



News Release

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8:30 A.M. (Eastern) Thursday, October 6, 2016

UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE WEEKLY CLAIMS

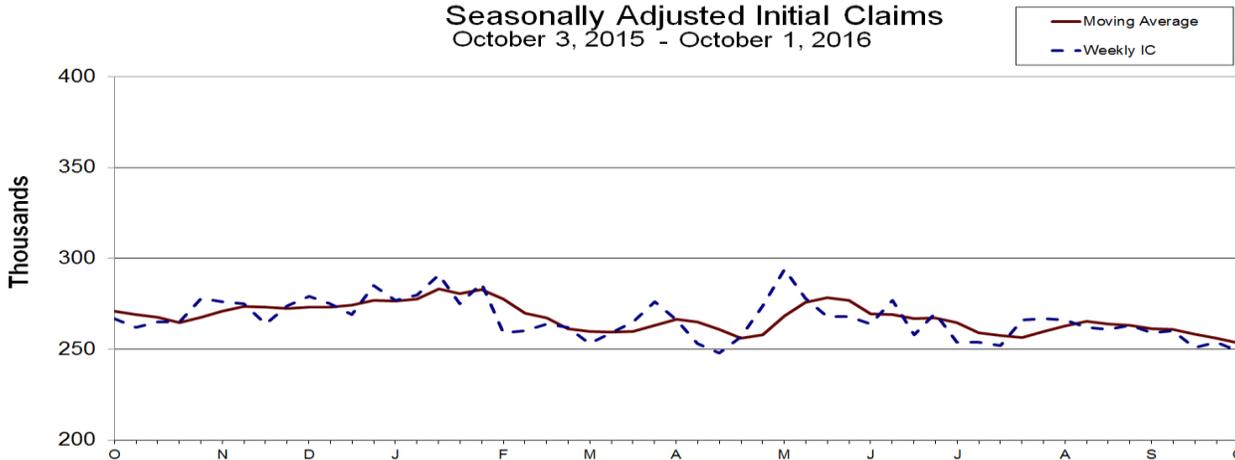
SEASONALLY ADJUSTED DATA

In the week ending October 1, the advance figure for seasonally adjusted **initial claims** was 249,000, a decrease of 5,000 from the previous week's unrevised level of 254,000. The 4-week moving average was 253,500, a decrease of 2,500 from the previous week's unrevised average of 256,000. This is the lowest level for this average since December 8, 1973 when it was 252,250.

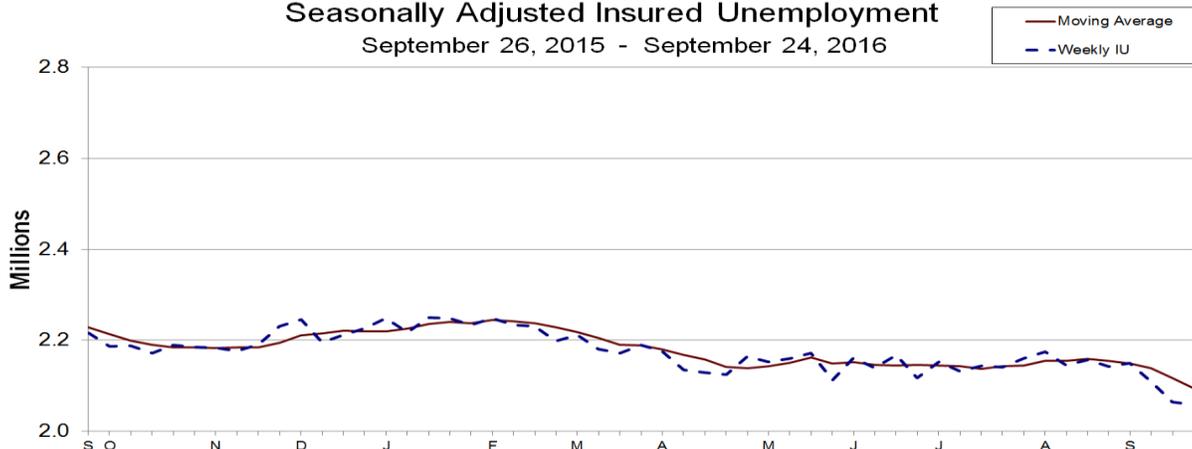
There were no special factors impacting this week's initial claims. This marks 83 consecutive weeks of initial claims below 300,000, the longest streak since 1970.

