



News Release

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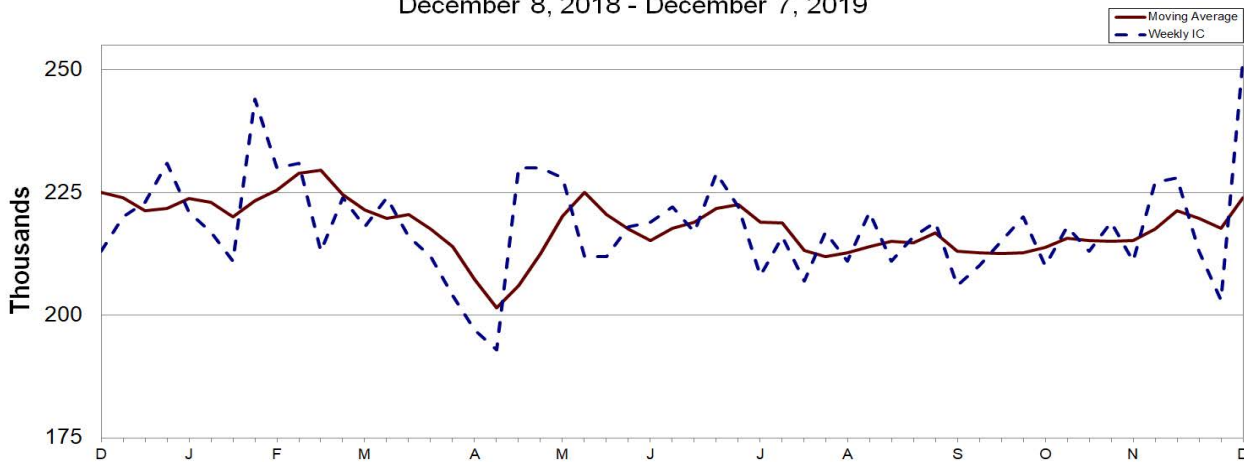
UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE WEEKLY CLAIMS

SEASONALLY ADJUSTED DATA

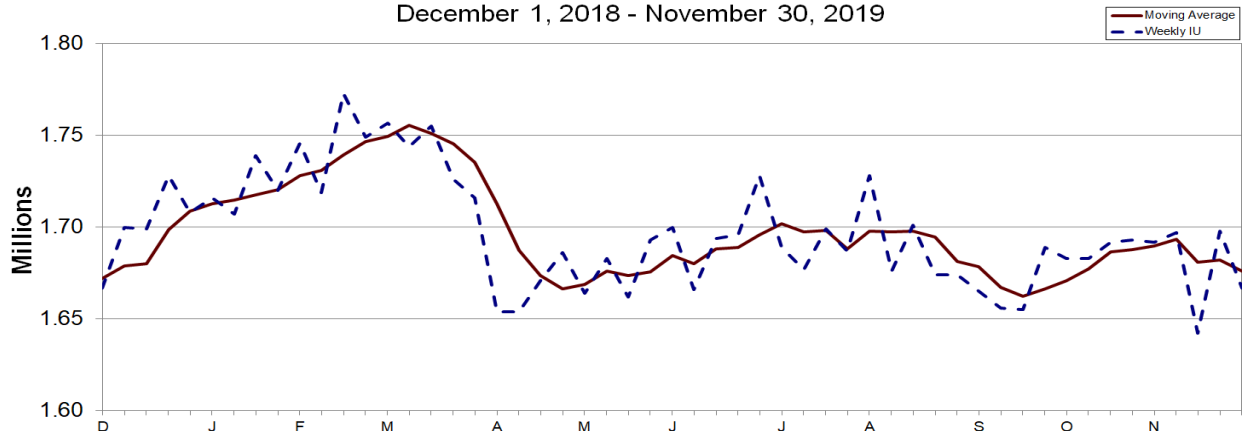
In the week ending December 7, the advance figure for seasonally adjusted **initial claims** was 252,000, an increase of 49,000 from the previous week's unrevised level of 203,000. This is the highest level for initial claims since September 30, 2017 when it was 257,000. The 4-week moving average was 224,000, an increase of 6,250 from the previous week's unrevised average of 217,750.

