



News Release

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8:30 A.M. (Eastern) Thursday, November 3, 2016

UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE WEEKLY CLAIMS

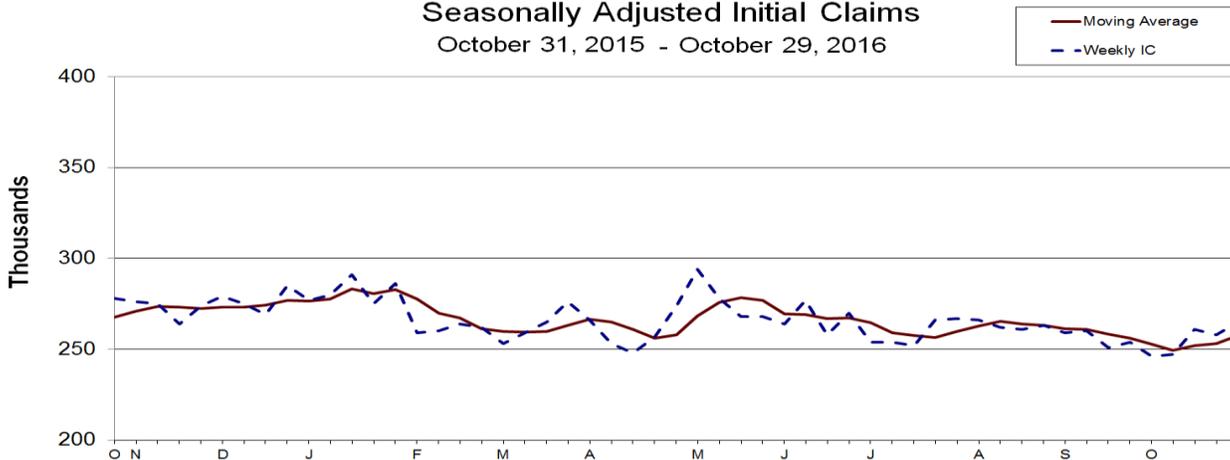
SEASONALLY ADJUSTED DATA

In the week ending October 29, the advance figure for seasonally adjusted **initial claims** was 265,000, an increase of 7,000 from the previous week's unrevised level of 258,000. The 4-week moving average was 257,750, an increase of 4,750 from the previous week's unrevised average of 253,000.

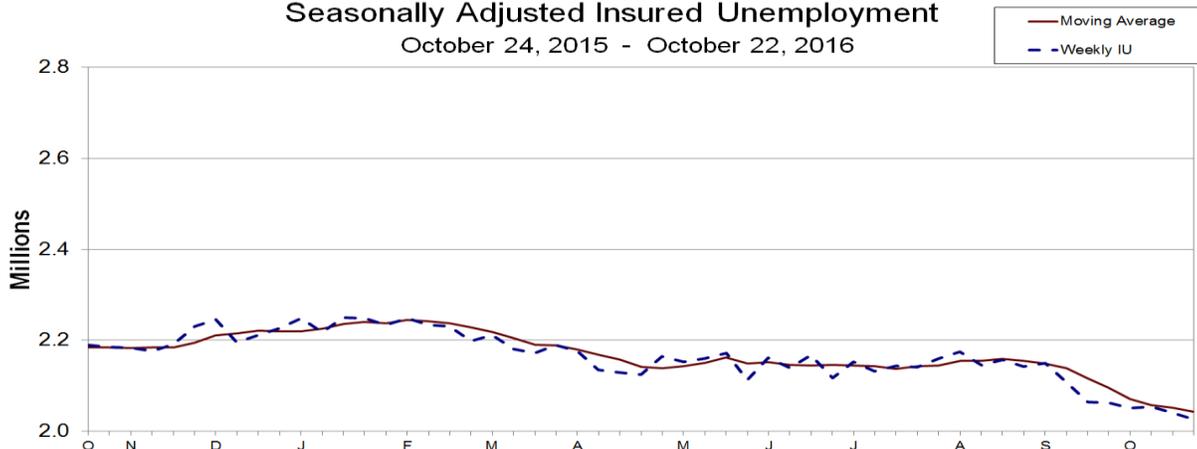
There were no special factors impacting this week's initial claims. This marks 87 consecutive weeks of initial claims below 300,000, the longest streak since 1970.

