



# News Release

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8:30 A.M. (Eastern) Thursday, September 15, 2016

## UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE WEEKLY CLAIMS

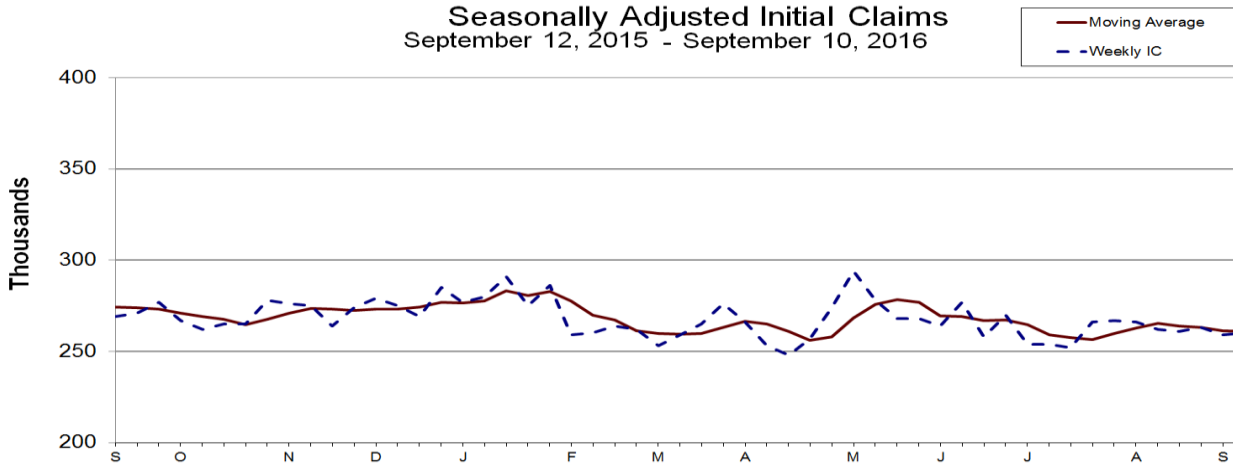
### SEASONALLY ADJUSTED DATA

In the week ending September 10, the advance figure for seasonally adjusted **initial claims** was 260,000, an increase of 1,000 from the previous week's unrevised level of 259,000. The 4-week moving average was 260,750, a decrease of 500 from the previous week's unrevised average of 261,250.

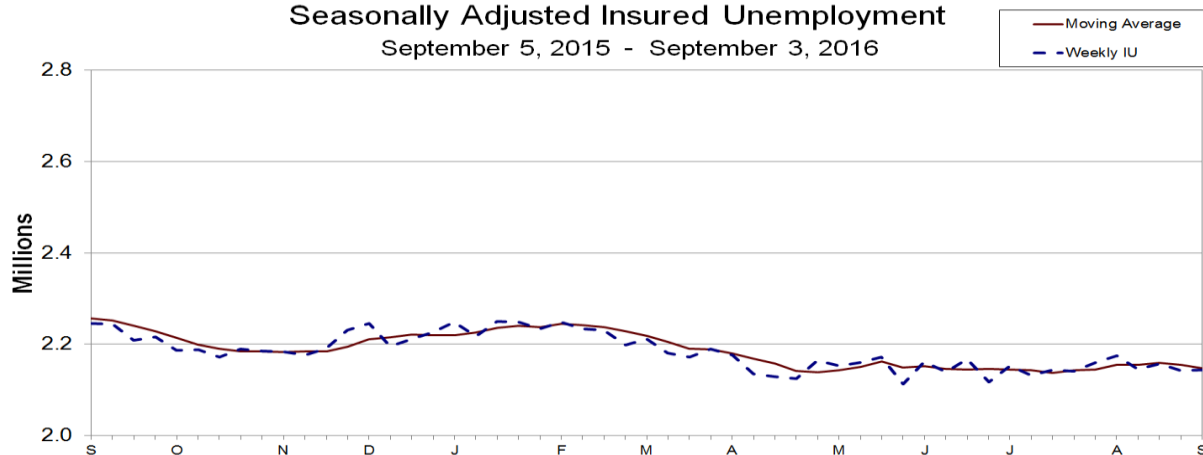
There were no special factors impacting this week's initial claims. This marks 80 consecutive weeks of initial claims below 300,000, the longest streak since 1970.

