



News Release

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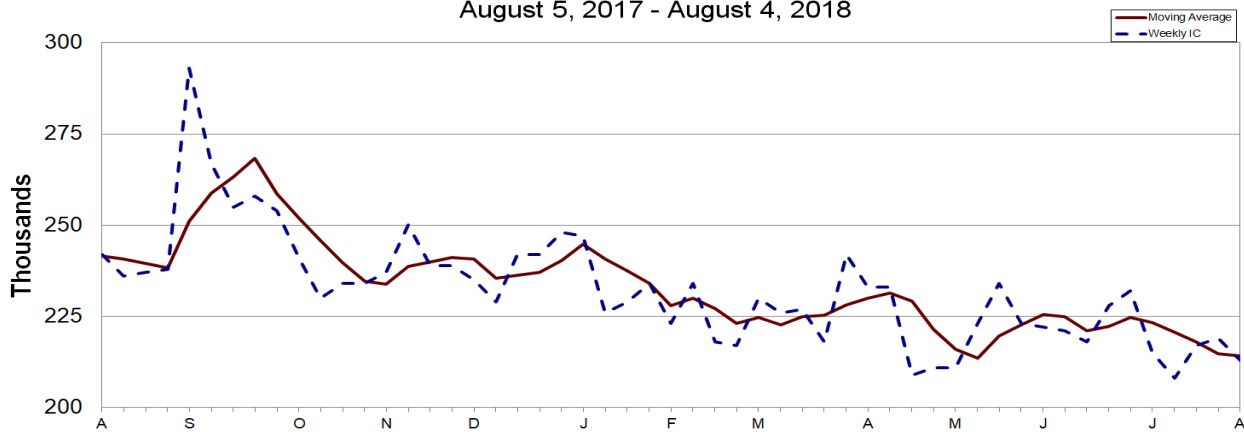
UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE WEEKLY CLAIMS

SEASONALLY ADJUSTED DATA

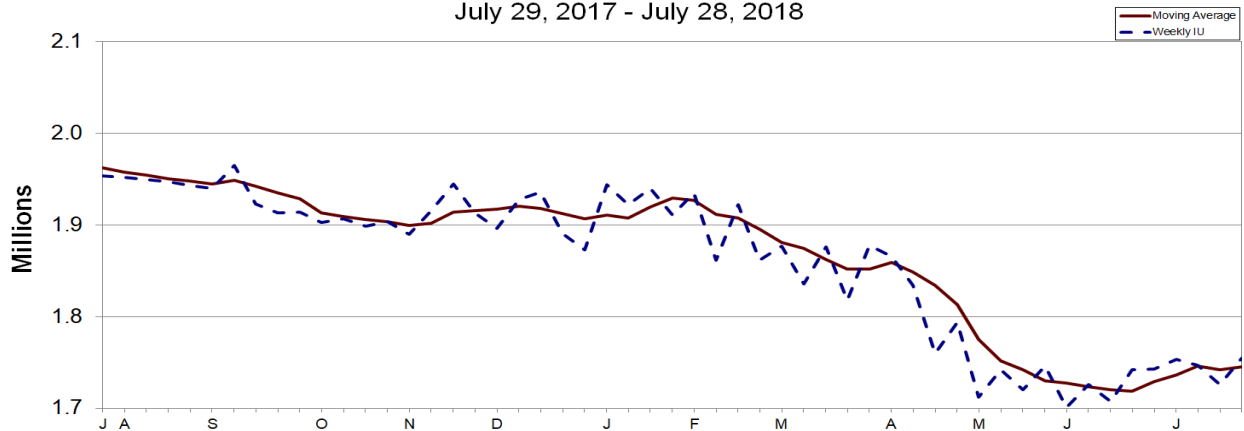
In the week ending August 4, the advance figure for seasonally adjusted **initial claims** was 213,000, a decrease of 6,000 from the previous week's revised level. The previous week's level was revised up by 1,000 from 218,000 to 219,000. The 4-week moving average was 214,250, a decrease of 500 from the previous week's revised average. The previous week's average was revised up by 250 from 214,500 to 214,750.