The advance seasonally adjusted **insured unemployment rate** was 1.5 percent for the week ending October 22, unchanged from the previous week's unrevised rate. The advance number for seasonally adjusted **insured unemployment** during the week ending October 22 was 2,026,000, a decrease of 14,000 from the previous week's revised level. This is the lowest level for insured unemployment since June 10, 2000 when it was 2,020,000. The previous week's level was revised up 1,000 from 2,039,000 to 2,040,000. The 4-week moving average was 2,042,500, a decrease of 9,000 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 up by 250 from 2,051,250 to 2,051,500.

Seasonally Adjusted Initial Claims
October 31, 2015 - October 29, 2016



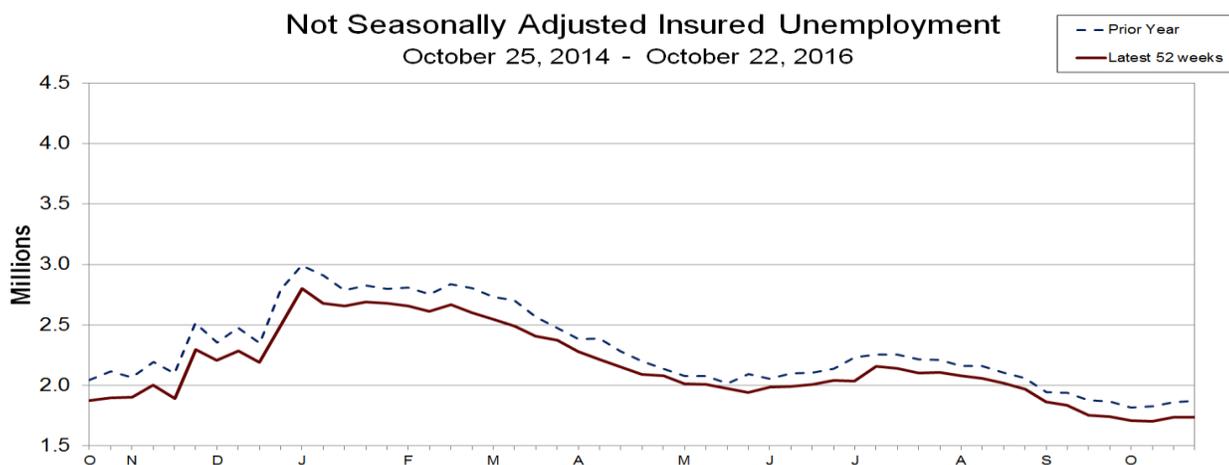
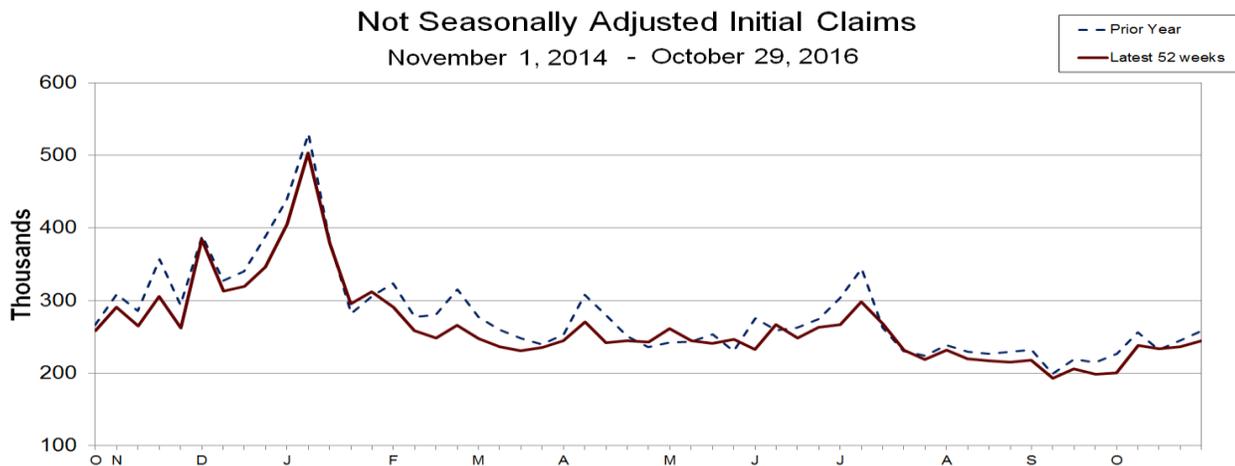
Seasonally Adjusted Insured Unemployment
October 24, 2015 - October 22, 2016