The advance seasonally adjusted **insured unemployment rate** was 1.2 percent for the week ending November 30, unchanged from the previous week's unrevised rate. The advance number for seasonally adjusted **insured unemployment** during the week ending November 30 was 1,667,000, a decrease of 31,000 from the previous week's revised level. The previous week's level was revised up 5,000 from 1,693,000 to 1,698,000. The 4-week moving average was 1,676,000, a decrease of 6,250 from the previous week's revised average. The previous week's average was revised up by 1,250 from 1,681,000 to 1,682,250.

Seasonally Adjusted Initial Claims
December 8, 2018 - December 7, 2019



Seasonally Adjusted Insured Unemployment
December 1, 2018 - November 30, 2019



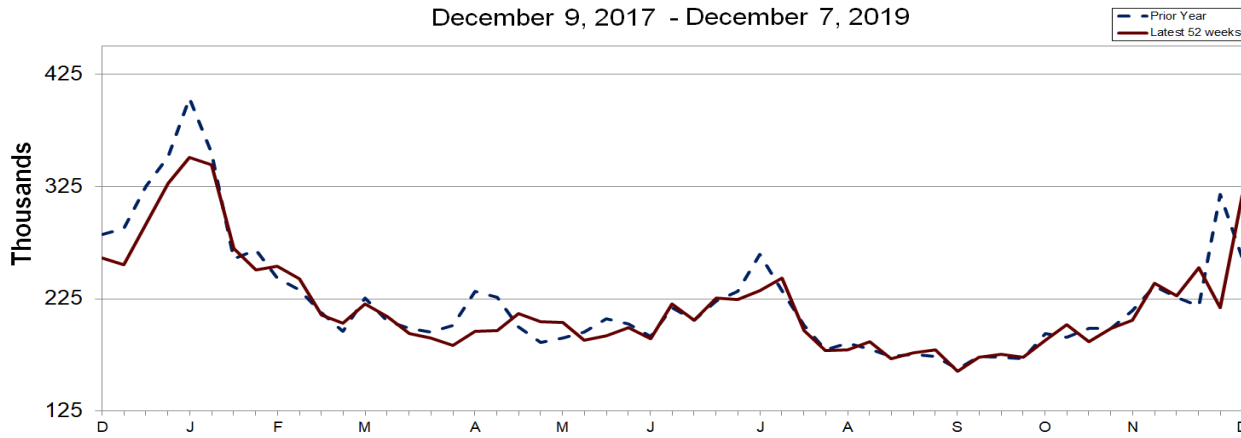
UNADJUSTED DATA

The advance number of actual initial claims under state programs, unadjusted, totaled 317,509 in the week ending December 7, an increase of 100,697 (or 46.4 percent) from the previous week. The seasonal factors had expected an increase of 39,217 (or 18.1 percent) from the previous week. There were 261,525 initial claims in the comparable week in 2018.

The advance unadjusted insured unemployment rate was 1.2 percent during the week ending November 30, an increase of 0.2 percentage point from the prior week. The advance unadjusted number for persons claiming UI benefits in state programs totaled 1,750,218, an increase of 241,972 (or 16.0 percent) from the preceding week. The seasonal factors had expected an increase of 275,153 (or 18.2 percent) from the previous week. A year earlier the rate was 1.2 percent and the volume was 1,649,838.