The advance seasonally adjusted **insured unemployment rate** was 1.2 percent for the week ending July 28, unchanged from the previous week's unrevised rate. The advance number for seasonally adjusted **insured unemployment** during the week ending July 28 was 1,755,000, an increase of 29,000 from the previous week's revised level. The previous week's level was revised up 2,000 from 1,724,000 to 1,726,000. The 4-week moving average was 1,745,250, an increase of 3,000 from the previous week's revised average. The previous week's average was revised up by 500 from 1,741,750 to 1,742,250.

Seasonally Adjusted Initial Claims
August 5, 2017 - August 4, 2018



Seasonally Adjusted Insured Unemployment
July 29, 2017 - July 28, 2018



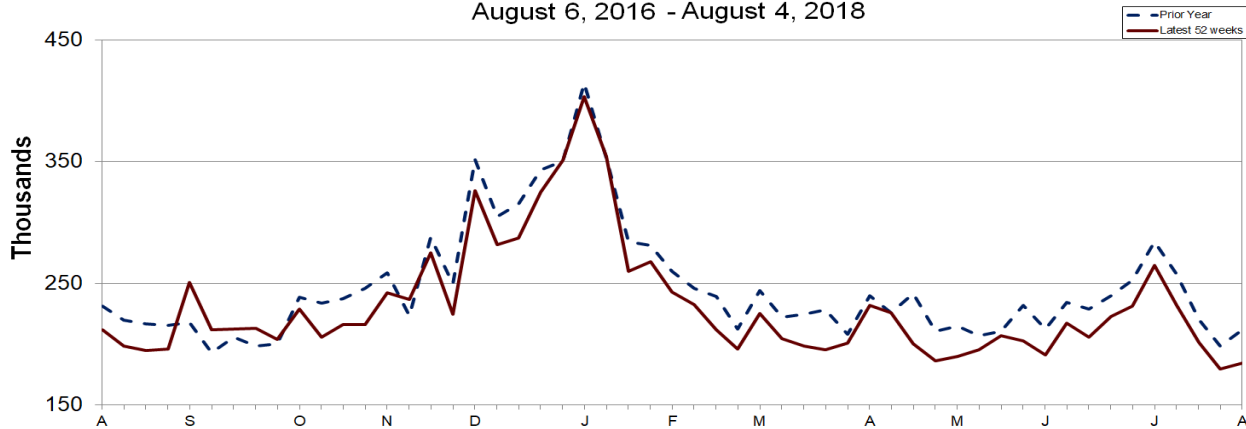
UNADJUSTED DATA

The advance number of actual initial claims under state programs, unadjusted, totaled 184,666 in the week ending August 4, an increase of 4,785 (or 2.7 percent) from the previous week. The seasonal factors had expected an increase of 9,848 (or 5.5 percent) from the previous week. There were 211,924 initial claims in the comparable week in 2017.

The advance unadjusted insured unemployment rate was 1.2 percent during the week ending July 28, unchanged from the prior week. The advance unadjusted number for persons claiming UI benefits in state programs totaled 1,724,954, an increase of 14,643 (or 0.9 percent) from the preceding week. The seasonal factors had expected a decrease of 13,807 (or -0.8 percent) from the previous week. A year earlier the rate was 1.4 percent and the volume was 1,920,454.