UNADJUSTED DATA

The advance number of actual initial claims under state programs, unadjusted, totaled 245,257 in the week ending October 29, an increase of 8,752 (or 3.7 percent) from the previous week. The seasonal factors had expected an increase of 2,324 (or 1.0 percent) from the previous week. There were 258,440 initial claims in the comparable week in 2015.

The advance unadjusted insured unemployment rate was 1.3 percent during the week ending October 22, unchanged from the prior week. The advance unadjusted number for persons claiming UI benefits in state programs totaled 1,738,009, a decrease of 2,445 (or -0.1 percent) from the preceding week. The seasonal factors had expected an increase of 10,202 (or 0.6 percent) from the previous week. A year earlier the rate was 1.4 percent and the volume was 1,874,526.



The total number of people claiming benefits in all programs for the week ending October 15 was 1,780,938, an increase of 36,213 from the previous week. There were 1,912,269 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 15.

Initial claims for UI benefits filed by former Federal civilian employees totaled 2,371 in the week ending October 22, an increase of 1,260 from the prior week. There were 1,009 initial claims filed by newly discharged veterans, a decrease of 45 from the preceding week.

There were 10,740 former Federal civilian employees claiming UI benefits for the week ending October 15, an increase of 1,605 from the previous week. Newly discharged veterans claiming benefits totaled 13,676, an increase of 401 from the prior week.

The highest insured unemployment rates in the week ending October 15 were in Alaska (3.1), Puerto Rico (2.7), the Virgin Islands (2.7), New Jersey (2.2), California (2.0), Connecticut (2.0), Pennsylvania (1.8), Nevada (1.7), West Virginia (1.7), and Illinois (1.6).

The largest increases in initial claims for the week ending October 22 were in North Carolina (+2,389), Illinois (+1,743), Pennsylvania (+1,641), Ohio (+701), and Washington (+700), while the largest decreases were in Kentucky (-4,073), Michigan (-1,890), California (-1,604), New York (-1,240), and Florida (-450).

UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE DATA FOR REGULAR STATE PROGRAMS

WEEK ENDING	October 29	October 22	Change	October 15	<u>Prior Year</u> ¹
Initial Claims (SA)	265,000	258,000	+7,000	261,000	278,000
Initial Claims (NSA)	245,257	236,505	+8,752	233,656	258,440
4-Wk Moving Average (SA)	257,750	253,000	+4,750	252,000	267,500
WEEK ENDING	October 22	October 15	Change	October 8	<u>Prior Year</u> ¹
Insured Unemployment (SA)	2,026,000	2,040,000	-14,000	2,054,000	2,190,000
Insured Unemployment (NSA)	1,738,009	1,740,454	-2,445	1,706,741	1,874,526
4-Wk Moving Average (SA)	2,042,500	2,051,500	-9,000	2,057,500	2,183,750
<u>Insured Unemployment Rate (SA)</u> ²	1.5%	1.5%	0.0	1.5%	1.6%
<u>Insured Unemployment Rate (NSA)</u> ²	1.3%	1.3%	0.0	1.2%	1.4%

