



News Release

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8:30 A.M. (Eastern) Thursday, October 27, 2016

UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE WEEKLY CLAIMS

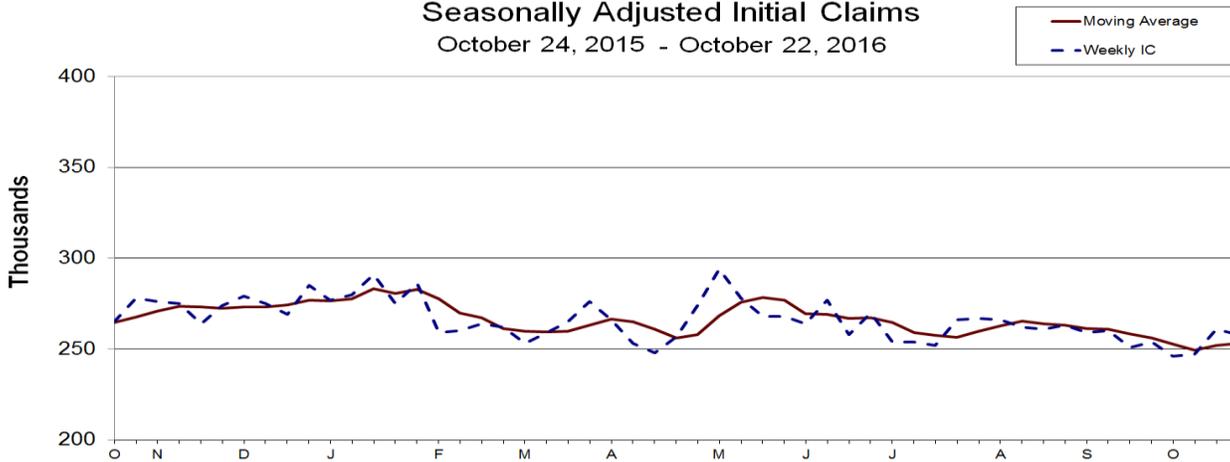
SEASONALLY ADJUSTED DATA

In the week ending October 22, the advance figure for seasonally adjusted **initial claims** was 258,000, a decrease of 3,000 from the previous week's revised level. The previous week's level was revised up by 1,000 from 260,000 to 261,000. The 4-week moving average was 253,000, an increase of 1,000 from the previous week's revised average. The previous week's average was revised up by 250 from 251,750 to 252,000.

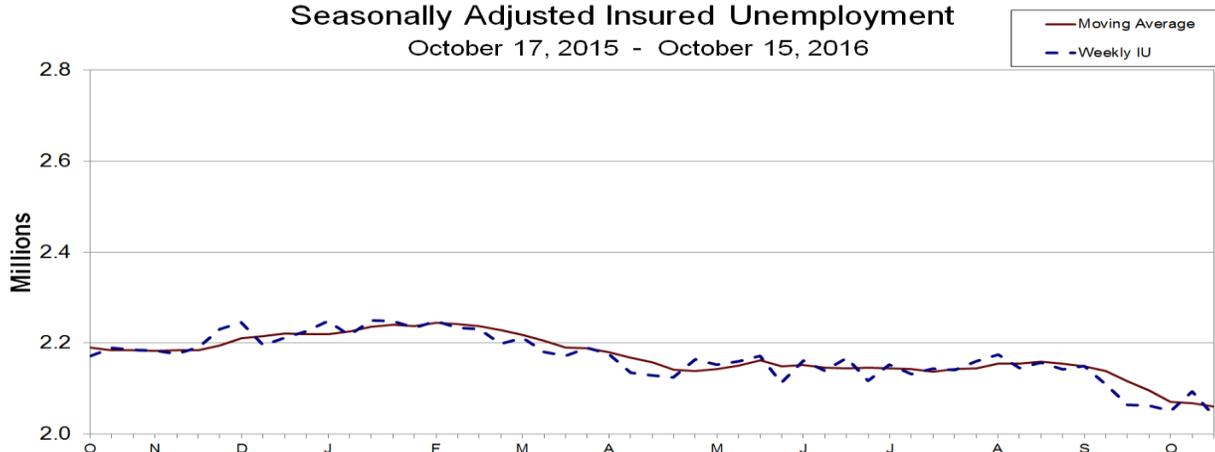
There were no special factors impacting this week's initial claims. This marks 86 consecutive weeks of initial claims below 300,000, the longest streak since 1970.