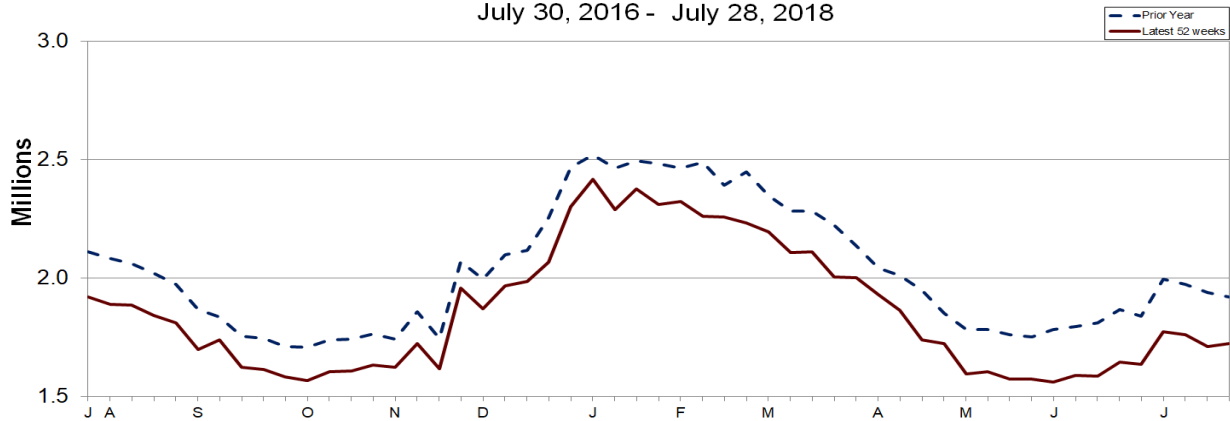
Not Seasonally Adjusted Initial Claims

August 6, 2016 - August 4, 2018



Not Seasonally Adjusted Insured Unemployment

July 30, 2016 - July 28, 2018



The total number of people claiming benefits in all programs for the week ending July 21 was 1,735,622, a decrease of 50,522 from the previous week. There were 1,971,022 persons claiming benefits in all programs in the comparable week in 2017.

No state was triggered "on" the Extended Benefits program during the week ending July 21.

Initial claims for UI benefits filed by former Federal civilian employees totaled 671 in the week ending July 28, a decrease of 67 from the prior week. There were 601 initial claims filed by newly discharged veterans, a decrease of 10 from the preceding week.

There were 7,694 former Federal civilian employees claiming UI benefits for the week ending July 21, an increase of 42 from the previous week. Newly discharged veterans claiming benefits totaled 7,614, an increase of 80 from the prior week.

The highest insured unemployment rates in the week ending July 21 were in New Jersey (2.5), Connecticut (2.2), Puerto Rico (2.2), Pennsylvania (2.0), Alaska (1.9), Rhode Island (1.9), California (1.8), the Virgin Islands (1.7), Illinois (1.6), District of Columbia (1.5), Massachusetts (1.5), and New York (1.5).

The largest increases in initial claims for the week ending July 28 were in Iowa (+876), Maryland (+410), Oregon (+155), Indiana (+107), and Rhode Island (+86), while the largest decreases were in Michigan (-5,997), California (-3,046), Missouri (-2,258), Georgia (-1,598), and South Carolina (-1,598).

UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE DATA FOR REGULAR STATE PROGRAMS

WEEK ENDING	August 4	July 28	Change	July 21	<u>Prior Year</u>¹
Initial Claims (SA)	213,000	219,000	-6,000	217,000	242,000
Initial Claims (NSA)	184,666	179,881	+4,785	201,288	211,924
4-Wk Moving Average (SA)	214,250	214,750	-500	218,000	241,500
WEEK ENDING	July 28	July 21	Change	July 14	<u>Prior Year</u>¹
Insured Unemployment (SA)	1,755,000	1,726,000	+29,000	1,747,000	1,954,000
Insured Unemployment (NSA)	1,724,954	1,710,311	+14,643	1,760,504	1,920,454
4-Wk Moving Average (SA)	1,745,250	1,742,250	+3,000	1,746,250	1,962,500
<u>Insured Unemployment Rate (SA)</u>²	1.2%	1.2%	0.0	1.2%	1.4%
<u>Insured Unemployment Rate (NSA)</u>²	1.2%	1.2%	0.0	1.2%	1.4%

INITIAL CLAIMS FILED IN FEDERAL PROGRAMS (UNADJUSTED)