INITIAL CLAIMS FILED IN FEDERAL PROGRAMS (UNADJUSTED)

WEEK ENDING	October 22	October 15	Change	<u>Prior Year</u> ¹
Federal Employees (UCFE)	2,371	1,111	+1,260	1,290
Newly Discharged Veterans (UCX)	1,009	1,054	-45	1,309

PERSONS CLAIMING UI BENEFITS IN ALL PROGRAMS (UNADJUSTED)

WEEK ENDING	October 15	October 8	Change	<u>Prior Year</u> ¹
Regular State	1,735,224	1,702,853	+32,371	1,855,211
Federal Employees	10,740	9,135	+1,605	14,433
Newly Discharged Veterans	13,676	13,275	+401	17,483
<u>Extended Benefits</u> ³	0	0	0	0
<u>State Additional Benefits</u> ⁴	7,022	6,977	+45	7,373
<u>STC / Workshare</u> ⁵	14,276	12,485	+1,791	17,769
<u>TOTAL</u>	1,780,938	1,744,725	+36,213	1,912,269

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 29			Insured Unemployment For Week Ended October 22		
	Advance	Prior Wk	Change	Advance	Prior Wk	Change
Alabama	2,512	2,561	-49	18,186	19,218	-1,032
Alaska	1,947	1,443	504	9,464	9,767	-303
Arizona	3,717	4,063	-346	25,740	29,155	-3,415
Arkansas	2,002	1,991	11	12,940	13,276	-336
California	46,934	44,406	2,528	322,717	319,330	3,387
Colorado	2,344	2,463	-119	23,713	24,026	-313
Connecticut	3,204	2,895	309	34,020	32,963	1,057
Delaware	542	564	-22	5,011	4,819	192
District of Columbia	629	403	226	7,734	8,030	-296
Florida	7,228	7,549	-321	40,578	45,898	-5,320
Georgia	6,255	7,283	-1,028	29,615	31,504	-1,889
Hawaii	1,195	1,355	-160	7,427	7,245	182
Idaho	1,301	1,396	-95	5,393	5,624	-231
Illinois	9,094	9,354	-260	91,219	90,996	223
Indiana	2,725	2,687	38	18,777	19,121	-344
Iowa	2,933	2,328	605	16,412	14,632	1,780
Kansas	2,277	1,853	424	10,651	10,196	455
Kentucky	7,794	4,241	3,553	20,947	18,132	2,815
Louisiana	2,478	2,442	36	23,815	23,089	726
Maine	818	783	35	4,162	4,134	28
Maryland	3,270	3,737	-467	29,576	32,329	-2,753
Massachusetts	5,310	4,552	758	54,643	54,506	137
Michigan	6,846	8,034	-1,188	44,412	43,498	914
Minnesota	4,283	3,264	1,019	29,583	26,944	2,639
Mississippi	1,190	1,417	-227	9,501	10,794	-1,293
Missouri	7,880	3,795	4,085	22,548	23,494	-946
Montana	1,096	1,285	-189	5,851	6,009	-158
Nebraska	725	1,144	-419	4,369	3,716	653
Nevada	2,311	2,501	-190	19,067	20,655	-1,588
New Hampshire	489	469	20	3,382	3,766	-384
New Jersey	8,729	9,324	-595	86,180	84,515	1,665
New Mexico	1,127	1,016	111	10,533	10,765	-232
New York	15,159	15,793	-634	128,823	129,473	-650
North Carolina	5,796	8,022	-2,226	25,174	24,416	758
North Dakota	696	409	287	3,381	2,250	1,131
Ohio	7,609	6,872	737	47,806	47,745	61
Oklahoma	1,629	1,784	-155	18,588	19,247	-659
Oregon	4,217	3,830	387	25,474	24,651	823
Pennsylvania	14,663	14,359	304	101,709	102,939	-1,230
Puerto Rico	1,425	1,744	-319	22,418	23,569	-1,151
Rhode Island	917	787	130	6,624	6,697	-73
South Carolina	2,914	3,862	-948	14,032	15,202	-1,170
South Dakota	265	247	18	1,193	1,163	30
Tennessee	2,516	2,637	-121	16,016	16,926	-910
Texas	15,663	15,308	355	157,336	157,801	-465
Utah	1,333	1,236	97	7,842	7,645	197
Vermont	529	618	-89	3,133	2,782	351
Virgin Islands	39	52	-13	914	1,002	-88
Virginia	3,003	3,000	3	23,905	23,371	534
Washington	8,056	7,070	986	43,878	40,608	3,270
West Virginia	958	1,156	-198	11,547	11,222	325
Wisconsin	6,039	4,587	1,452	25,943	25,316	627
Wyoming	646	534	112	4,107	4,283	-176
US Total	245,257	236,505	8,752	1,738,009	1,740,454	-2,445