The advance seasonally adjusted **insured unemployment rate** was 1.5 percent for the week ending October 15, unchanged from the previous week's unrevised rate. The advance number for seasonally adjusted **insured unemployment** during the week ending October 15 was 2,039,000, a decrease of 15,000 from the previous week's revised level. This is the lowest level for insured unemployment since June 24, 2000 when it was 2,033,000. The previous week's level was revised down by 3,000 from 2,057,000 to 2,054,000. The 4-week moving average was 2,051,250, a decrease of 6,250 from the previous week's revised average. This is the lowest level for this average since July 1, 2000 when it was 2,036,500. The previous week's average was revised down by 750 from 2,058,250 to 2,057,500.

Seasonally Adjusted Initial Claims
October 24, 2015 - October 22, 2016



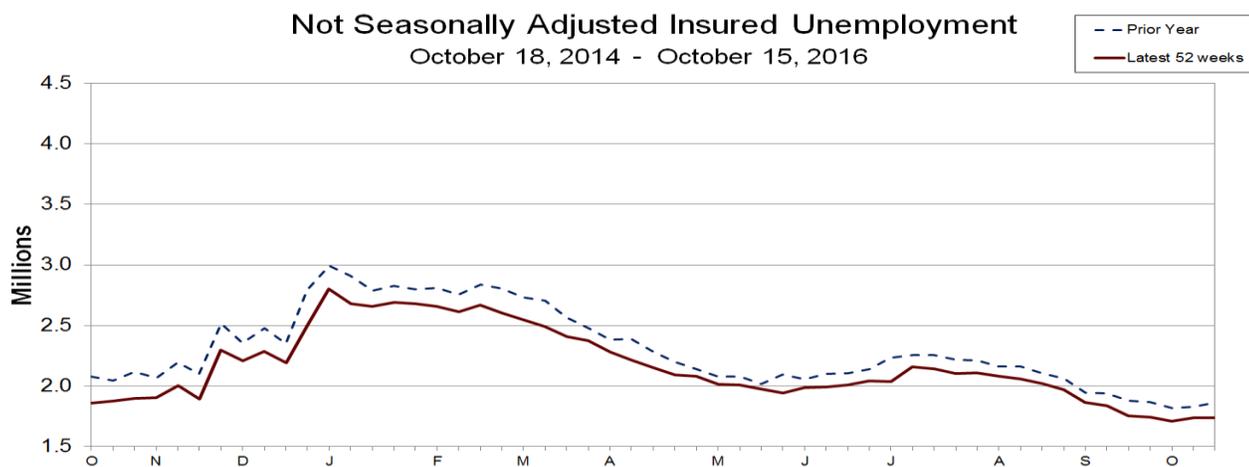
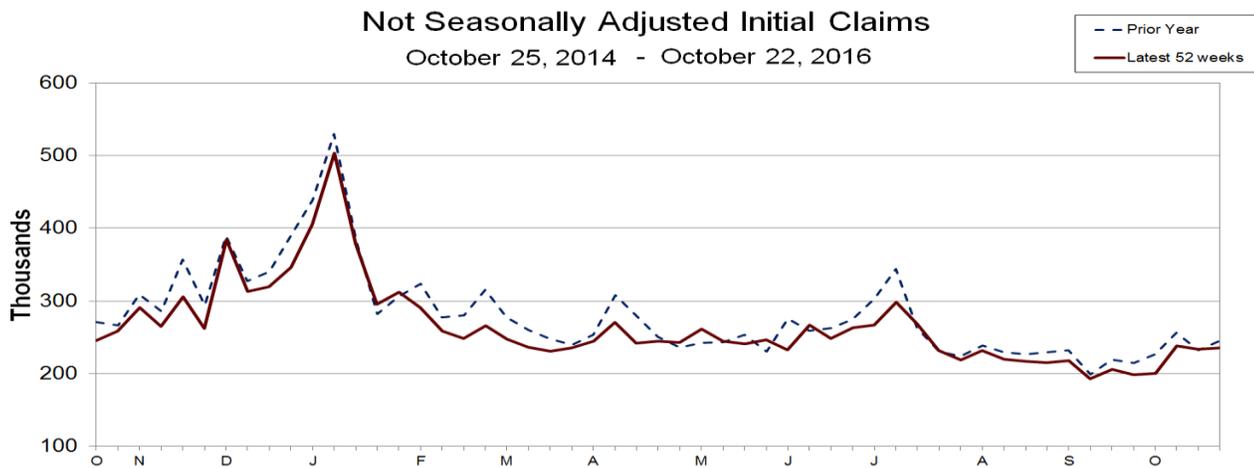
Seasonally Adjusted Insured Unemployment
October 17, 2015 - October 15, 2016