The advance seasonally adjusted **insured unemployment rate** was 1.6 percent for the week ending September 3, unchanged from the previous week's unrevised rate. The advance number for seasonally adjusted **insured unemployment** during the week ending September 3 was 2,143,000, an increase of 1,000 from the previous week's revised level. The previous week's level was revised down by 2,000 from 2,144,000 to 2,142,000. The 4-week moving average was 2,146,750, a decrease of 8,000 from the previous week's revised average. The previous week's average was revised up by 1,000 from 2,153,750 to 2,154,750.

Seasonally Adjusted Initial Claims  
September 12, 2015 - September 10, 2016



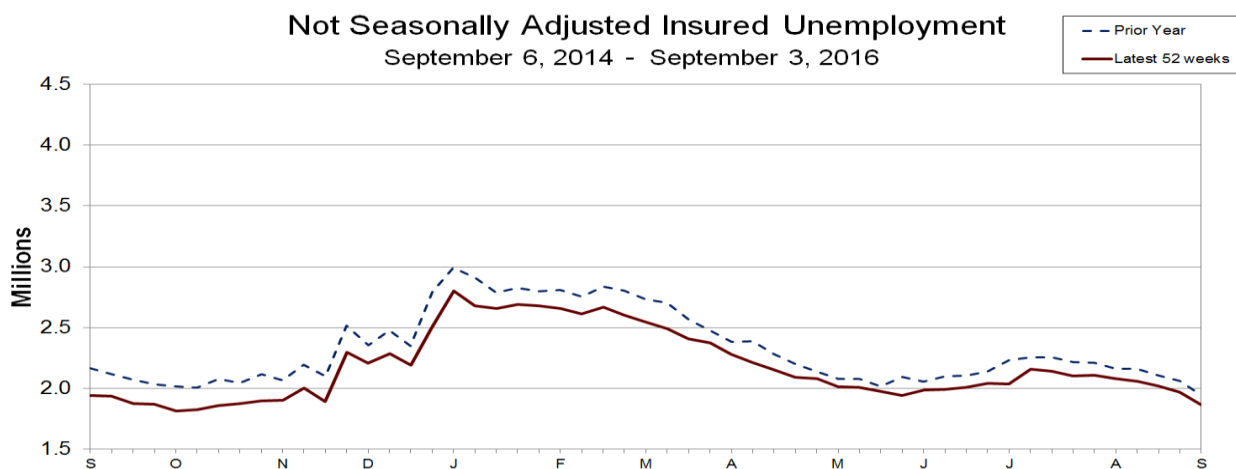
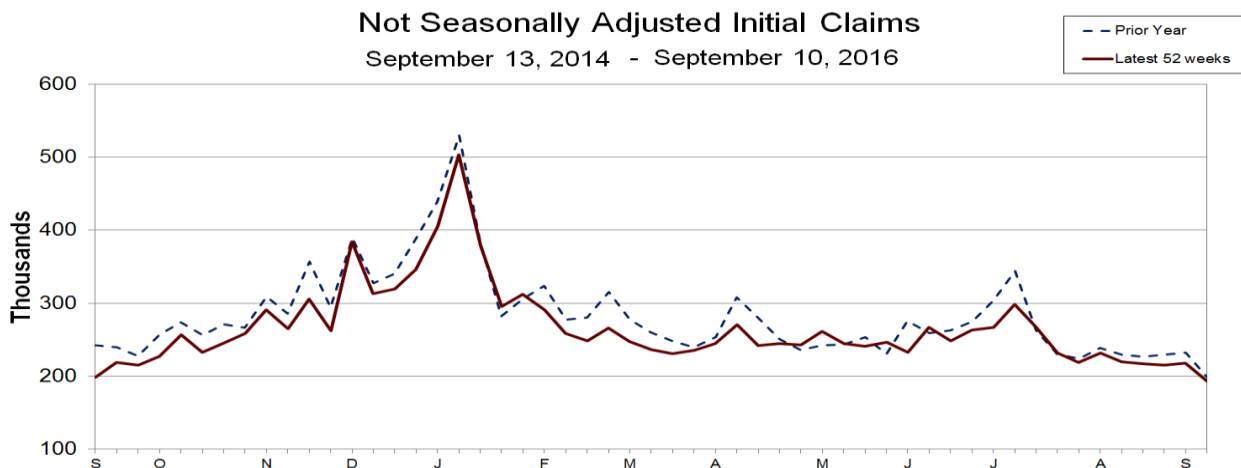
Seasonally Adjusted Insured Unemployment  
September 5, 2015 - September 3, 2016



