



News Release

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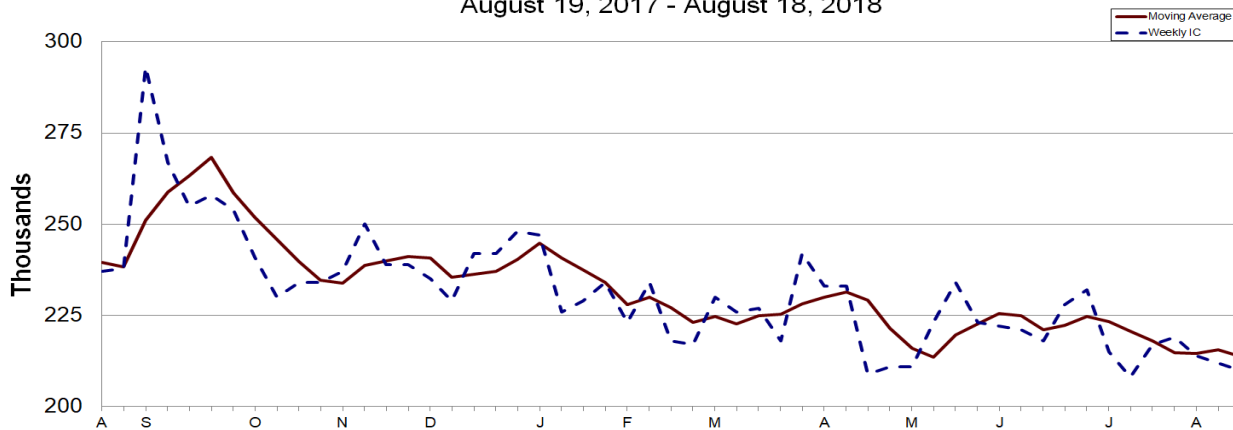
UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE WEEKLY CLAIMS

SEASONALLY ADJUSTED DATA

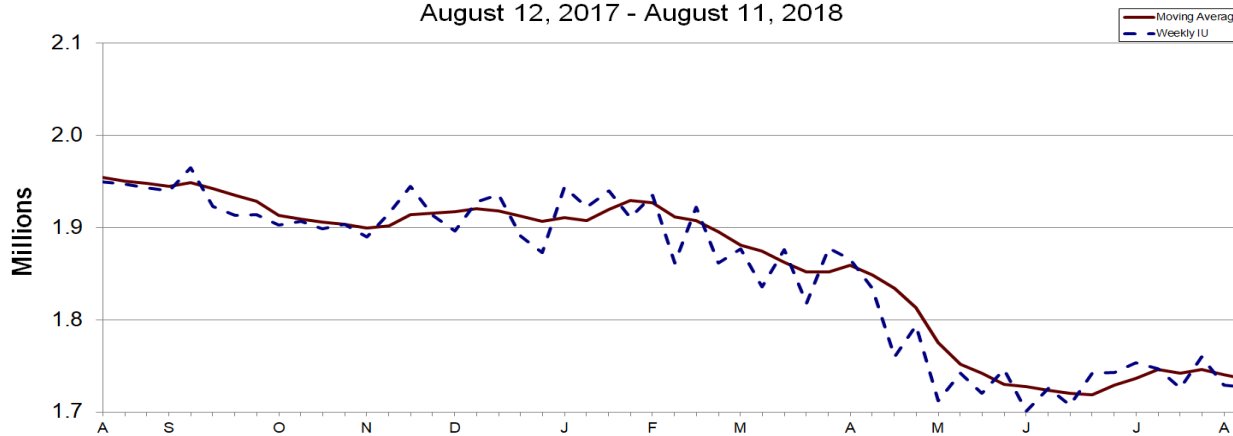
In the week ending August 18, the advance figure for seasonally adjusted **initial claims** was 210,000, a decrease of 2,000 from the previous week's unrevised level of 212,000. The 4-week moving average was 213,750, a decrease of 1,750 from the previous week's unrevised average of 215,500.

The advance seasonally adjusted **insured unemployment rate** was 1.2 percent for the week ending August 11, unchanged from the previous week's unrevised rate. The advance number for seasonally adjusted **insured unemployment** during the week ending August 11 was 1,727,000, a decrease of 2,000 from the previous week's revised level. The previous week's level was revised up 8,000 from 1,721,000 to 1,729,000. The 4-week moving average was 1,735,500, a decrease of 5,000 from the previous week's revised average. The previous week's average was revised up by 2,000 from 1,738,500 to 1,740,500.