UNADJUSTED DATA

The advance number of actual initial claims under state programs, unadjusted, totaled 236,045 in the week ending October 22, an increase of 2,389 (or 1.0 percent) from the previous week. The seasonal factors had expected an increase of 5,216 (or 2.2 percent) from the previous week. There were 245,365 initial claims in the comparable week in 2015.

The advance unadjusted insured unemployment rate was 1.3 percent during the week ending October 15, an increase of 0.1 percentage point from the prior week. The advance unadjusted number for persons claiming UI benefits in state programs totaled 1,739,497, an increase of 32,756 (or 1.9 percent) from the preceding week. The seasonal factors had expected an increase of 45,184 (or 2.6 percent) from the previous week. A year earlier the rate was 1.4 percent and the volume was 1,860,474.



The total number of people claiming benefits in all programs for the week ending October 8 was 1,744,725, a decrease of 3,203 from the previous week. There were 1,873,157 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 October 8.

Initial claims for UI benefits filed by former Federal civilian employees totaled 1,111 in the week ending October 15, a decrease of 589 from the prior week. There were 1,054 initial claims filed by newly discharged veterans, a decrease of 226 from the preceding week.

There were 9,135 former Federal civilian employees claiming UI benefits for the week ending October 8, a decrease of 147 from the previous week. Newly discharged veterans claiming benefits totaled 13,275, an increase of 134 from the prior week.

The highest insured unemployment rates in the week ending October 8 were in Alaska (2.8), Puerto Rico (2.6), the Virgin Islands (2.3), New Jersey (2.1), Connecticut (2.0), California (1.9), Pennsylvania (1.8), Nevada (1.7), West Virginia (1.7), Illinois (1.6), and Massachusetts (1.6).

The largest increases in initial claims for the week ending October 15 were in Kentucky (+5,644), Michigan (+2,874), California (+2,588), North Carolina (+2,370), and New York (+2,178), while the largest decreases were in Pennsylvania (-4,188), Texas (-2,268), Missouri (-1,913), Illinois (-1,757), and Washington (-1,066).

UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE DATA FOR REGULAR STATE PROGRAMS

WEEK ENDING	October 22	October 15	Change	October 8	<u>Prior Year</u>¹
Initial Claims (SA)	258,000	261,000	-3,000	247,000	265,000
Initial Claims (NSA)	236,045	233,656	+2,389	238,581	245,365
4-Wk Moving Average (SA)	253,000	252,000	+1,000	249,500	264,750
WEEK ENDING	October 15	October 8	Change	October 1	<u>Prior Year</u>¹
Insured Unemployment (SA)	2,039,000	2,054,000	-15,000	2,050,000	2,171,000
Insured Unemployment (NSA)	1,739,497	1,706,741	+32,756	1,709,974	1,860,474
4-Wk Moving Average (SA)	2,051,250	2,057,500	-6,250	2,071,000	2,190,250
<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%	1.2%	+0.1	1.2%	1.4%

INITIAL CLAIMS FILED IN FEDERAL PROGRAMS (UNADJUSTED)

WEEK ENDING	October 15	October 8	Change	<u>Prior Year</u>¹
Federal Employees (UCFE)	1,111	1,700	-589	1,212
Newly Discharged Veterans (UCX)	1,054	1,280	-226	1,318

PERSONS CLAIMING UI BENEFITS IN ALL PROGRAMS (UNADJUSTED)

WEEK ENDING	October 8	October 1	Change	<u>Prior Year</u>¹
Regular State	1,702,853	1,705,990	-3,137	1,822,244
Federal Employees	9,135	9,282	-147	13,069
Newly Discharged Veterans	13,275	13,141	+134	14,961
<u>Extended Benefits</u>³	0	0	0	0
<u>State Additional Benefits</u>⁴	6,977	6,854	+123	6,917
<u>STC / Workshare</u>⁵	12,485	12,661	-176	15,966
<u>TOTAL</u>	1,744,725	1,747,928	-3,203	1,873,157

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 October 22			Insured Unemployment For Week Ended October 15		
	Advance	Prior Wk	Change	Advance	Prior Wk	Change
Alabama	2,383	2,882	-499	18,263	19,890	-1,627
Alaska	1,744	1,461	283	9,506	8,840	666
Arizona	3,814	4,022	-208	26,300	29,134	-2,834
Arkansas	1,839	1,875	-36	12,542	12,710	-168
California	44,883	46,010	-1,127	325,800	301,777	24,023
Colorado	2,435	2,263	172	24,428	22,828	1,600
Connecticut	2,893	2,850	43	34,233	32,212	2,021
Delaware	540	559	-19	5,054	4,885	169
District of Columbia	675	351	324	7,656	7,926	-270
Florida	7,231	7,999	-768	40,577	49,939	-9,362
Georgia	7,033	6,767	266	29,964	29,915	49
Hawaii	1,380	1,097	283	7,508	7,018	490
Idaho	1,268	1,102	166	5,028	5,464	-436
Illinois	9,447	7,611	1,836	92,072	90,070	2,002
Indiana	2,707	2,766	-59	19,063	18,866	197
Iowa	2,751	2,184	567	15,732	14,609	1,123
Kansas	1,996	1,657	339	10,382	10,260	122
Kentucky	4,224	8,314	-4,090	17,922	18,390	-468
Louisiana	2,201	2,674	-473	22,340	24,285	-1,945
Maine	746	618	128	3,940	3,939	1
Maryland	3,393	3,377	16	29,230	32,193	-2,963
Massachusetts	4,464	4,552	-88	56,245	54,506	1,739
Michigan	7,884	9,924	-2,040	41,956	44,227	-2,271
Minnesota	3,529	3,201	328	28,812	26,998	1,814
Mississippi	1,179	1,394	-215	9,491	10,871	-1,380
Missouri	3,690	3,698	-8	22,136	22,977	-841
Montana	1,223	1,215	8	5,723	5,505	218
Nebraska	1,162	701	461	3,804	3,657	147
Nevada	2,529	2,344	185	19,147	20,616	-1,469
New Hampshire	428	467	-39	3,426	3,755	-329
New Jersey	9,181	9,064	117	85,755	81,476	4,279
New Mexico	915	959	-44	10,529	10,991	-462
New York	15,911	17,033	-1,122	130,253	127,473	2,780
North Carolina	8,206	5,633	2,573	23,266	22,416	850
North Dakota	590	351	239	3,342	2,399	943
Ohio	6,858	6,171	687	47,718	47,134	584
Oklahoma	1,799	1,532	267	18,583	19,624	-1,041
Oregon	3,817	4,138	-321	24,610	24,489	121
Pennsylvania	14,367	12,718	1,649	104,851	102,358	2,493
Puerto Rico	1,573	1,691	-118	22,844	22,543	301
Rhode Island	781	761	20	6,721	6,716	5
South Carolina	3,750	3,288	462	14,468	14,349	119
South Dakota	227	225	2	1,164	1,178	-14
Tennessee	2,479	2,768	-289	16,516	16,343	173
Texas	14,910	14,613	297	161,800	154,824	6,976
Utah	1,251	1,026	225	7,675	7,707	-32
Vermont	603	571	32	2,939	2,608	331
Virgin Islands	35	47	-12	1,004	846	158
Virginia	3,251	2,930	321	24,025	22,962	1,063
Washington	7,386	6,370	1,016	42,169	39,752	2,417
West Virginia	1,057	917	140	11,568	11,204	364
Wisconsin	4,644	4,382	262	25,390	25,015	375
Wyoming	783	533	250	4,027	4,072	-45
US Total	236,045	233,656	2,389	1,739,497	1,706,741	32,756