## UNADJUSTED DATA

The advance number of actual initial claims under state programs, unadjusted, totaled 193,366 in the week ending September 10, a decrease of 24,349 (or -11.2 percent) from the previous week. The seasonal factors had expected a decrease of 25,598 (or -11.8 percent) from the previous week. There were 198,903 initial claims in the comparable week in 2015.

The advance unadjusted insured unemployment rate was 1.4 percent during the week ending September 3, unchanged from the prior week. The advance unadjusted number for persons claiming UI benefits in state programs totaled 1,862,532, a decrease of 110,434 (or -5.6 percent) from the preceding week. The seasonal factors had expected a decrease of 111,394 (or -5.6 percent) from the previous week. A year earlier the rate was 1.4 percent and the volume was 1,942,822.



The total number of people claiming benefits in all programs for the week ending August 27 was 2,012,491, a decrease of 48,265 from the previous week. There were 2,106,906 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 August 27.

Initial claims for UI benefits filed by former Federal civilian employees totaled 749 in the week ending September 3, a decrease of 491 from the prior week. There were 1,126 initial claims filed by newly discharged veterans, an increase of 46 from the preceding week.

There were 8,097 former Federal civilian employees claiming UI benefits for the week ending August 27, a decrease of 498 from the previous week. Newly discharged veterans claiming benefits totaled 13,482, a decrease of 8 from the prior week.

The highest insured unemployment rates in the week ending August 27 were in New Jersey (2.8), Puerto Rico (2.7), Alaska (2.6), Connecticut (2.6), Pennsylvania (2.4), California (2.1), Rhode Island (2.1), Massachusetts (2.0), and West Virginia (1.9).

The largest increases in initial claims for the week ending September 3 were in Illinois (+3,924), Pennsylvania (+1,634), Texas (+1,439), Washington (+1,044), and Ohio (+641), while the largest decreases were in New York (-3,250), Michigan (-2,224), Louisiana (-1,612), Virginia (-799), and Florida (-322).

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UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE DATA FOR REGULAR STATE PROGRAMS

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WEEK ENDING	September 10	September 3	Change	August 27	<u>Prior Year<sup>1</sup></u>
Initial Claims (SA)	260,000	259,000	+1,000	263,000	269,000
Initial Claims (NSA)	193,366	217,715	-24,349	215,688	198,903
4-Wk Moving Average (SA)	260,750	261,250	-500	263,000	274,250
WEEK ENDING	September 3	August 27	Change	August 20	<u>Prior Year<sup>1</sup></u>
Insured Unemployment (SA)	2,143,000	2,142,000	+1,000	2,157,000	2,246,000
Insured Unemployment (NSA)	1,862,532	1,972,966	-110,434	2,021,172	1,942,822
4-Wk Moving Average (SA)	2,146,750	2,154,750	-8,000	2,159,250	2,256,250
<u>Insured Unemployment Rate (SA)<sup>2</sup></u>	1.6%	1.6%	0.0	1.6%	1.7%
<u>Insured Unemployment Rate (NSA)<sup>2</sup></u>	1.4%	1.4%	0.0	1.5%	1.4%