WEEK ENDING	July 28	July 21	Change	<u>Prior Year</u>¹
Federal Employees (UCFE)	671	738	-67	711
Newly Discharged Veterans (UCX)	601	611	-10	686

PERSONS CLAIMING UI BENEFITS IN ALL PROGRAMS (UNADJUSTED)

WEEK ENDING	July 21	July 14	Change	<u>Prior Year</u>¹
Regular State	1,708,662	1,758,517	-49,855	1,937,086
Federal Employees	7,694	7,652	+42	8,966
Newly Discharged Veterans	7,614	7,534	+80	10,035
<u>Extended Benefits</u>³	10	11	-1	0
<u>State Additional Benefits</u>⁴	5,335	5,317	+18	5,920
<u>STC / Workshare</u>⁵	6,307	7,113	-806	9,015
<u>TOTAL</u>	1,735,622	1,786,144	-50,522	1,971,022

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 141,951,699 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 August 4			Insured Unemployment For Week Ended July 28		
	Advance	Prior Wk	Change	Advance	Prior Wk	Change
Alabama	2,196	2,297	-101	17,950	18,212	-262
Alaska	876	743	133	5,763	5,895	-132
Arizona	3,659	4,120	-461	28,505	32,241	-3,736
Arkansas	1,370	1,442	-72	12,033	12,591	-558
California	38,244	36,564	1,680	332,625	308,049	24,576
Colorado	1,570	1,611	-41	19,377	18,921	456
Connecticut	2,546	2,553	-7	38,537	37,130	1,407
Delaware	586	521	65	5,570	5,358	212
District of Columbia	618	446	172	7,939	8,329	-390
Florida	6,680	6,705	-25	43,310	45,655	-2,345
Georgia	4,471	4,766	-295	25,279	27,448	-2,169
Hawaii	1,129	1,082	47	7,134	6,963	171
Idaho	705	708	-3	4,281	4,605	-324
Illinois	7,117	6,708	409	90,713	92,023	-1,310
Indiana	2,127	2,053	74	14,243	13,900	343
Iowa	2,867	2,378	489	14,376	13,757	619
Kansas	1,402	1,404	-2	9,152	9,012	140
Kentucky	2,664	5,749	-3,085	24,935	22,203	2,732
Louisiana	2,036	2,172	-136	17,531	19,232	-1,701
Maine*	408	482	-74	4,098	4,336	-238
Maryland	3,163	3,342	-179	29,011	30,769	-1,758
Massachusetts	4,184	4,229	-45	53,395	53,979	-584
Michigan	4,670	4,845	-175	50,707	46,438	4,269
Minnesota	2,446	2,113	333	26,415	25,553	862
Mississippi	964	1,090	-126	10,781	11,766	-985
Missouri	2,737	2,770	-33	24,827	25,890	-1,063
Montana	490	398	92	4,633	4,650	-17
Nebraska	558	568	-10	4,332	4,468	-136
Nevada	2,417	2,160	257	17,588	18,831	-1,243
New Hampshire	390	450	-60	3,585	3,881	-296
New Jersey	8,091	7,619	472	98,953	100,055	-1,102
New Mexico	637	605	32	9,052	9,367	-315
New York	12,366	11,978	388	136,322	136,573	-251
North Carolina	2,869	2,766	103	20,031	21,066	-1,035
North Dakota	316	242	74	2,290	2,085	205
Ohio	4,914	4,888	26	47,060	48,169	-1,109
Oklahoma	1,083	1,158	-75	12,693	13,322	-629
Oregon	3,428	2,746	682	24,271	24,671	-400
Pennsylvania	12,533	11,171	1,362	118,772	115,324	3,448
Puerto Rico	1,746	1,330	416	19,605	18,833	772
Rhode Island	1,162	758	404	9,017	9,049	-32
South Carolina	2,182	2,031	151	16,889	17,444	-555
South Dakota	132	134	-2	1,081	1,178	-97
Tennessee	1,984	2,023	-39	20,531	22,448	-1,917
Texas	12,304	11,737	567	128,168	128,021	147
Utah	929	843	86	7,148	7,534	-386
Vermont	312	309	3	3,346	3,169	177
Virgin Islands	7	11	-4	664	606	58
Virginia	2,780	2,367	413	22,132	22,239	-107
Washington	5,365	4,738	627	42,190	41,337	853
West Virginia	679	700	-21	8,632	8,708	-76
Wisconsin	3,340	3,045	295	25,545	25,394	151
Wyoming	217	213	4	1,937	1,634	303
US Total	184,666	179,881	4,785	1,724,954	1,710,311	14,643