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 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	2,040	-14	2,051.50	1.5
October 22, 2016	258	-3	253.00	2,026	-14	2,042.50	1.5
October 29, 2016	265	7	257.75				

Initial Claims Filed During Week Ended October

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Insured Unemployment For Week Ended October 15

STATE	INITIAL CLAIMS CHANGE FROM						STATE	UCFE ¹	UCX ¹	STATE	CHANGE FROM		ALL PROGRAMS EXCLUDING RAILROAD RETIREMENT
	STATE	LAST WEEK	YEAR AGO	UCFE ¹	UCX ¹	(%) ²					LAST WEEK	YEAR AGO	
Alabama	2561	-321	-224	15	17	19218	1.0	-672	-1428	80	141	19439	
Alaska	1443	-18	-78	20	0	9767	3.1	927	422	135	41	9943	
Arizona	4063	41	196	24	2	29155	1.1	21	-1371	132	150	29437	
Arkansas	1991	116	-739	4	7	13276	1.1	566	-5014	61	85	13422	
California	44406	-1604	-1455	310	170	319330	2.0	17553	-10172	2208	2775	324313	
Colorado	2463	200	-262	39	18	24026	1.0	1198	-2378	212	490	24728	
Connecticut	2895	45	33	9	11	32963	2.0	751	311	54	112	33129	
Delaware	564	5	-90	1	5	4819	1.1	-66	-546	8	13	4840	
District of Columbia	403	52	11	5	1	8030	1.5	104	-231	243	9	8282	
Florida	7549	-450	-504	111	55	45898	0.6	-4041	-12209	188	282	46368	
Georgia	7283	516	514	185	57	31504	0.8	1589	-3640	232	429	32165	
Hawaii	1355	258	221	3	15	7245	1.2	227	830	73	139	7457	
Idaho	1396	294	-231	25	2	5624	0.9	160	-337	40	40	5704	
Illinois	9354	1743	-1061	18	16	90996	1.6	926	-7092	404	328	91728	
Indiana	2687	-79	-882	22	11	19121	0.7	255	-780	71	98	19290	
Iowa	2328	144	72	4	5	14632	1.0	23	-1337	27	68	14727	
Kansas	1853	196	32	13	11	10196	0.8	-64	-1606	68	73	10337	
Kentucky	4241	-4073	1854	54	6	18132	1.0	-258	-299	263	312	18707	
Louisiana	2442	-232	-60	5	11	23089	1.2	-1196	321	60	80	23229	
Maine	783	165	-205	2	2	4134	0.7	195	-291	26	20	4180	
Maryland	3737	360	-153	55	16	32329	1.3	136	-2710	300	198	32827	
Massachusetts	4552	0	-951	22	25	54506	1.6	0	-511	275	261	55042	
Michigan	8034	-1890	1355	50	35	43498	1.1	-729	-2480	122	217	43837	
Minnesota	3264	63	-465	10	4	26944	1.0	-54	-1910	55	120	27119	
Mississippi	1417	23	-420	31	2	10794	1.0	-77	-786	55	57	10906	
Missouri	3795	97	-327	155	3	23494	0.9	517	-3180	498	105	24097	
Montana	1285	70	-71	56	0	6009	1.4	504	-132	102	38	6149	
Nebraska	1144	443	289	2	0	3716	0.4	59	-1082	13	11	3740	
Nevada	2501	157	-150	22	4	20655	1.7	39	-2914	82	112	20849	
New Hampshire	469	2	-99	4	1	3766	0.6	11	-383	13	8	3787	