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INITIAL CLAIMS FILED IN FEDERAL PROGRAMS (UNADJUSTED)

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WEEK ENDING	September 3	August 27	Change	<u>Prior Year<sup>1</sup></u>
Federal Employees (UCFE)	749	1,240	-491	938
Newly Discharged Veterans (UCX)	1,126	1,080	+46	1,532

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PERSONS CLAIMING UI BENEFITS IN ALL PROGRAMS (UNADJUSTED)

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WEEK ENDING	August 27	August 20	Change	<u>Prior Year<sup>1</sup></u>
Regular State	1,967,946	2,016,326	-48,380	2,057,581
Federal Employees	8,097	8,595	-498	10,673
Newly Discharged Veterans	13,482	13,490	-8	17,819
<u>Extended Benefits<sup>3</sup></u>	0	0	0	0
<u>State Additional Benefits<sup>4</sup></u>	6,124	6,410	-286	6,463
<u>STC / Workshare<sup>5</sup></u>	16,842	15,935	+907	14,370
<u>TOTAL</u>	2,012,491	2,060,756	-48,265	2,106,906

## 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 September 10			Insured Unemployment For Week Ended September 3		
	Advance	Prior Wk	Change	Advance	Prior Wk	Change
Alabama	2,062	2,549	-487	19,095	21,024	-1,929
Alaska	1,206	1,107	99	7,821	8,270	-449
Arizona	3,434	4,010	-576	29,521	34,579	-5,058
Arkansas	1,477	1,740	-263	13,483	15,371	-1,888
California	35,941	40,240	-4,299	325,376	336,929	-11,553
Colorado	1,980	2,072	-92	24,242	23,937	305
Connecticut	2,662	2,846	-184	38,183	43,416	-5,233
Delaware	436	512	-76	5,368	6,565	-1,197
District of Columbia	488	317	171	7,785	8,560	-775
Florida	7,159	7,501	-342	47,240	54,901	-7,661
Georgia	4,922	5,770	-848	28,775	30,324	-1,549
Hawaii	1,275	1,340	-65	7,601	7,221	380
Idaho	883	905	-22	4,854	5,854	-1,000
Illinois	8,106	12,417	-4,311	98,067	103,585	-5,518
Indiana	2,633	2,826	-193	19,447	20,038	-591
Iowa	1,902	2,159	-257	16,714	15,880	834
Kansas	2,213	2,078	135	11,328	11,501	-173
Kentucky	2,129	2,373	-244	19,272	20,924	-1,652
Louisiana	2,236	3,067	-831	27,363	28,146	-783
Maine	500	557	-57	4,155	4,497	-342
Maryland	2,875	3,343	-468	30,557	36,233	-5,676
Massachusetts	4,355	4,862	-507	61,443	68,021	-6,578
Michigan	5,273	5,545	-272	45,223	50,904	-5,681
Minnesota	3,116	2,879	237	29,920	28,634	1,286
Mississippi	1,030	1,453	-423	10,651	12,904	-2,253
Missouri	3,115	3,827	-712	23,757	26,597	-2,840
Montana	640	708	-68	4,310	5,241	-931
Nebraska	565	718	-153	4,050	4,030	20
Nevada	2,488	2,537	-49	19,883	21,710	-1,827
New Hampshire	440	475	-35	3,761	4,640	-879
New Jersey	7,060	8,332	-1,272	102,138	105,892	-3,754
New Mexico	742	946	-204	11,157	12,010	-853
New York	14,251	15,825	-1,574	157,590	161,471	-3,881
North Carolina	3,141	3,652	-511	23,498	25,251	-1,753
North Dakota	430	296	134	4,132	2,909	1,223
Ohio	5,801	6,611	-810	50,353	51,758	-1,405
Oklahoma	2,210	1,763	447	20,293	21,589	-1,296
Oregon	2,984	3,397	-413	24,556	25,989	-1,433
Pennsylvania	12,453	15,213	-2,760	118,185	132,376	-14,191
Puerto Rico	1,463	1,597	-134	23,233	23,652	-419
Rhode Island	653	802	-149	7,894	9,662	-1,768
South Carolina	2,112	2,293	-181	15,301	16,362	-1,061
South Dakota	171	188	-17	1,071	1,217	-146
Tennessee	2,219	2,473	-254	17,125	19,396	-2,271
Texas	13,308	15,707	-2,399	170,471	177,039	-6,568
Utah	994	1,112	-118	8,047	8,142	-95
Vermont	371	362	9	2,949	3,528	-579
Virgin Islands	72	100	-28	700	630	70
Virginia	3,261	1,993	1,268	25,183	23,234	1,949
Washington	5,579	6,209	-630	42,340	41,305	1,035
West Virginia	1,095	978	117	13,143	13,060	83
Wisconsin	5,027	4,742	285	29,526	31,255	-1,729
Wyoming	428	391	37	4,402	4,803	-401
US Total	193,366	217,715	-24,349	1,862,532	1,972,966	-110,434