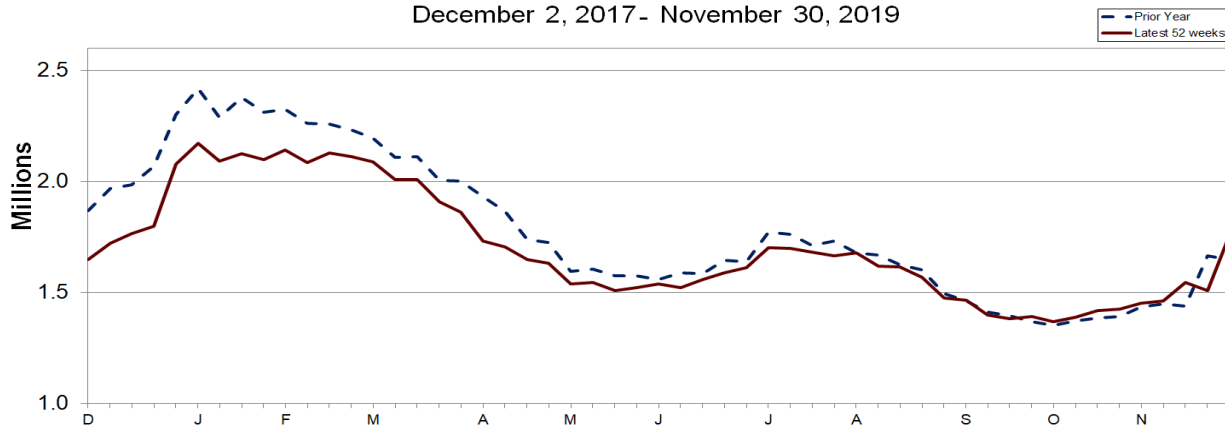
Not Seasonally Adjusted Initial Claims

December 9, 2017 - December 7, 2019



Not Seasonally Adjusted Insured Unemployment

December 2, 2017 - November 30, 2019



The total number of people claiming benefits in all programs for the week ending November 23 was 1,535,241, a decrease of 38,244 from the previous week. There were 1,694,206 persons claiming benefits in all programs in the comparable week in 2018.

No state was triggered "on" the Extended Benefits program during the week ending November 23.

Initial claims for UI benefits filed by former Federal civilian employees totaled 971 in the week ending November 30, a decrease of 213 from the prior week. There were 320 initial claims filed by newly discharged veterans, a decrease of 159 from the preceding week.

There were 9,305 former Federal civilian employees claiming UI benefits for the week ending November 23, an increase of 744 from the previous week. Newly discharged veterans claiming benefits totaled 5,360, a decrease of 392 from the prior week.

The highest insured unemployment rates in the week ending November 23 were in Alaska (2.7), Puerto Rico (2.0), New Jersey (1.9), Connecticut (1.7), Pennsylvania (1.7), West Virginia (1.7), Washington (1.6), California (1.5), Illinois (1.5), and Montana (1.5).

The largest increases in initial claims for the week ending November 30 were in Ohio (+1,504), Iowa (+1,194), Arkansas (+815), Oklahoma (+811), and Wisconsin (+733), while the largest decreases were in California (-12,676), Texas (-5,780), New York (-5,471), Florida (-1,845), and Georgia (-1,819).

UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE DATA FOR REGULAR STATE PROGRAMS

WEEK ENDING	December 7	November 30	Change	November 23	Prior Year¹
Initial Claims (SA)	252,000	203,000	+49,000	213,000	213,000
Initial Claims (NSA)	317,509	216,812	+100,697	252,413	261,525
4-Wk Moving Average (SA)	224,000	217,750	+6,250	219,750	225,000
WEEK ENDING	November 30	November 23	Change	November 16	Prior Year¹
Insured Unemployment (SA)	1,667,000	1,698,000	-31,000	1,642,000	1,667,000
Insured Unemployment (NSA)	1,750,218	1,508,246	+241,972	1,544,990	1,649,838
4-Wk Moving Average (SA)	1,676,000	1,682,250	-6,250	1,681,000	1,672,250
Insured Unemployment Rate (SA) ²	1.2%	1.2%	0.0	1.1%	1.2%
Insured Unemployment Rate (NSA) ²	1.2%	1.0%	+0.2	1.1%	1.2%

INITIAL CLAIMS FILED IN FEDERAL PROGRAMS (UNADJUSTED)

WEEK ENDING	November 30	November 23	Change	Prior Year¹
Federal Employees (UCFE)	971	1,184	-213	1,343
Newly Discharged Veterans (UCX)	320	479	-159	623

PERSONS CLAIMING UI BENEFITS IN ALL PROGRAMS (UNADJUSTED)

