



# News Release

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8:30 A.M. (Eastern) Thursday, February 1, 2018

## UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE WEEKLY CLAIMS

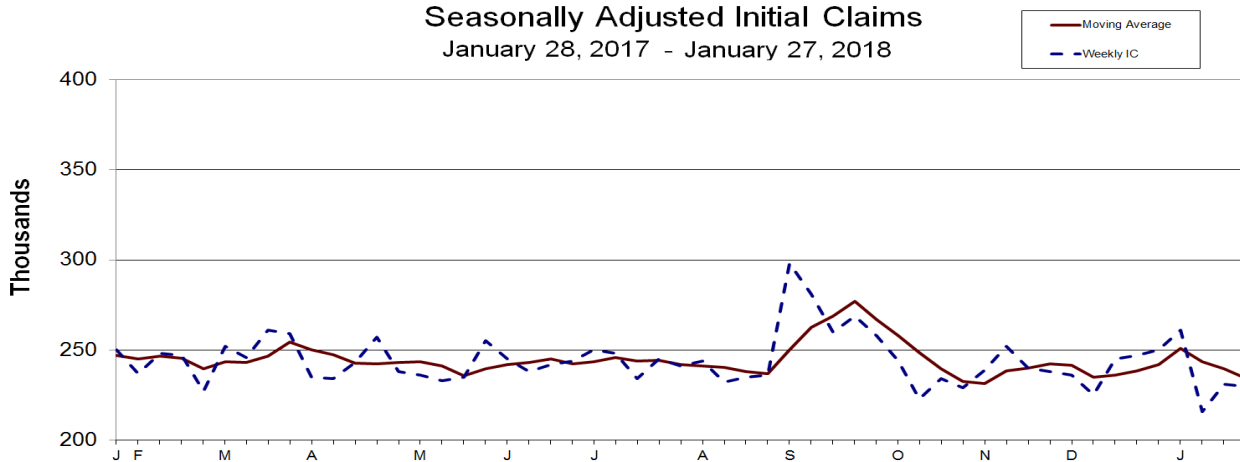
### SEASONALLY ADJUSTED DATA

In the week ending January 27, the advance figure for seasonally adjusted **initial claims** was 230,000, a decrease of 1,000 from the previous week's revised level. The previous week's level was revised down by 2,000 from 233,000 to 231,000. The 4-week moving average was 234,500, a decrease of 5,000 from the previous week's revised average. The previous week's average was revised down by 500 from 240,000 to 239,500.

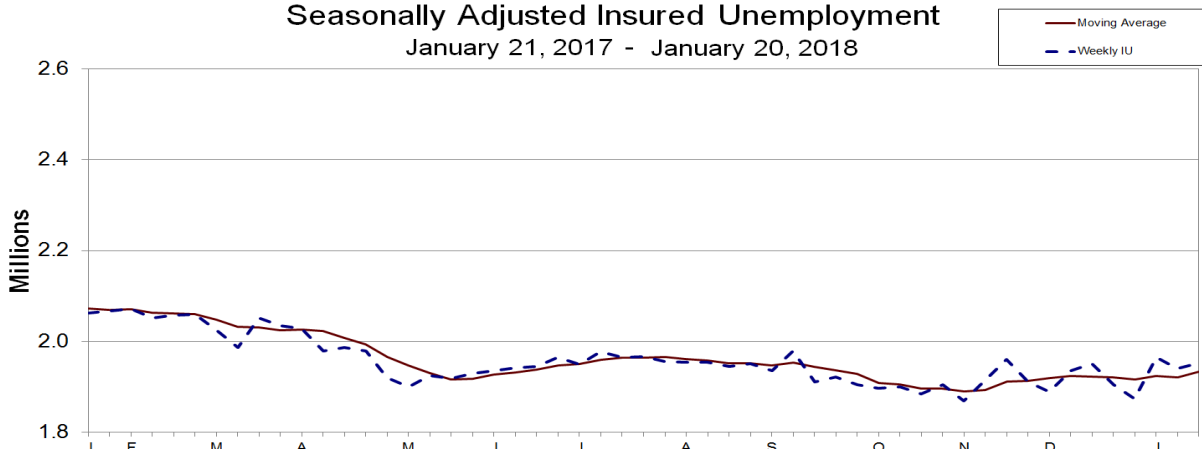
Claims taking procedures in Puerto Rico and in the Virgin Islands have still not returned to normal.

The advance seasonally adjusted **insured unemployment rate** was 1.4 percent for the week ending January 20, unchanged from the previous week's unrevised rate. The advance number for seasonally adjusted **insured unemployment** during the week ending January 20 was 1,953,000, an increase of 13,000 from the previous week's revised level. The previous week's level was revised up 3,000 from 1,937,000 to 1,940,000. The 4-week moving average was 1,932,750, an increase of 12,000 from the previous week's revised average. The previous week's average was revised up by 750 from 1,920,000 to 1,920,750.