Seasonally Adjusted Initial Claims
August 19, 2017 - August 18, 2018



Seasonally Adjusted Insured Unemployment
August 12, 2017 - August 11, 2018



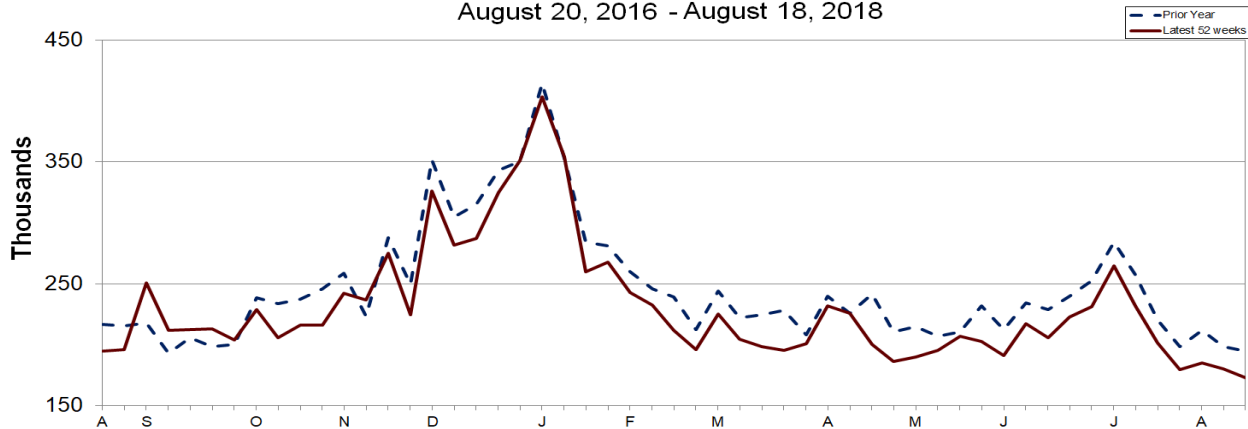
UNADJUSTED DATA

The advance number of actual initial claims under state programs, unadjusted, totaled 172,932 in the week ending August 18, a decrease of 7,107 (or -3.9 percent) from the previous week. The seasonal factors had expected a decrease of 4,883 (or -2.7 percent) from the previous week. There were 195,130 initial claims in the comparable week in 2017.

The advance unadjusted insured unemployment rate was 1.2 percent during the week ending August 11, unchanged from the prior week. The advance unadjusted number for persons claiming UI benefits in state programs totaled 1,668,335, a decrease of 10,557 (or -0.6 percent) from the preceding week. The seasonal factors had expected a decrease of 8,645 (or -0.5 percent) from the previous week. A year earlier the rate was 1.3 percent and the volume was 1,885,774.

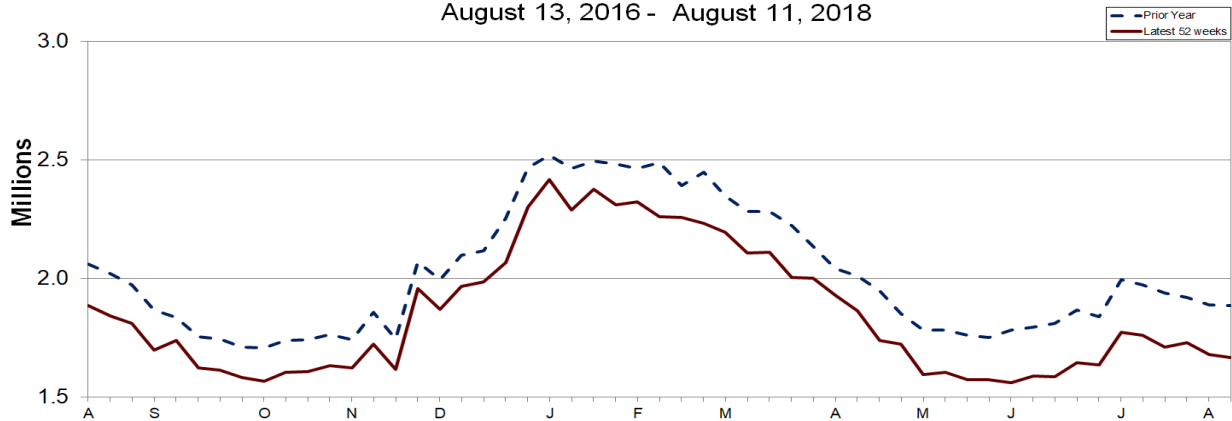
Not Seasonally Adjusted Initial Claims

August 20, 2016 - August 18, 2018



Not Seasonally Adjusted Insured Unemployment

August 13, 2016 - August 11, 2018



The total number of people claiming benefits in all programs for the week ending August 4 was 1,703,755, a decrease of 52,458 from the previous week. There were 1,920,823 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 August 4.