WEEK ENDING	November 23	November 16	Change	Prior Year¹
Regular State	1,505,742	1,541,892	-36,150	1,663,039
Federal Employees	9,305	8,561	+744	10,345
Newly Discharged Veterans	5,360	5,752	-392	7,148
Extended Benefits ³	0	0	0	17
State Additional Benefits ⁴	5,283	5,811	-528	5,661
STC / Workshare ⁵	9,551	11,469	-1,918	7,996
TOTAL	1,535,241	1,573,485	-38,244	1,694,206

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 144,758,990 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 benefits, and when applicable, extended benefits. Information on states that participate, and the extent of benefits paid, can be found starting on page 4-4 of this link: [Extensions and Special Programs PDF](#)
5. Information on STC/Worksharing can be found starting on page 4-8 of the following link: [Extensions and Special Programs PDF](#)

Advance State Claims - Not Seasonally Adjusted

STATE	Initial Claims Filed During Week Ended December 7			Insured Unemployment For Week Ended November 30		
	Advance	Prior Wk	Change	Advance	Prior Wk	Change
Alabama	2,926	2,032	894	15,036	14,157	879
Alaska	1,315	941	374	9,401	8,196	1,205
Arizona	3,860	2,527	1,333	15,948	17,371	-1,423
Arkansas	2,181	2,567	-386	11,163	10,063	1,100
California	48,824	36,457	12,367	333,171	259,563	73,608
Colorado	3,221	1,910	1,311	18,664	17,224	1,440
Connecticut	4,271	3,469	802	31,176	27,542	3,634
Delaware	1,082	673	409	5,430	4,790	640
District of Columbia	678	387	291	6,630	6,550	80
Florida	5,347	3,817	1,530	34,360	31,147	3,213
Georgia	9,291	3,961	5,330	29,992	21,522	8,470
Hawaii	1,459	963	496	6,473	5,883	590
Idaho	2,351	1,567	784	6,418	5,014	1,404
Illinois	14,918	10,233	4,685	96,465	90,255	6,210
Indiana	4,238	2,312	1,926	15,986	13,544	2,442
Iowa	6,059	4,988	1,071	20,920	15,536	5,384
Kansas	2,290	1,236	1,054	8,372	7,258	1,114
Kentucky	3,447	3,187	260	18,212	15,003	3,209
Louisiana	2,257	1,507	750	11,976	14,451	-2,475
Maine	1,365	732	633	5,389	4,550	839
Maryland	3,896	2,936	960	24,048	22,172	1,876
Massachusetts	10,296	6,142	4,154	53,751	50,099	3,652
Michigan	10,470	8,005	2,465	51,014	46,423	4,591
Minnesota	9,633	5,563	4,070	52,733	39,441	13,292
Mississippi	1,067	1,047	20	6,497	7,123	-626
Missouri	4,327	2,878	1,449	19,070	17,388	1,682
Montana	1,945	1,740	205	9,081	7,016	2,065
Nebraska	1,195	996	199	3,475	3,354	121
Nevada	3,108	2,566	542	17,877	17,321	556
New Hampshire	610	491	119	2,980	3,072	-92
New Jersey	12,352	9,149	3,203	90,587	78,017	12,570
New Mexico	1,057	811	246	9,045	8,736	309
New York	24,683	13,521	11,162	140,637	122,801	17,836
North Carolina	3,666	2,182	1,484	18,259	18,952	-693
North Dakota	1,158	697	461	4,080	2,785	1,295
Ohio	10,416	9,372	1,044	52,321	46,844	5,477
Oklahoma	1,781	2,922	-1,141	16,703	15,576	1,127
Oregon	6,560	4,283	2,277	29,805	24,783	5,022
Pennsylvania	25,362	17,339	8,023	105,441	95,980	9,461
Puerto Rico	1,068	997	71	15,483	16,722	-1,239
Rhode Island	1,528	981	547	6,855	6,158	697
South Carolina	3,852	1,548	2,304	14,994	13,783	1,211
South Dakota	575	328	247	1,603	1,402	201
Tennessee	3,370	2,034	1,336	15,502	15,429	73
Texas	20,355	10,359	9,996	136,580	115,092	21,488
Utah	2,274	1,755	519	8,285	7,783	502
Vermont	967	1,124	-157	4,142	2,976	1,166
Virgin Islands*	83	22	61	355	362	-7
Virginia	4,600	1,952	2,648	19,427	16,997	2,430
Washington	10,563	7,896	2,667	61,455	52,829	8,626
West Virginia	1,993	992	1,001	16,162	11,262	4,900
Wisconsin	10,587	8,129	2,458	37,362	27,603	9,759
Wyoming	732	589	143	3,427	2,346	1,081
US Total	317,509	216,812	100,697	1,750,218	1,508,246	241,972

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 claims 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.

