	349	90723
Indiana	2947	-114	-861	5	7	18645	0.6	-247	-1892	90	84	18819
Iowa	2193	-412	-625	6	6	15123	1.0	-272	-1991	41	59	15223
Kansas	1752	-392	-59	8	7	9940	0.7	-426	-1335	61	74	10075
Kentucky	3003	-338	197	7	4	21786	1.2	2875	2187	216	227	22229
Louisiana	2386	-318	-810	0	0	23117	1.2	-399	3522	60	57	23234
Maine	907	-110	-277	1	0	4933	0.8	418	-816	31	15	4979
Maryland	3075	-941	-687	18	8	32769	1.3	-223	-3643	336	202	33307
Massachusetts	5998	-893	-636	17	17	58035	1.7	661	-1323	352	291	58678
Michigan	8314	-728	-516	38	21	43603	1.1	1511	-6816	128	188	43919
Minnesota	5368	586	-556	10	3	31924	1.2	3000	-2562	75	113	32112
Mississippi	1391	-343	-407	8	5	10344	0.9	-446	-1720	86	49	10479
Missouri	1865	-1898	-2322	2	1	21565	0.8	-6004	-5572	597	69	22231
Montana	1286	-151	-429	51	3	6637	1.5	112	-1116	194	30	6861
Nebraska	796	-33	-135	5	3	3998	0.4	-206	-914	17	11	4026
Nevada	2702	93	-375	10	2	20677	1.7	176	-3435	108	99	20884
New Hampshire	528	-40	-121	0	0	3780	0.6	-12	-569	12	12	3804
New Jersey	10076	-186	444	8	6	85576	2.2	-461	-6911	240	403	86219
New Mexico	1157	-192	24	9	5	11265	1.4	46	-733	229	77	11571
New York	15752	-1418	-2595	23	33	133047	1.5	3023	-10206	625	634	134306
North Carolina	3917	-778	-640	5	21	24344	0.6	-748	-2213	128	255	24727
North Dakota	646	80	-7	4	1	2612	0.6	174	-164	9	8	2629
Ohio	7451	-1086	-1865	12	28	49841	1.0	1394	-4048	215	304	50360
Oklahoma	1503	-1397	-156	3	5	20206	1.3	1099	-1763	73	150	20429
Oregon	3990	-1039	-622	66	16	25604	1.4	-261	-3917	423	147	26174
Pennsylvania	14700	-1643	-4771	74	45	101500	1.8	-2584	-15513	664	427	102591
Puerto Rico	991	-718	-519	0	2	22460	2.6	-625	-5509	66	128	22654
Rhode Island	1021	-14	-69	2	2	6691	1.5	-7	-635	10	24	6725
South Carolina	2579	-538	-962	7	11	14686	0.8	-67	-2288	57	141	14884
South Dakota	287	-56	-77	3	1	1330	0.3	85	45	22	6	1358
Tennessee	2834	-19	-400	9	9	16726	0.6	-900	-5482	92	132	16950
Texas	15829	-2169	-472	52	133	147819	1.3	-8657	-12885	705	2158	150682
Utah	1485	-43	-190	30	2	8416	0.6	348	-1260	295	30	8741
Vermont	542	-191	-124	2	0	3185	1.1	128	-371	11	4	3200
Virgin Islands	20	-4	-3	0	0	542	1.5	-352	-334	2	4	548
Virginia	2785	-252	-635	14	13	22667	0.6	-245	-2653	285	460	23412
Washington	7481	-619	-1199	57	70	45816	1.5	1711	-4088	405	724	46945
West Virginia	938	-302	-670	1	3	10980	1.6	-407	-2746	45	49	11074
Wisconsin	5952	-315	-1418	7	6	28175	1.0	449	-5886	94	70	28339
Wyoming	538	-116	-74	12	0	4648	1.7	-46	-209	77	15	4740
Totals	223770	-34830	-41046	1027	853	1740790	1.3	-22366	-165169	11050	12761	1764601

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 NOVEMBER 12, 2016**

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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	-7,890	No comment.
IL	-2,532	Fewer layoffs in the construction, wholesale trade, retail trade, and administrative, support, waste management and remediation service industries.
TX	-2,169	No comment.
MO	-1,898	Fewer layoffs in the administrative, support, waste management and remediation service, health care and social assistance, and professional, scientific and technical service industries.
PA	-1,643	Fewer layoffs in the arts, entertainment, and recreation, manufacturing, and administrative, support, waste management and remediation service industries.
NY	-1,418	Fewer layoffs in the construction, health care and social assistance, and professional, scientific and technical service industries.
OK	-1,397	No comment.
OH	-1,086	No comment.
OR	-1,039	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](#)

U.S. Department of Labor news materials are accessible at <http://www.dol.gov>. The Department's [Reasonable Accommodation Resource Center](#) converts Departmental information and documents into alternative formats, which include Braille and large print. For alternative format requests, please contact the Department at (202) 693-7828 (voice) or (800) 877-8339 (federal relay).

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