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	
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	2,062	-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	2,039	-15	2,051.25	1.5
October 22, 2016	258	-3	253.00				

Initial Claims Filed During Week Ended October

15

Insured Unemployment For Week Ended October 8

INSURED UNEMPLOYMENT

STATE	INITIAL CLAIMS CHANGE FROM							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	2882	-174	177	12	19	19890	1.1	712	-1126	88	126	20104
Alaska	1461	-187	-29	8	2	8840	2.8	314	218	85	27	8952
Arizona	4022	-637	269	21	7	29134	1.1	-421	-1472	106	148	29388
Arkansas	1875	-470	-680	7	3	12710	1.1	-228	-4866	52	97	12859
California	46010	2588	2418	252	208	301777	1.9	-18464	-6054	1822	2725	306324
Colorado	2263	-546	-391	28	33	22828	0.9	191	-711	107	480	23415
Connecticut	2850	-387	431	7	6	32212	2.0	-515	-15	74	161	32447
Delaware	559	-171	-183	0	3	4885	1.1	75	-518	10	20	4915
District of Columbia	351	-48	-27	7	1	7926	1.4	288	-207	249	6	8181
Florida	7999	676	151	27	83	49939	0.6	4688	-8538	153	342	50434
Georgia	6767	-383	725	22	49	29915	0.7	602	-5087	200	406	30521
Hawaii	1097	-179	-109	1	9	7018	1.2	32	292	59	122	7199
Idaho	1102	-83	186	17	5	5464	0.8	159	-261	26	38	5528
Illinois	7611	-1757	-1561	10	20	90070	1.6	1138	-9244	366	328	90764
Indiana	2766	-396	-282	17	13	18866	0.6	-310	-812	51	88	19005
Iowa	2184	-179	82	6	5	14609	1.0	194	-1190	37	65	14711
Kansas	1657	-215	-226	6	9	10260	0.8	89	-688	56	81	10397
Kentucky	8314	5644	5713	15	3	18390	1.0	308	-820	224	244	18858
Louisiana	2674	116	336	3	4	24285	1.3	534	1461	64	61	24410
Maine	618	15	-64	1	2	3939	0.7	-20	-355	19	20	3978
Maryland	3377	-714	-275	18	18	32193	1.3	-90	-2387	299	209	32701
Massachusetts	4552	-647	-185	22	25	54506	1.6	-624	237	275	261	55042
Michigan	9924	2874	645	34	24	44227	1.1	4832	-1136	94	172	44493
Minnesota	3201	-187	-563	4	7	26998	1.0	-210	-1043	48	110	27156
Mississippi	1394	-411	-217	26	6	10871	1.0	20	-698	43	48	10962
Missouri	3698	-1913	-528	23	4	22977	0.9	-2642	-3442	539	102	23618
Montana	1215	-371	-24	35	2	5505	1.3	678	-137	65	39	5609
Nebraska	701	31	10	1	2	3657	0.4	96	-1057	12	11	3680
Nevada	2344	-613	-30	6	3	20616	1.7	703	-3137	64	111	20791
New Hampshire	467	-84	-80	1	1	3755	0.6	29	-300	7	11	3773
New Jersey	9064	-524	1491	11	12	81476	2.1	-284	-4799	203	414	82093
New Mexico	959	-317	-112	16	4	10991	1.4	225	-202	153	60	11204
New York	17033	2178	1950	54	47	127473	1.4	3811	-7389	501	605	128579