*Denotes OUI estimate.

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	
December 1, 2018	229	-5	227.50	1,667	13	1,672.25	1.2
December 8, 2018	213	-16	225.00	1,700	33	1,679.00	1.2
December 15, 2018	220	7	224.00	1,699	-1	1,680.00	1.2
December 22, 2018	223	3	221.25	1,728	29	1,698.50	1.2
December 29, 2018	231	8	221.75	1,708	-20	1,708.75	1.2
January 5, 2019	221	-10	223.75	1,716	8	1,712.75	1.2
January 12, 2019	217	-4	223.00	1,707	-9	1,714.75	1.2
January 19, 2019	211	-6	220.00	1,739	32	1,717.50	1.2
January 26, 2019	244	33	223.25	1,720	-19	1,720.50	1.2
February 2, 2019	230	-14	225.50	1,746	26	1,728.00	1.2
February 9, 2019	231	1	229.00	1,719	-27	1,731.00	1.2
February 16, 2019	213	-18	229.50	1,773	54	1,739.50	1.2
February 23, 2019	224	11	224.50	1,749	-24	1,746.75	1.2
March 2, 2019	218	-6	221.50	1,757	8	1,749.50	1.2
March 9, 2019	224	6	219.75	1,744	-13	1,755.75	1.2
March 16, 2019	216	-8	220.50	1,755	11	1,751.25	1.2
March 23, 2019	212	-4	217.50	1,726	-29	1,745.50	1.2
March 30, 2019	204	-8	214.00	1,716	-10	1,735.25	1.2
April 6, 2019	197	-7	207.25	1,654	-62	1,712.75	1.2
April 13, 2019	193	-4	201.50	1,654	0	1,687.50	1.2
April 20, 2019	230	37	206.00	1,671	17	1,673.75	1.2
April 27, 2019	230	0	212.50	1,686	15	1,666.25	1.2
May 4, 2019	228	-2	220.25	1,664	-22	1,668.75	1.2
May 11, 2019	212	-16	225.00	1,683	19	1,676.00	1.2
May 18, 2019	212	0	220.50	1,662	-21	1,673.75	1.2
May 25, 2019	218	6	217.50	1,693	31	1,675.50	1.2
June 1, 2019	219	1	215.25	1,700	7	1,684.50	1.2
June 8, 2019	222	3	217.75	1,666	-34	1,680.25	1.2
June 15, 2019	217	-5	219.00	1,694	28	1,688.25	1.2
June 22, 2019	229	12	221.75	1,696	2	1,689.00	1.2
June 29, 2019	222	-7	222.50	1,728	32	1,696.00	1.2
July 6, 2019	208	-14	219.00	1,689	-39	1,701.75	1.2
July 13, 2019	216	8	218.75	1,677	-12	1,697.50	1.2
July 20, 2019	207	-9	213.25	1,699	22	1,698.25	1.2
July 27, 2019	217	10	212.00	1,687	-12	1,688.00	1.2
August 3, 2019	211	-6	212.75	1,728	41	1,697.75	1.2
August 10, 2019	221	10	214.00	1,676	-52	1,697.50	1.2
August 17, 2019	211	-10	215.00	1,701	25	1,698.00	1.2
August 24, 2019	216	5	214.75	1,674	-27	1,694.75	1.2
August 31, 2019	219	3	216.75	1,674	0	1,681.25	1.2
September 7, 2019	206	-13	213.00	1,665	-9	1,678.50	1.2
September 14, 2019	210	4	212.75	1,656	-9	1,667.25	1.1
September 21, 2019	215	5	212.50	1,655	-1	1,662.50	1.1
September 28, 2019	220	5	212.75	1,689	34	1,666.25	1.2
October 5, 2019	210	-10	213.75	1,683	-6	1,670.75	1.2
October 12, 2019	218	8	215.75	1,683	0	1,677.50	1.2
October 19, 2019	213	-5	215.25	1,692	9	1,686.75	1.2
October 26, 2019	219	6	215.00	1,693	1	1,687.75	1.2
November 2, 2019	211	-8	215.25	1,692	-1	1,690.00	1.2
November 9, 2019	227	16	217.50	1,697	5	1,693.50	1.2
November 16, 2019	228	1	221.25	1,642	-55	1,681.00	1.1
November 23, 2019	213	-15	219.75	1,698	56	1,682.25	1.2
November 30, 2019	203	-10	217.75	1,667	-31	1,676.00	1.2
December 7, 2019	252	49	224.00				