The advance seasonally adjusted **insured unemployment rate** was 1.5 percent for the week ending September 24, unchanged from the previous week's unrevised rate. The advance number for seasonally adjusted **insured unemployment** during the week ending September 24 was 2,058,000, a decrease of 6,000 from the previous week's revised level. This is the lowest level for insured unemployment since July 1, 2000 when it was 2,052,000. The previous week's level was revised up 2,000 from 2,062,000 to 2,064,000. The 4-week moving average was 2,094,750, a decrease of 21,000 from the previous week's revised average. This is the lowest level for this average since August 12, 2000 when it was 2,090,000. The previous week's average was revised up by 500 from 2,115,250 to 2,115,750.

Seasonally Adjusted Initial Claims
October 3, 2015 - October 1, 2016



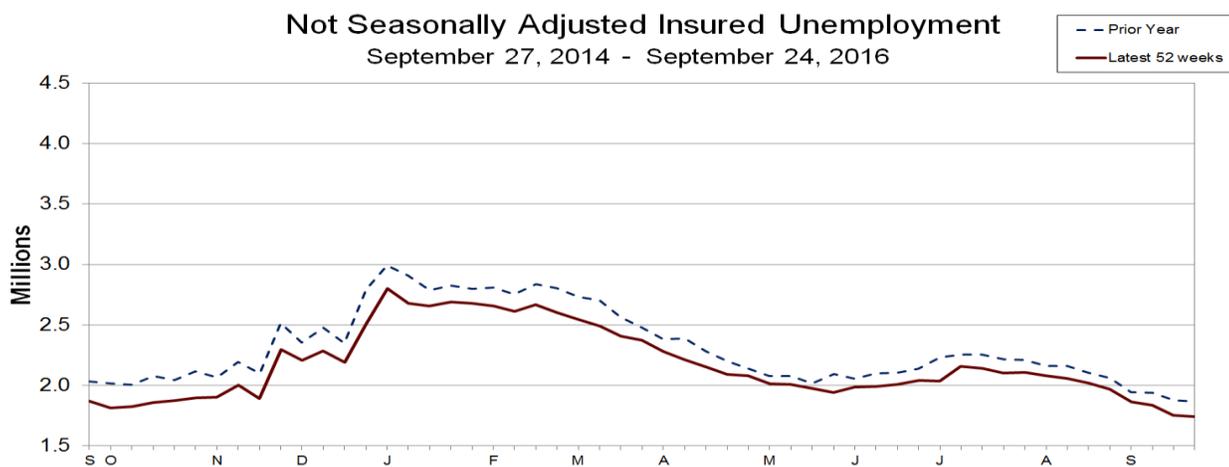
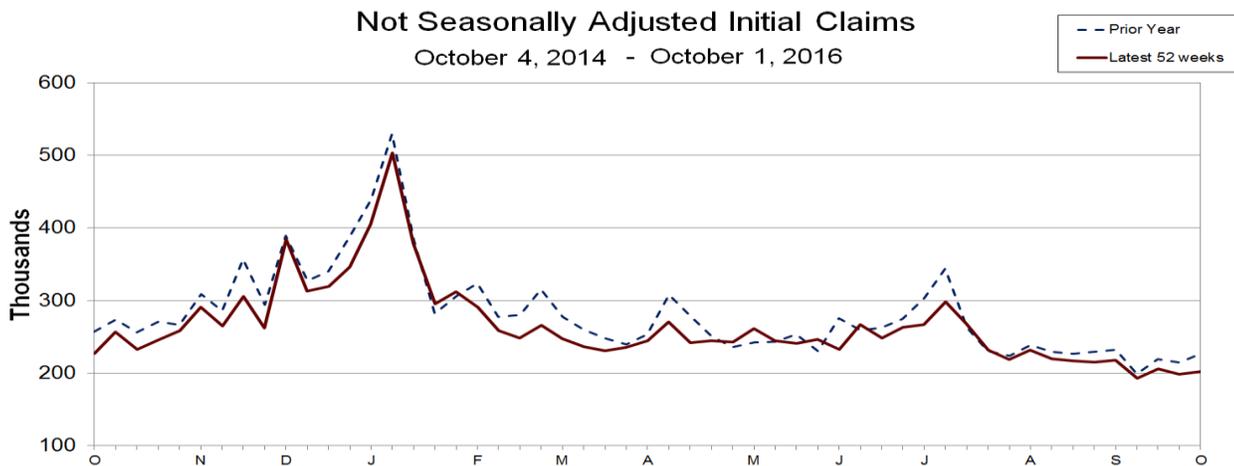
Seasonally Adjusted Insured Unemployment
September 26, 2015 - September 24, 2016