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.

*Denotes state estimate.

Seasonally Adjusted US Weekly UI Claims (in thousands)

Week Ending	Change from			Insured Unemployment	Change from		IUR
	Initial Claims	Prior Week	4-Week Average		Prior Week	4-Week Average	
July 29, 2017	243	1	242.00	1,954	-9	1,962.50	1.4
August 5, 2017	242	-1	241.50	1,952	-2	1,957.75	1.4
August 12, 2017	236	-6	240.75	1,950	-2	1,954.75	1.4
August 19, 2017	237	1	239.50	1,947	-3	1,950.75	1.4
August 26, 2017	238	1	238.25	1,943	-4	1,948.00	1.4
September 2, 2017	293	55	251.00	1,940	-3	1,945.00	1.4
September 9, 2017	267	-26	258.75	1,965	25	1,948.75	1.4
September 16, 2017	255	-12	263.25	1,923	-42	1,942.75	1.4
September 23, 2017	258	3	268.25	1,913	-10	1,935.25	1.4
September 30, 2017	254	-4	258.50	1,914	1	1,928.75	1.4
October 7, 2017	241	-13	252.00	1,903	-11	1,913.25	1.4
October 14, 2017	230	-11	245.75	1,907	4	1,909.25	1.4
October 21, 2017	234	4	239.75	1,899	-8	1,905.75	1.4
October 28, 2017	234	0	234.75	1,904	5	1,903.25	1.4
November 4, 2017	237	3	233.75	1,890	-14	1,900.00	1.3
November 11, 2017	250	13	238.75	1,916	26	1,902.25	1.4
November 18, 2017	239	-11	240.00	1,945	29	1,913.75	1.4
November 25, 2017	239	0	241.25	1,913	-32	1,916.00	1.4
December 2, 2017	235	-4	240.75	1,896	-17	1,917.50	1.3
December 9, 2017	229	-6	235.50	1,928	32	1,920.50	1.4
December 16, 2017	242	13	236.25	1,936	8	1,918.25	1.4
December 23, 2017	242	0	237.00	1,891	-45	1,912.75	1.3
December 30, 2017	248	6	240.25	1,873	-18	1,907.00	1.3
January 6, 2018	247	-1	244.75	1,944	71	1,911.00	1.4
January 13, 2018	226	-21	240.75	1,922	-22	1,907.50	1.4
January 20, 2018	229	3	237.50	1,940	18	1,919.75	1.4
January 27, 2018	234	5	234.00	1,911	-29	1,929.25	1.4
February 3, 2018	223	-11	228.00	1,935	24	1,927.00	1.4
February 10, 2018	234	11	230.00	1,862	-73	1,912.00	1.3
February 17, 2018	218	-16	227.25	1,922	60	1,907.50	1.4
February 24, 2018	217	-1	223.00	1,862	-60	1,895.25	1.3
March 3, 2018	230	13	224.75	1,877	15	1,880.75	1.3
March 10, 2018	226	-4	222.75	1,836	-41	1,874.25	1.3
March 17, 2018	227	1	225.00	1,876	40	1,862.75	1.3
March 24, 2018	218	-9	225.25	1,818	-58	1,851.75	1.3
March 31, 2018	242	24	228.25	1,878	60	1,852.00	1.3
April 7, 2018	233	-9	230.00	1,866	-12	1,859.50	1.3
April 14, 2018	233	0	231.50	1,834	-32	1,849.00	1.3
April 21, 2018	209	-24	229.25	1,760	-74	1,834.50	1.2
April 28, 2018	211	2	221.50	1,794	34	1,813.50	1.3
May 5, 2018	211	0	216.00	1,712	-82	1,775.00	1.2
May 12, 2018	223	12	213.50	1,742	30	1,752.00	1.2
May 19, 2018	234	11	219.75	1,720	-22	1,742.00	1.2
May 26, 2018	223	-11	222.75	1,746	26	1,730.00	1.2
June 2, 2018	222	-1	225.50	1,701	-45	1,727.25	1.2
June 9, 2018	221	-1	225.00	1,726	25	1,723.25	1.2
June 16, 2018	218	-3	221.00	1,707	-19	1,720.00	1.2
June 23, 2018	228	10	222.25	1,742	35	1,719.00	1.2
June 30, 2018	232	4	224.75	1,743	1	1,729.50	1.2
July 7, 2018	215	-17	223.25	1,753	10	1,736.25	1.2
July 14, 2018	208	-7	220.75	1,747	-6	1,746.25	1.2
July 21, 2018	217	9	218.00	1,726	-21	1,742.25	1.2
July 28, 2018	219	2	214.75	1,755	29	1,745.25	1.2
August 4, 2018	213	-6	214.25				