New Jersey	9324	260	428	21	26	84515	2.2	3039	-3370	234	413	85162	
New Mexico	1016	57	-159	26	3	10765	1.4	-226	-516	194	71	11030	
New York	15793	-1240	-1143	124	43	129473	1.4	2000	-7223	524	630	130627	
North Carolina	8022	2389	4213	16	12	24416	0.6	2000	-2276	131	296	24843	
North Dakota	409	58	13	2	3	2250	0.5	-149	-86	5	4	2259	
Ohio	6872	701	-272	53	34	47745	0.9	611	-1304	156	325	48226	
Oklahoma	1784	252	-286	6	9	19247	1.2	-377	-1775	70	145	19462	
Oregon	3830	-308	-315	104	13	24651	1.4	162	-2773	231	155	25037	
Pennsylvania	14359	1641	-1436	303	56	102939	1.8	581	-10650	837	506	104282	
Puerto Rico	1744	53	-292	33	12	23569	2.7	1026	-4762	43	150	23762	
Rhode Island	787	26	-83	2	1	6697	1.5	-19	-257	14	28	6739	
South Carolina	3862	574	-671	12	16	15202	0.8	853	-2161	45	143	15390	
South Dakota	247	22	3	4	1	1163	0.3	-15	143	23	5	1191	
Tennessee	2637	-131	-797	10	10	16926	0.6	583	-5612	82	139	17147	
Texas	15308	695	-1141	143	146	157801	1.4	2977	-1295	1150	2393	161344	
Utah	1236	210	-143	81	6	7645	0.6	-62	-897	239	25	7909	
Vermont	618	47	2	2	0	2782	0.9	174	-6	13	5	2800	
Virgin Islands	52	5	16	1	0	1002	2.7	156	-186	0	10	1012	
Virginia	3000	70	-301	31	19	23371	0.7	409	-1884	217	521	24109	
Washington	7070	700	-634	100	69	40608	1.3	856	-3433	267	748	41623	
West Virginia	1156	239	-365	3	7	11222	1.7	18	-1722	36	53	11311	
Wisconsin	4587	205	-1586	6	9	25316	0.9	301	-5165	83	65	25464	
Wyoming	534	1	-61	12	2	4283	1.6	211	125	46	34	4363	
Totals	236505	2849	-8860	2371	1009	1740454	1.3	33713	-120020	10740	13676	1764870	

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 22, 2016

STATES WITH AN INCREASE OF MORE THAN 1,000

State	Change	State Supplied Comment
NC	+2,389	Layoffs in the agriculture, forestry, fishing and hunting, health care and social assistance, and manufacturing industries.
IL	+1,743	Layoffs in the manufacturing, administrative, support, waste management and remediation service, and health care and social assistance industries.
PA	+1,641	No comment.

STATES WITH A DECREASE OF MORE THAN 1,000

State	Change	State Supplied Comment
KY	-4,073	No comment.
MI	-1,890	Fewer layoffs in the wholesale trade industry.
CA	-1,604	No comment.
NY	-1,240	Fewer layoffs in the transportation and warehousing, accommodation and food service, and public administration 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](#)

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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