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 5, 2015	275	-6	276.50	2,246	-15	2,256.25	1.7
September 12, 2015	269	-6	274.25	2,244	-2	2,252.50	1.7
September 19, 2015	271	2	274.00	2,208	-36	2,239.75	1.6
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	2,143	1	2,146.75	1.6
September 10, 2016	260	1	260.75				

Initial Claims Filed During Week Ended September 3							Insured Unemployment For Week Ended August 27					ALL PROGRAMS EXCLUDING RAILROAD RETIREMENT
INITIAL CLAIMS							INSURED UNEMPLOYMENT					
STATE	STATE	CHANGE FROM					CHANGE FROM					
		LAST WEEK	YEAR AGO	UCFE <sup>1</sup>	UCX <sup>1</sup>	(%) <sup>2</sup>	LAST WEEK	YEAR AGO	UCFE <sup>1</sup>	UCX <sup>1</sup>		
Alabama	2549	-11	-406	14	16	21024	1.1	-382	-1288	79	137	21240
Alaska	1107	88	65	3	2	8270	2.6	-79	1146	58	36	8364
Arizona	4010	40	38	9	8	34579	1.4	-1258	-1008	93	162	34834
Arkansas	1740	-215	-508	2	5	15371	1.3	-704	-4171	52	97	15520
California	40240	-164	-1885	137	170	336929	2.1	-22434	-11633	1687	2663	341279
Colorado	2072	61	-503	8	46	23937	1.0	-576	-1125	95	495	24527
Connecticut	2846	-53	-94	11	17	43416	2.6	-1138	3079	73	109	43598
Delaware	512	49	-92	2	1	6565	1.5	237	-236	16	15	6596
District of Columbia	317	17	-6	6	1	8560	1.6	96	-413	251	9	8820
Florida	7501	-322	-1068	21	55	54901	0.7	-42	-11067	113	333	55347
Georgia	5770	-167	-482	27	60	30324	0.7	-334	-5665	178	427	30929
Hawaii	1340	1	-233	4	14	7221	1.2	80	-375	57	134	7412
Idaho	905	35	-290	0	4	5854	0.9	-330	-211	18	44	5916
Illinois	12417	3924	2014	11	24	103585	1.8	-1329	-4978	368	364	104317
Indiana	2826	115	-373	6	5	20038	0.7	-626	-1298	44	76	20158
Iowa	2159	208	-309	6	4	15880	1.0	-1080	-685	28	65	15973
Kansas	2078	204	469	4	7	11501	0.9	-166	-250	45	79	11625
Kentucky	2373	81	-76	14	5	20924	1.2	568	632	242	264	21430
Louisiana	3067	-1612	650	0	0	28146	1.5	1159	3721	57	51	28254
Maine	557	35	-93	0	1	4497	0.8	-410	-784	27	25	4549
Maryland	3343	139	-274	24	17	36233	1.5	-2156	-2103	284	206	36723
Massachusetts	4862	157	-249	35	27	68021	2.0	171	586	233	277	68531
Michigan	5545	-2224	-257	14	23	50904	1.2	834	2358	103	219	51226
Minnesota	2879	252	-344	4	1	28634	1.0	-717	-1599	48	112	28794
Mississippi	1453	-23	-148	1	7	12904	1.2	-738	-1276	39	54	12997
Missouri	3827	148	-360	57	10	26597	1.0	-2523	-1942	373	114	27084
Montana	708	46	-147	5	2	5241	1.2	-77	-293	29	28	5298
Nebraska	718	-95	18	3	2	4030	0.4	41	-1184	15	8	4053
Nevada	2537	35	-391	3	4	21710	1.8	-66	-4136	65	108	21883
New Hampshire	475	-17	-143	1	1	4640	0.7	-190	-227	3	10	4653
New Jersey	8332	123	325	18	31	105892	2.8	376	-5447	246	402	106540
New Mexico	946	7	-47	1	3	12010	1.5	725	317	78	66	12154