STATE NAME	INITIAL CLAIMS FILED DURING WEEK ENDED JULY 28					INSURED UNEMPLOYMENT FOR WEEK ENDED JULY 21					ALL PROGRAMS EXCLUDING RAILROAD RETIREMENT	
	STATE	CHANGE FROM				STATE (%) ²	CHANGE FROM					
		LAST WEEK	YEAR AGO	UCFE ¹	UCX ¹		LAST WEEK	YEAR AGO	UCFE ¹	UCX ¹		
Alabama	2297	-425	-232	10	9	18212	1.0	-572	-2081	70	77	18359
Alaska	743	59	-139	1	2	5895	1.9	-301	-876	57	25	5977
Arizona	4120	-180	-163	9	3	32241	1.2	571	-2827	270	66	32577
Arkansas	1442	-45	-264	4	8	12591	1.1	-521	-2597	51	51	12693
California	36564	-3046	-5911	144	106	308049	1.8	-13368	-32705	1338	1510	310897
Colorado	1611	5	-41	5	21	18921	0.7	-410	-3099	97	267	19285
Connecticut	2553	-39	-180	3	3	37130	2.2	-500	-3744	39	59	37228
Delaware	521	46	-253	1	1	5358	1.2	-38	-425	14	18	5390
District of Columbia	446	-35	65	17	0	8329	1.5	151	-911	329	13	8671
Florida	6705	-814	-776	29	41	45655	0.5	-2100	-8670	150	146	45951
Georgia	4766	-1598	-351	19	36	27448	0.6	-857	-2207	174	256	27878
Hawaii	1082	-18	-49	3	7	6963	1.1	-105	-615	53	83	7099
Idaho	708	-28	-94	2	1	4605	0.7	-22	-554	16	14	4635
Illinois	6708	-738	-1115	9	8	92023	1.6	-3845	-12303	349	208	92580
Indiana	2053	107	-346	2	3	13900	0.5	-65	-1086	22	43	13965
Iowa	2378	876	166	4	2	13757	0.9	-339	-2337	37	23	13817
Kansas	1404	-335	-206	1	0	9012	0.7	122	-1516	40	26	9078
Kentucky	5749	-704	2761	3	6	22203	1.2	-377	1360	115	130	22448
Louisiana	2172	-26	-395	8	7	19232	1.0	36	-4040	53	4	19289
Maine	482	-225	-5	0	2	4336	0.7	-480	-285	14	18	4368
Maryland	3342	410	15	35	3	30769	1.2	-268	-5974	306	116	31191
Massachusetts	4229	-127	-224	6	5	53979	1.5	724	-12760	115	143	54237
Michigan	4845	-5997	-725	7	9	46438	1.1	-10144	-10281	69	95	46602
Minnesota	2113	-180	-304	1	3	25553	0.9	-650	-3102	43	61	25657
Mississippi	1090	8	-318	0	1	11766	1.1	-455	-2824	68	18	11852
Missouri	2770	-2258	-466	40	6	25890	0.9	-554	-2300	184	45	26119
Montana	398	-32	-138	4	0	4650	1.0	-138	-593	41	18	4709
Nebraska	568	23	-80	6	1	4468	0.5	-43	-643	21	10	4499
Nevada	2160	19	-214	5	2	18831	1.4	-15	-1668	60	61	18952
New Hampshire	450	40	-73	1	1	3881	0.6	-88	-545	23	5	3909
New Jersey	7619	-635	-750	19	13	100055	2.5	721	-5160	205	278	100538
New Mexico	605	-119	-250	2	2	9367	1.2	-106	-1512	139	50	9556