UNADJUSTED DATA

The advance number of actual initial claims under state programs, unadjusted, totaled 202,800 in the week ending October 1, an increase of 4,345 (or 2.2 percent) from the previous week. The seasonal factors had expected an increase of 8,894 (or 4.5 percent) from the previous week. There were 227,176 initial claims in the comparable week in 2015.

The advance unadjusted insured unemployment rate was 1.3 percent during the week ending September 24, unchanged from the prior week. The advance unadjusted number for persons claiming UI benefits in state programs totaled 1,741,354, a decrease of 14,743 (or -0.8 percent) from the preceding week. The seasonal factors had expected a decrease of 10,318 (or -0.6 percent) from the previous week. A year earlier the rate was 1.4 percent and the volume was 1,870,678.



The total number of people claiming benefits in all programs for the week ending September 17 was 1,795,740, a decrease of 79,054 from the previous week. There were 1,923,735 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 September 17.

Initial claims for UI benefits filed by former Federal civilian employees totaled 844 in the week ending September 24, an increase of 92 from the prior week. There were 1,087 initial claims filed by newly discharged veterans, an increase of 21 from the preceding week.

There were 9,152 former Federal civilian employees claiming UI benefits for the week ending September 17, an increase of 978 from the previous week. Newly discharged veterans claiming benefits totaled 13,371, an increase of 148 from the prior week.

The highest insured unemployment rates in the week ending September 17 were in Alaska (2.6), Puerto Rico (2.5), New Jersey (2.2), California (2.0), Connecticut (2.0), the Virgin Islands (1.9), Pennsylvania (1.8), West Virginia (1.8), Massachusetts (1.7), Illinois (1.6), Nevada (1.6), and Wyoming (1.6).

The largest increases in initial claims for the week ending September 24 were in Michigan (+2,156), Oregon (+454), Kentucky (+249), Maryland (+241), and Montana (+163), while the largest decreases were in New York (-1,902), Pennsylvania (-1,224), New Jersey (-910), Ohio (-752), and California (-744).

UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE DATA FOR REGULAR STATE PROGRAMS

WEEK ENDING	October 1	September 24	Change	September 17	<u>Prior Year</u> ¹
Initial Claims (SA)	249,000	254,000	-5,000	251,000	267,000
Initial Claims (NSA)	202,800	198,455	+4,345	205,649	227,176
4-Wk Moving Average (SA)	253,500	256,000	-2,500	258,250	271,000
WEEK ENDING	September 24	September 17	Change	September 10	<u>Prior Year</u> ¹
Insured Unemployment (SA)	2,058,000	2,064,000	-6,000	2,108,000	2,216,000
Insured Unemployment (NSA)	1,741,354	1,756,097	-14,743	1,835,919	1,870,678
4-Wk Moving Average (SA)	2,094,750	2,115,750	-21,000	2,139,000	2,228,500
<u>Insured Unemployment Rate (SA)</u> ²	1.5%	1.5%	0.0	1.5%	1.6%
<u>Insured Unemployment Rate (NSA)</u> ²	1.3%	1.3%	0.0	1.3%	1.4%

INITIAL CLAIMS FILED IN FEDERAL PROGRAMS (UNADJUSTED)

WEEK ENDING	September 24	September 17	Change	<u>Prior Year</u> ¹
Federal Employees (UCFE)	844	752	+92	941
Newly Discharged Veterans (UCX)	1,087	1,066	+21	1,264

PERSONS CLAIMING UI BENEFITS IN ALL PROGRAMS (UNADJUSTED)

WEEK ENDING	September 17	September 10	Change	<u>Prior Year</u> ¹
Regular State	1,750,784	1,831,036	-80,252	1,872,468
Federal Employees	9,152	8,174	+978	11,525
Newly Discharged Veterans	13,371	13,223	+148	17,771
<u>Extended Benefits</u> ³	0	0	0	0
<u>State Additional Benefits</u> ⁴	6,770	6,822	-52	6,997
<u>STC / Workshare</u> ⁵	15,663	15,539	+124	14,974
<u>TOTAL</u>	1,795,740	1,874,794	-79,054	1,923,735

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 October 1			Insured Unemployment For Week Ended September 24		
	Advance	Prior Wk	Change	Advance	Prior Wk	Change
Alabama	2,343	2,473	-130	18,249	19,618	-1,369
Alaska	1,512	1,253	259	8,320	8,127	193
Arizona	3,824	3,945	-121	27,632	31,343	-3,711
Arkansas	1,235	1,624	-389	12,593	13,863	-1,270
California	38,628	38,021	607	321,699	322,607	-908
Colorado	2,197	1,954	243	24,016	22,989	1,027
Connecticut	2,812	2,708	104	34,361	33,473	888
Delaware	483	542	-59	5,000	4,720	280
District of Columbia	463	272	191	7,188	7,748	-560
Florida	6,940	7,255	-315	45,781	51,489	-5,708
Georgia	4,907	6,082	-1,175	26,922	29,871	-2,949
Hawaii	1,060	1,186	-126	7,398	7,092	306
Idaho	874	890	-16	4,728	5,388	-660
Illinois	8,217	7,621	596	93,951	93,280	671
Indiana	2,577	2,460	117	19,108	19,461	-353
Iowa	2,269	2,016	253	15,763	14,882	881
Kansas	1,641	1,745	-104	10,702	10,925	-223
Kentucky	2,031	2,225	-194	19,062	18,682	380
Louisiana	1,983	2,443	-460	25,136	25,602	-466
Maine	577	586	-9	3,918	4,237	-319
Maryland	2,999	3,335	-336	29,526	32,437	-2,911
Massachusetts	4,462	4,512	-50	54,121	55,886	-1,765
Michigan	8,080	8,340	-260	47,504	40,502	7,002
Minnesota	3,117	2,814	303	28,315	26,647	1,668
Mississippi	1,079	1,328	-249	9,595	11,443	-1,848
Missouri	4,816	3,156	1,660	21,820	24,134	-2,314
Montana	897	902	-5	4,326	4,533	-207
Nebraska	550	602	-52	3,722	3,707	15
Nevada	2,330	2,011	319	18,516	20,225	-1,709
New Hampshire	434	440	-6	3,415	3,746	-331
New Jersey	8,026	7,943	83	82,843	83,124	-281
New Mexico	835	938	-103	10,720	11,018	-298
New York	12,861	12,632	229	124,840	125,920	-1,080
North Carolina	3,118	2,963	155	22,126	23,690	-1,564
North Dakota	514	234	280	3,478	2,381	1,097
Ohio	6,313	5,725	588	48,089	49,686	-1,597
Oklahoma	1,596	1,536	60	19,427	19,640	-213
Oregon	3,862	3,837	25	23,336	23,914	-578
Pennsylvania	13,216	11,886	1,330	106,420	103,008	3,412
Puerto Rico	1,522	1,229	293	22,232	21,753	479
Rhode Island	706	719	-13	6,819	7,027	-208
South Carolina	2,239	2,180	59	13,915	14,868	-953
South Dakota	218	143	75	1,047	1,091	-44
Tennessee	2,107	2,171	-64	16,482	17,452	-970
Texas	14,688	14,694	-6	169,467	165,962	3,505
Utah	974	1,056	-82	7,671	7,772	-101
Vermont	322	353	-31	2,691	2,638	53
Virgin Islands	35	68	-33	920	714	206
Virginia	3,013	2,631	382	24,608	24,158	450
Washington	5,601	5,260	341	40,228	39,106	1,122
West Virginia	772	833	-61	11,945	12,004	-59
Wisconsin	4,482	4,316	166	25,664	26,064	-400
Wyoming	443	367	76	3,999	4,450	-451
US Total	202,800	198,455	4,345	1,741,354	1,756,097	-14,743