New York	15825	-3250	-1129	62	58	161471	1.8	270	-7590	419	622	162512
North Carolina	3652	249	-231	10	32	25251	0.6	-790	-5035	110	319	25680
North Dakota	296	-18	-58	0	1	2909	0.7	-739	370	19	10	2938
Ohio	6611	641	-905	10	30	51758	1.0	-2438	-1445	129	311	52198
Oklahoma	1763	77	-238	3	14	21589	1.4	-492	-214	67	136	21792
Oregon	3397	-251	-677	13	19	25989	1.5	-709	-3406	112	165	26266
Pennsylvania	15213	1634	-90	77	48	132376	2.4	287	-5622	470	454	133300
Puerto Rico	1597	134	-697	0	16	23652	2.7	-570	-7494	54	158	23864
Rhode Island	802	-9	-136	3	3	9662	2.1	-180	261	18	16	9696
South Carolina	2293	-247	-269	3	14	16362	0.9	-464	-49	51	134	16547
South Dakota	188	25	10	1	1	1217	0.3	-132	47	24	4	1245
Tennessee	2473	55	-453	7	10	19396	0.7	660	-4711	111	299	19806
Texas	15707	1439	-1338	50	189	177039	1.5	-2977	6786	673	2295	180007
Utah	1112	74	-133	18	4	8142	0.6	-311	-702	177	23	8342
Vermont	362	-23	21	1	1	3528	1.2	-342	386	10	4	3542
Virgin Islands	100	19	17	0	0	630	1.7	-32	-278	6	8	644
Virginia	1993	-799	-1189	9	10	23234	0.7	-3648	-1008	230	403	23867
Washington	6209	1044	-808	23	91	41305	1.4	-1101	-2171	182	781	42268
West Virginia	978	-35	-153	2	3	13060	1.9	-520	-56	42	56	13158
Wisconsin	4742	419	-1148	5	7	31255	1.1	-554	-6055	74	70	31399
Wyoming	391	-13	11	1	2	4803	1.7	-356	577	22	25	4850
Totals	217715	2027	-14792	749	1126	1972966	1.4	-48206	-88964	8097	13482	1994545

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 3, 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>
IL	+3,924	Layoffs in the manufacturing, construction, and administrative, support, waste management and remediation service industries.
PA	+1,634	Layoffs in the manufacturing and administrative, support, waste management and remediation service industries.
TX	+1,439	Layoffs in the manufacturing and finance and insurance industries.
WA	+1,044	Layoffs in the manufacturing and transportation and warehousing industries.

**STATES WITH A DECREASE OF MORE THAN 1,000**

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<b>State</b>	<b>Change</b>	<b>State Supplied Comment</b>
NY	-3,250	Fewer layoffs in the transportation and warehousing, educational service, and arts, entertainment and recreation industries.
MI	-2,224	Fewer layoffs in the wholesale trade industry.
LA	-1,612	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](#)

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U.S. Department of Labor  
Employment and Training Administration  
Washington, D.C. 20210  
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Program Contacts:  
Brenda Loya (202) 693-3760  
Tony Sznoluch (202) 693-3176  
Media Contact: (202) 693-4676