New York	11978	-1136	-929	17	30	136573	1.5	-2305	-16883	304	332	137209
North Carolina	2766	-90	-167	9	7	21066	0.5	40	-2755	108	166	21340
North Dakota	242	25	-42	7	0	2085	0.5	-29	-564	211	5	2301
Ohio	4888	-646	-984	10	14	48169	0.9	-2737	-9063	108	172	48449
Oklahoma	1158	-81	-320	4	6	13322	0.9	-146	-2169	79	74	13475
Oregon	2746	155	-335	12	13	24671	1.3	-439	-1625	153	101	24925
Pennsylvania	11171	-461	-444	59	32	115324	2.0	-6225	-10049	434	317	116075
Puerto Rico	1330	-195	-376	3	3	18833	2.2	-524	-16233	77	69	18979
Rhode Island	758	86	126	3	1	9049	1.9	-261	-379	18	17	9084
South Carolina	2031	-1598	-726	5	8	17444	0.9	-368	680	38	79	17561
South Dakota	134	-37	-41	6	1	1178	0.3	81	-65	256	2	1436
Tennessee	2023	-119	-553	9	9	22448	0.8	-303	-701	67	80	22595
Texas	11737	-812	-1429	69	122	128021	1.1	-906	-24920	736	1325	130082
Utah	843	-196	96	44	2	7534	0.5	85	-177	72	24	7630
Vermont	309	5	-11	1	0	3169	1.0	0	-364	6	6	3181
Virgin Islands	11	-6	-23	0	0	606	1.7	-86	110	2	2	620
Virginia	2367	11	-510	8	12	22239	0.6	-364	-4137	219	273	22731
Washington	4738	-69	-418	4	26	41337	1.3	-722	-4522	151	583	42071
West Virginia	700	-37	-175	1	0	8708	1.3	151	-1849	42	29	8779
Wisconsin	3045	-170	-565	0	3	25394	0.9	-942	-3676	47	19	25460
Wyoming	213	-25	-14	0	0	1634	0.6	-157	-1142	4	2	1640
Totals	179881	-21407	-18895	671	601	1710311	1.2	-50193	-229363	7694	7614	1725629

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 JULY 28, 2018

STATES WITH AN INCREASE OF MORE THAN 1,000

State	Change	State Supplied Comment
None		

STATES WITH A DECREASE OF MORE THAN 1,000

State	Change	State Supplied Comment
MI	-5,997	Fewer layoffs in the wholesale trade industry.
CA	-3,046	Fewer layoffs in the service industry.
MO	-2,258	Fewer layoffs in the manufacturing, construction, and wholesale trade industries.
SC	-1,598	No comment.
GA	-1,598	Fewer layoffs in the manufacturing and administrative and support and waste management and remediation service industries.
NY	-1,136	Fewer layoffs in the manufacturing, educational service, and real estate and rental and leasing 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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