Initial claims for UI benefits filed by former Federal civilian employees totaled 685 in the week ending August 11, an increase of 5 from the prior week. There were 651 initial claims filed by newly discharged veterans, a decrease of 50 from the preceding week.

There were 7,747 former Federal civilian employees claiming UI benefits for the week ending August 4, a decrease of 309 from the previous week. Newly discharged veterans claiming benefits totaled 7,620, a decrease of 23 from the prior week.

The highest insured unemployment rates in the week ending August 4 were in New Jersey (2.5), Puerto Rico (2.3), Connecticut (2.2), Pennsylvania (2.0), Alaska (1.9), Rhode Island (1.9), California (1.8), Massachusetts (1.6), the Virgin Islands (1.6), and the District of Columbia (1.5).

The largest increases in initial claims for the week ending August 11 were in Georgia (+949), Michigan (+310), Connecticut (+259), South Carolina (+186), and Wisconsin (+171), while the largest decreases were in California (-1,243), Pennsylvania (-1,103), Iowa (-905), Texas (-617), and Kentucky (-460).

UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE DATA FOR REGULAR STATE PROGRAMS

WEEK ENDING	August 18	August 11	Change	August 4	<u>Prior Year</u>¹
Initial Claims (SA)	210,000	212,000	-2,000	214,000	237,000
Initial Claims (NSA)	172,932	180,039	-7,107	185,174	195,130
4-Wk Moving Average (SA)	213,750	215,500	-1,750	214,500	239,500
WEEK ENDING	August 11	August 4	Change	July 28	<u>Prior Year</u>¹
Insured Unemployment (SA)	1,727,000	1,729,000	-2,000	1,760,000	1,950,000
Insured Unemployment (NSA)	1,668,335	1,678,892	-10,557	1,729,890	1,885,774
4-Wk Moving Average (SA)	1,735,500	1,740,500	-5,000	1,746,500	1,954,750
<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%	1.3%

INITIAL CLAIMS FILED IN FEDERAL PROGRAMS (UNADJUSTED)

WEEK ENDING	August 11	August 4	Change	<u>Prior Year</u>¹
Federal Employees (UCFE)	685	680	+5	770
Newly Discharged Veterans (UCX)	651	701	-50	764

PERSONS CLAIMING UI BENEFITS IN ALL PROGRAMS (UNADJUSTED)

WEEK ENDING	August 4	July 28	Change	<u>Prior Year</u>¹
Regular State	1,677,312	1,727,807	-50,495	1,886,771
Federal Employees	7,747	8,056	-309	8,853
Newly Discharged Veterans	7,620	7,643	-23	9,789
<u>Extended Benefits</u>³	11	14	-3	0
<u>State Additional Benefits</u>⁴	4,988	5,300	-312	5,851
<u>STC / Workshare</u>⁵	6,077	7,393	-1,316	9,559
<u>TOTAL</u>	1,703,755	1,756,213	-52,458	1,920,823