North Carolina	5633	2370	1931	16	23	22416	0.5	-164	-5082	124	304	22844
North Dakota	351	-107	-24	3	0	2399	0.6	126	95	6	7	2412
Ohio	6171	-477	-178	16	30	47134	0.9	-460	-1259	149	316	47599
Oklahoma	1532	-393	-480	7	7	19624	1.3	-164	-1162	72	139	19835
Oregon	4138	221	45	63	23	24489	1.4	852	-2780	199	152	24840
Pennsylvania	12718	-4188	-1726	90	49	102358	1.8	3819	-11229	594	427	103379
Puerto Rico	1691	-968	96	3	6	22543	2.6	872	-6515	34	154	22731
Rhode Island	761	-130	15	2	5	6716	1.5	-29	-161	19	20	6755
South Carolina	3288	1024	-2426	2	15	14349	0.7	262	-2571	52	124	14525
South Dakota	225	-108	17	5	1	1178	0.3	132	203	21	0	1199
Tennessee	2768	-28	-739	7	10	16343	0.6	-325	-6020	99	134	16576
Texas	14613	-2268	-1604	50	153	154824	1.3	-2972	-4807	775	2324	157923
Utah	1026	-335	-208	37	2	7707	0.6	180	-742	227	27	7961
Vermont	571	123	18	2	1	2608	0.9	75	-158	11	5	2624
Virgin Islands	47	-33	7	0	0	846	2.3	14	-200	0	4	850
Virginia	2930	-99	-270	13	15	22962	0.6	-495	-2014	228	492	23682
Washington	6370	-1066	-1114	67	66	39752	1.3	-409	-3560	222	785	40759
West Virginia	917	-444	-228	1	4	11204	1.7	-13	-1495	33	48	11285
Wisconsin	4382	-488	-1355	7	5	25015	0.9	-268	-5132	91	59	25165
Wyoming	533	-60	1	2	0	4072	1.5	-176	34	28	16	4116
Totals	233656	-4925	796	1111	1054	1706741	1.2	-3233	-120038	9135	13275	1729151

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 OCTOBER 15, 2016

STATES WITH AN INCREASE OF MORE THAN 1,000

State	Change	State Supplied Comment
KY	+5,644	No comment.
MI	+2,874	Layoffs in the wholesale trade industry.
CA	+2,588	No comment.
NC	+2,370	Layoffs in the administrative, support, waste management and remediation service, and accommodation and food service industries.
NY	+2,178	Layoffs in the transportation and warehousing, and accommodation and food service industries.
SC	+1,024	No comment.

STATES WITH A DECREASE OF MORE THAN 1,000

State	Change	State Supplied Comment
PA	-4,188	No comment.
TX	-2,268	Fewer layoffs in the manufacturing, health care and social assistance, and retail trade industries.
MO	-1,913	Fewer layoff in the manufacturing, administrative, support, waste management and remediation service, and health care and social assistance industries.
IL	-1,757	Fewer layoffs in the manufacturing, construction, and administrative, support, waste management and remediation service industries.
WA	-1,066	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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