STATE NAME	INITIAL CLAIMS FILED DURING WEEK ENDED NOVEMBER 30						INSURED UNEMPLOYMENT FOR WEEK ENDED NOVEMBER 23						ALL PROGRAMS EXCLUDING RAILROAD RETIREMENT
	STATE	CHANGE FROM		UCFE ¹	UCX ¹	STATE (%) ²	CHANGE FROM		UCFE ¹	UCX ¹			
		LAST WEEK	YEAR AGO				LAST WEEK	YEAR AGO					
Alabama	2032	-258	-1180	5	3	14157	0.7	-147	-1503	86	49	14292	
Alaska	941	-302	-273	9	0	8196	2.7	-331	-1398	159	12	8367	
Arizona	2527	-1203	-1058	14	0	17371	0.6	-1796	-2736	156	33	17560	
Arkansas	2567	815	-48	6	0	10063	0.8	-704	-1976	44	37	10144	
California	36457	-12676	-18592	258	48	259563	1.5	-32143	-53905	1741	1140	262444	
Colorado	1910	-392	-362	17	10	17224	0.7	-747	-1428	244	121	17589	
Connecticut	3469	317	-827	4	3	27542	1.7	482	-2509	37	51	27630	
Delaware	673	79	-217	1	1	4790	1.1	428	-953	16	9	4815	
District of Columbia	387	-174	-166	5	0	6550	1.1	41	-1112	234	8	6792	
Florida	3817	-1845	-3309	18	15	31147	0.4	-5023	-11895	152	98	31397	
Georgia	3961	-1819	-5767	9	23	21522	0.5	-2939	-7741	141	130	21793	
Hawaii	963	-157	-254	1	6	5883	0.9	106	-1482	64	59	6006	
Idaho	1567	370	-653	40	1	5014	0.7	424	-1513	169	12	5195	
Illinois	10233	-1033	-7850	9	6	90255	1.5	4814	339	307	143	90705	
Indiana	2312	-741	-1665	3	0	13544	0.4	-675	-1012	30	26	13600	
Iowa	4988	1194	-1259	4	1	15536	1.0	-72	397	41	9	15586	
Kansas	1236	-384	-1411	1	1	7258	0.5	-87	-1225	33	19	7310	
Kentucky	3187	215	549	0	0	15003	0.8	-596	-1351	254	83	15340	
Louisiana	1507	-396	-1087	2	3	14451	0.8	496	-1264	44	11	14506	
Maine	732	-212	-863	0	0	4550	0.8	171	-992	29	15	4594	
Maryland	2936	-56	-1075	13	6	22172	0.9	-584	-4515	201	71	22444	
Massachusetts	6142	-310	-612	16	8	50099	1.4	1489	2269	111	78	50288	
Michigan	8005	-1283	-3606	22	6	46423	1.1	3612	-852	130	64	46617	
Minnesota	5563	-1734	-2923	8	0	39441	1.4	1093	-4313	72	48	39561	
Mississippi	1047	-66	-200	3	2	7123	0.6	-1	-354	46	21	7190	
Missouri	2878	-1108	-2235	3	2	17388	0.6	-664	-3344	108	43	17539	
Montana	1740	215	83	59	0	7016	1.5	262	-980	395	17	7428	
Nebraska	996	-102	-320	2	0	3354	0.3	869	-554	9	8	3371	
Nevada	2566	-6	-296	14	3	17321	1.3	406	-2715	101	44	17466	
New Hampshire	491	-80	-167	0	0	3072	0.5	67	-318	12	1	3085	
New Jersey	9149	-374	-1062	14	4	78017	1.9	-1665	-7579	232	197	78446	
New Mexico	811	-117	-148	14	3	8736	1.1	83	-296	262	45	9043	
New York	13521	-5471	-11034	17	21	122801	1.3	-1119	-14938	295	292	123388	
North Carolina	2182	-1341	-1554	8	13	18952	0.4	-561	51	124	102	19178	
North Dakota	697	-42	-366	3	0	2785	0.7	282	41	8	3	2796	
Ohio	9372	1504	-854	8	12	46844	0.9	832	-1089	116	124	47084	
Oklahoma	2922	811	1252	6	2	15576	1.0	-818	2024	58	44	15678	
Oregon	4283	-711	-2739	64	8	24783	1.3	335	-3446	448	63	25294	
Pennsylvania	17339	-67	-9458	75	33	95980	1.7	2134	-1731	455	185	96620	
Puerto Rico	997	55	-368	11	0	16722	2.0	-1007	378	165	109	16996	
Rhode Island	981	142	-325	1	1	6158	1.3	198	-760	21	11	6190	
South Carolina	1548	-948	-3050	0	6	13783	0.7	-381	-2720	37	63	13883	
South Dakota	328	-31	-201	9	1	1402	0.3	108	-46	34	2	1438	
Tennessee	2034	-127	-701	3	8	15429	0.5	-159	-1133	72	90	15591	
Texas	10359	-5780	-6676	78	44	115092	0.9	-5162	-4759	922	901	116915	
Utah	1755	353	-304	36	2	7783	0.5	423	-81	146	15	7944	
Vermont	1124	503	262	3	0	2976	1.0	-116	-945	9	0	2985	
Virgin Islands	22	-18	19	0	0	362	1.1	-112	-60	4	2	368	
Virginia	1952	-590	-1313	6	4	16997	0.5	-544	-2857	181	157	17335	
Washington	7896	-497	-1890	42	7	52829	1.6	1605	-1586	382	425	53636	
West Virginia	992	-437	-1143	1	2	11262	1.7	-138	875	39	44	11345	
Wisconsin	8129	733	-1847	10	1	27603	1.0	690	-5937	72	20	27695	
Wyoming	589	-19	19	16	0	2346	0.9	97	277	57	6	2409	
Totals	216812	-35601	-101124	971	320	1508246	1.0	-36744	-157252	9305	5360	1522911	