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 18			Insured Unemployment For Week Ended August 11		
	Advance	Prior Wk	Change	Advance	Prior Wk	Change
Alabama	1,996	2,296	-300	16,595	17,507	-912
Alaska	912	724	188	5,545	5,758	-213
Arizona	3,525	3,828	-303	27,042	31,366	-4,324
Arkansas	1,450	1,371	79	10,685	12,227	-1,542
California	37,559	36,609	950	327,177	310,455	16,722
Colorado	1,548	1,494	54	18,473	18,494	-21
Connecticut	2,722	2,802	-80	38,470	36,917	1,553
Delaware	408	552	-144	5,575	5,551	24
District of Columbia	545	463	82	7,992	8,309	-317
Florida	6,271	6,830	-559	42,706	45,324	-2,618
Georgia	4,475	5,663	-1,188	24,179	27,042	-2,863
Hawaii	1,021	1,180	-159	6,683	6,733	-50
Idaho	661	718	-57	4,108	4,548	-440
Illinois	6,557	6,950	-393	88,530	88,500	30
Indiana	2,118	1,991	127	13,823	13,472	351
Iowa	1,717	1,786	-69	14,558	14,747	-189
Kansas	1,338	1,292	46	8,358	8,711	-353
Kentucky	1,762	2,171	-409	17,301	17,062	239
Louisiana	2,027	2,111	-84	16,353	18,811	-2,458
Maine*	393	374	19	3,901	4,247	-346
Maryland	2,681	3,099	-418	28,881	30,985	-2,104
Massachusetts	4,267	4,392	-125	53,648	54,247	-599
Michigan	4,468	5,078	-610	38,575	43,486	-4,911
Minnesota	2,303	2,264	39	25,942	25,889	53
Mississippi	756	1,012	-256	8,536	10,841	-2,305
Missouri	2,623	2,691	-68	23,251	24,951	-1,700
Montana	425	493	-68	4,484	4,361	123
Nebraska	577	693	-116	4,270	4,222	48
Nevada	2,287	2,107	180	16,986	18,660	-1,674
New Hampshire	438	479	-41	3,474	3,786	-312
New Jersey	8,170	7,811	359	98,941	97,770	1,171
New Mexico	644	664	-20	8,511	8,929	-418
New York	11,994	12,303	-309	134,851	134,937	-86
North Carolina	2,873	2,622	251	19,546	20,885	-1,339
North Dakota	280	250	30	2,173	1,996	177
Ohio	4,794	4,983	-189	44,629	46,228	-1,599
Oklahoma	1,066	1,171	-105	12,288	12,913	-625
Oregon	2,809	3,229	-420	23,800	24,265	-465
Pennsylvania	10,443	11,401	-958	118,691	115,738	2,953
Puerto Rico	1,228	1,695	-467	17,633	19,239	-1,606
Rhode Island	830	875	-45	9,143	8,820	323
South Carolina	1,881	2,496	-615	16,815	17,554	-739
South Dakota	134	120	14	996	1,076	-80
Tennessee	1,832	2,137	-305	17,510	20,375	-2,865
Texas	11,815	11,658	157	125,676	121,012	4,664
Utah	872	869	3	6,963	7,443	-480
Vermont	259	263	-4	3,282	3,141	141
Virgin Islands	11	10	1	542	564	-22
Virginia	2,451	2,608	-157	22,265	21,927	338
Washington	4,713	4,912	-199	42,638	41,323	1,315
West Virginia	649	717	-68	8,438	8,438	0
Wisconsin	3,174	3,520	-346	25,150	25,491	-341
Wyoming	180	212	-32	1,753	1,619	134
US Total	172,932	180,039	-7,107	1,668,335	1,678,892	-10,557

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	Initial Claims	Change from		Insured Unemployment	Change from		IUR
		Prior Week	4-Week Average		Prior Week	4-Week Average	
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	1,760	34	1,746.50	1.2
August 4, 2018	214	-5	214.50	1,729	-31	1,740.50	1.2
August 11, 2018	212	-2	215.50	1,727	-2	1,735.50	1.2
August 18, 2018	210	-2	213.75				