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	
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	2,160	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	2,058	-6	2,094.75	1.5
October 1, 2016	249	-5	253.50				

Initial Claims Filed During Week Ended September 24

Insured Unemployment For Week Ended September 17

STATE	INITIAL CLAIMS CHANGE FROM					STATE	(%) 2	CHANGE FROM				ALL PROGRAMS EXCLUDING RAILROAD RETIREMENT
	STATE	LAST WEEK	YEAR AGO	UCFE ¹	UCX ¹			LAST WEEK	YEAR AGO	UCFE ¹	UCX ¹	
Alabama	2473	70	39	8	20	19618	1.1	-744	-1318	83	130	19831
Alaska	1253	23	68	14	6	8127	2.6	-117	791	64	35	8226
Arizona	3945	-111	506	7	10	31343	1.2	-1113	-1602	99	145	31587
Arkansas	1624	-208	-534	6	7	13863	1.2	-464	-4684	47	100	14010
California	38021	-744	-2159	136	185	322607	2.0	322	-14057	2035	2721	327363
Colorado	1954	38	-252	17	28	22989	0.9	-1064	-1776	162	496	23647
Connecticut	2708	-13	351	11	9	33473	2.0	-697	485	64	109	33646
Delaware	542	46	-30	0	6	4720	1.1	-125	-430	6	11	4737
District of Columbia	272	-6	14	7	1	7748	1.4	-378	-530	227	7	7982
Florida	7255	-348	-457	23	67	51489	0.7	-1258	-10468	191	328	52008
Georgia	6082	-270	436	24	49	29871	0.7	-1106	-5455	194	412	30477
Hawaii	1186	-61	157	4	12	7092	1.2	-236	295	74	143	7309
Idaho	890	-59	-44	4	3	5388	0.8	-39	-174	17	32	5437
Illinois	7621	-657	-1802	2	18	93280	1.6	-14084	-4976	374	321	93975
Indiana	2460	-166	-574	8	9	19461	0.7	-156	-1346	38	74	19573
Iowa	2016	156	-257	2	4	14882	1.0	-319	-1752	35	64	14981
Kansas	1745	-171	272	11	13	10925	0.8	-682	-2020	47	80	11052
Kentucky	2225	249	16	20	6	18682	1.0	-1415	-520	247	264	19193
Louisiana	2443	41	101	0	2	25602	1.3	-1588	2245	62	54	25718
Maine	586	-15	-16	2	6	4237	0.7	-22	-462	20	22	4279
Maryland	3335	241	178	21	19	32437	1.3	-739	-2411	297	217	32951
Massachusetts	4512	20	23	10	20	55886	1.7	-1293	-475	252	278	56416
Michigan	8340	2156	253	13	23	40502	1.0	-3122	-3062	105	186	40793
Minnesota	2814	-527	11	4	8	26647	1.0	-1576	-1715	55	100	26802
Mississippi	1328	-146	-130	7	4	11443	1.1	-213	-907	36	49	11528
Missouri	3156	-264	-844	82	18	24134	0.9	-479	-3331	448	99	24681
Montana	902	163	20	12	3	4533	1.0	-112	-373	40	2	4575
Nebraska	602	-59	-126	2	1	3707	0.4	-3	-1406	11	11	3729
Nevada	2011	-233	-674	2	5	20225	1.6	-1011	-5424	58	106	20389
New Hampshire	440	-16	-39	0	1	3746	0.6	-87	-405	7	11	3764