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 U.S. total covered employment is BLS.

UNADJUSTED INITIAL CLAIMS FOR WEEK ENDED NOVEMBER 30, 2019

STATES WITH AN INCREASE OF MORE THAN 1,000

State	Change	State Supplied Comment
OH	+1,504	Layoffs in the manufacturing industry.
IA	+1,194	Layoffs in the manufacturing industry.

STATES WITH A DECREASE OF MORE THAN 1,000

State	Change	State Supplied Comment
CA	-12,676	Fewer layoffs in the service industry.
TX	-5,780	No Comment.
NY	-5,471	Fewer layoffs in the construction, manufacturing, and retail trade industries.
FL	-1,845	Fewer layoffs in the agriculture, forestry, fishing, and hunting, manufacturing, wholesale trade, retail trade, and service industries.
GA	-1,819	Fewer layoffs in the construction, administrative and support and waste management and remediation services, and trade industries.
MN	-1,734	No Comment.
NC	-1,341	Fewer layoffs in the professional, scientific, and technical services, administrative and support and waste management and remediation services, and accommodation and food services industries.
MI	-1,283	No Comment.
AZ	-1,203	No Comment.
MO	-1,108	Fewer layoffs in the manufacturing, construction, and administrative and support and waste management and remediation services industries.
IL	-1,033	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](#)

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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