INITIAL CLAIMS FILED DURING WEEK ENDED
AUGUST 11

INSURED UNEMPLOYMENT FOR WEEK ENDED
AUGUST 4

STATE NAME	CHANGE FROM					CHANGE FROM					ALL PROGRAMS EXCLUDING RAILROAD RETIREMENT	
	STATE	LAST WEEK	YEAR AGO	UCFE ¹	UCX ¹	STATE	LAST WEEK	YEAR AGO	UCFE ¹	UCX ¹		
												(%) ²
Alabama	2296	-64	-224	10	15	17507	0.9	-455	-1592	69	78	17654
Alaska	724	-49	-136	4	0	5758	1.9	-118	-899	61	22	5841
Arizona	3828	33	-402	2	7	31366	1.2	-398	-2963	162	67	31595
Arkansas	1371	-114	-170	4	2	12227	1.0	-552	-2657	42	59	12328
California	36609	-1243	-463	152	116	310455	1.8	-13671	-20510	1469	1551	313475
Colorado	1494	-66	-225	6	17	18494	0.7	-481	-2827	67	245	18806
Connecticut	2802	259	-256	8	2	36917	2.2	-275	-2847	32	62	37011
Delaware	552	-53	69	0	0	5551	1.3	-301	-406	9	16	5576
District of Columbia	463	-28	152	13	2	8309	1.5	52	-846	321	11	8641
Florida	6830	-50	-1075	18	36	45324	0.5	-2172	-8548	180	157	45661
Georgia	5663	949	312	19	29	27042	0.6	633	-1841	162	268	27472
Hawaii	1180	74	2	2	17	6733	1.1	-107	-721	58	83	6874
Idaho	718	-50	-215	1	6	4548	0.7	-58	-590	10	13	4571
Illinois	6950	-100	-1362	7	7	88500	1.5	-1149	-13349	352	201	89053
Indiana	1991	-7	-718	5	8	13472	0.5	138	-1507	22	36	13530
Iowa	1786	-905	-18	5	1	14747	1.0	754	-2298	38	20	14805
Kansas	1292	-103	-316	3	3	8711	0.6	-375	-3354	37	28	8776
Kentucky	2171	-460	-152	4	4	17062	0.9	-7965	-2183	105	109	17276
Louisiana	2111	-93	-614	6	2	18811	1.0	-783	-3595	59	17	18887
Maine	374	-55	-51	0	0	4247	0.7	13	-170	18	15	4280
Maryland	3099	-253	-391	42	9	30985	1.2	-119	-5789	308	123	31416
Massachusetts	4392	124	-337	6	15	54247	1.6	-827	-12594	113	163	54523
Michigan	5078	310	-1295	10	15	43486	1.0	-8539	-3782	54	103	43643
Minnesota	2264	-81	-527	1	7	25889	0.9	443	-3273	44	56	25989
Mississippi	1012	-119	-316	2	5	10841	1.0	-1008	-2591	56	22	10919
Missouri	2691	-262	-559	27	4	24951	0.9	-1531	-3786	219	49	25219
Montana	493	5	-89	5	0	4361	1.0	-193	-502	46	18	4425
Nebraska	693	129	-53	4	0	4222	0.4	-62	-854	19	8	4249
Nevada	2107	-125	-176	6	5	18660	1.4	-153	-2224	49	69	18778
New Hampshire	479	112	-47	3	1	3786	0.6	-74	-628	6	4	3796
New Jersey	7811	-387	-558	16	27	97770	2.5	-399	-6187	213	279	98262
New Mexico	664	14	-221	0	5	8929	1.1	-280	-1655	132	55	9116
New York	12303	31	-1712	23	29	134937	1.5	-985	-16643	295	345	135577
North Carolina	2622	-115	-294	11	9	20885	0.5	-47	-2520	105	169	21159
North Dakota	250	-19	-35	1	0	1996	0.5	-56	-575	201	6	2203
Ohio	4983	72	-450	11	13	46228	0.9	-956	-5894	108	168	46504
Oklahoma	1171	-10	-183	7	5	12913	0.8	-153	-2600	73	70	13056
Oregon	3229	-199	-263	8	8	24265	1.3	-117	-1847	146	105	24516
Pennsylvania	11401	-1103	-820	68	37	115738	2.0	-1923	-7327	447	297	116482
Puerto Rico	1695	-108	-243	3	8	19239	2.3	-490	-14439	80	80	19399
Rhode Island	875	-277	39	3	2	8820	1.9	-62	-354	17	20	8857
South Carolina	2496	186	-309	5	9	17554	0.9	190	552	47	78	17679
South Dakota	120	-25	-39	0	1	1076	0.3	-28	-183	266	1	1343
Tennessee	2137	59	-368	12	9	20375	0.7	-1888	-810	62	84	20521
Texas	11658	-617	-1560	102	105	121012	1.0	-5052	-25387	775	1289	123076
Utah	869	-50	-80	22	2	7443	0.5	-48	-6	94	21	7558
Vermont	263	-56	-103	1	1	3141	1.0	-42	-288	7	6	3154
Virgin Islands	10	-3	-29	1	0	564	1.6	-90	50	2	0	577
Virginia	2608	48	-325	7	10	21927	0.6	151	-3946	238	258	22423
Washington	4912	-426	-619	3	28	41323	1.3	185	-5323	162	558	42043
West Virginia	717	-11	-216	1	2	8438	1.3	457	-1625	35	31	8504
Wisconsin	3520	171	-186	5	4	25491	0.9	114	-3150	51	22	25564
Wyoming	212	-25	-15	0	2	1619	0.6	-146	-938	4	5	1628
Totals	180039	-5135	-18241	685	651	1678892	1.2	-50998	-210821	7747	7620	1694270

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 AUGUST 11, 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
CA	-1,243	No comment.
PA	-1,103	Fewer layoffs in the construction industry.

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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