New Jersey	7943	-910	19	11	30	83124	2.2	-7088	-4671	216	409	83749
New Mexico	938	-4	-174	29	4	11018	1.4	-228	19	88	64	11170
New York	12632	-1902	-3970	29	58	125920	1.4	-13601	-12946	449	634	127003
North Carolina	2963	-229	-547	5	29	23690	0.6	-876	-4982	115	303	24108
North Dakota	234	-138	-127	3	3	2381	0.6	-482	-147	9	4	2394
Ohio	5725	-752	-496	18	31	49686	1.0	-579	-1494	117	320	50123
Oklahoma	1536	-35	-175	9	14	19640	1.3	-1564	-1179	66	122	19828
Oregon	3837	454	-195	29	26	23914	1.4	-254	-2915	110	186	24210
Pennsylvania	11886	-1224	-1457	78	44	103008	1.8	-11099	-8583	765	463	104236
Puerto Rico	1229	-304	-733	1	8	21753	2.5	-709	-6636	34	148	21935
Rhode Island	719	-87	42	2	2	7027	1.5	-44	155	11	16	7054
South Carolina	2180	-173	-165	9	15	14868	0.8	-697	-599	39	135	15042
South Dakota	143	-49	-31	1	0	1091	0.3	-55	70	23	4	1118
Tennessee	2171	-112	-850	7	10	17452	0.6	-360	-5374	88	144	17684
Texas	14694	-123	-466	74	153	165962	1.4	-3386	4856	882	2343	169187
Utah	1056	78	41	32	4	7772	0.6	-122	-726	177	30	7979
Vermont	353	3	67	0	1	2638	0.9	-26	-134	11	4	2653
Virgin Islands	68	-14	2	0	0	714	1.9	-78	-396	0	12	726
Virginia	2631	-410	-279	9	25	24158	0.7	-714	-1257	225	477	24860
Washington	5260	15	-770	29	60	39106	1.3	-856	-3030	204	805	40115
West Virginia	833	-101	-102	2	1	12004	1.8	-813	-400	36	50	12090
Wisconsin	4316	-290	-743	7	4	26064	0.9	-2219	-3999	68	55	26187
Wyoming	367	-16	-59	1	2	4450	1.6	-52	768	24	36	4510
Totals	198455	-7194	-16661	844	1087	1756097	1.3	-79822	-120863	9152	13371	1778620

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 SEPTEMBER 24, 2016

STATES WITH AN INCREASE OF MORE THAN 1,000

State	Change	State Supplied Comment
MI	+2,156	Layoffs in the construction, manufacturing, educational service, and administrative, support, waste management and remediation service industries.

STATES WITH A DECREASE OF MORE THAN 1,000

State	Change	State Supplied Comment
NY	-1,902	Fewer layoffs in the construction, educational service, and administrative, support, waste management and remediation service industries.
PA	-1,224	Fewer layoffs in the administrative, support, waste management and remediation service, transportation and warehousing, accommodation and food service, and manufacturing 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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