Seasonally Adjusted Initial Claims  
January 28, 2017 - January 27, 2018



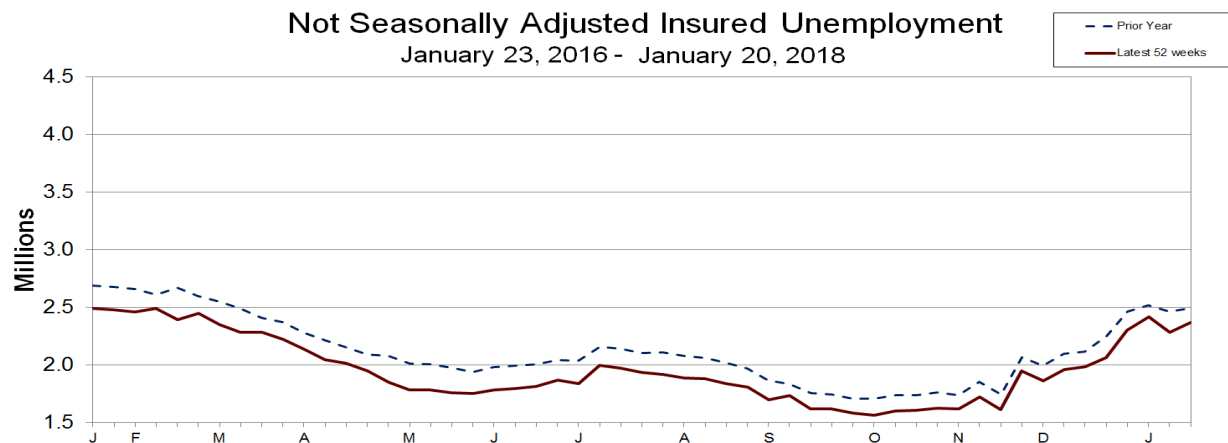
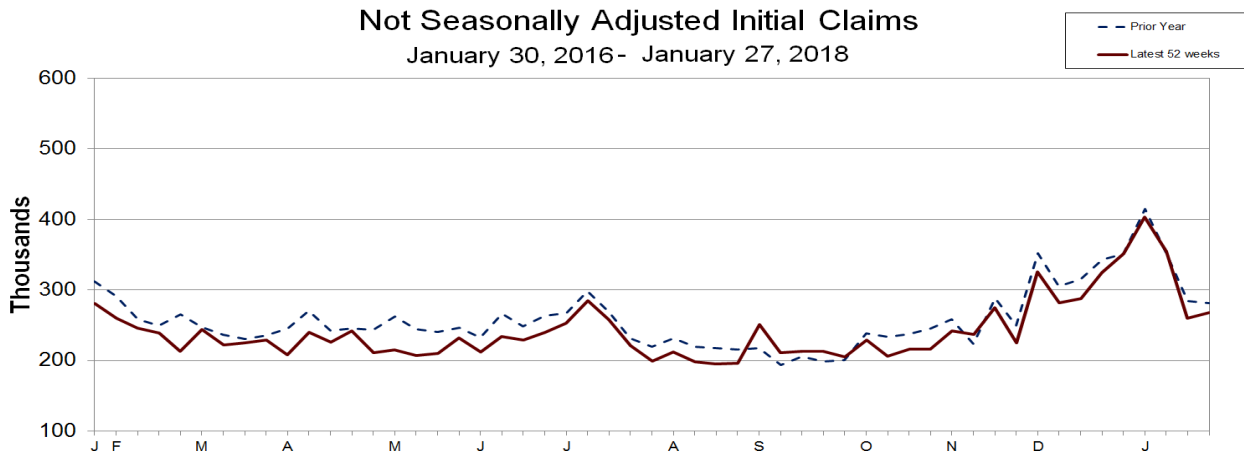
Seasonally Adjusted Insured Unemployment  
January 21, 2017 - January 20, 2018



## UNADJUSTED DATA

The advance number of actual initial claims under state programs, unadjusted, totaled 267,674 in the week ending January 27, an increase of 7,604 (or 2.9 percent) from the previous week. The seasonal factors had expected an increase of 8,792 (or 3.4 percent) from the previous week. There were 280,983 initial claims in the comparable week in 2017.

The advance unadjusted insured unemployment rate was 1.7 percent during the week ending January 20, an increase of 0.1 percentage point from the prior week. The advance unadjusted number for persons claiming UI benefits in state programs totaled 2,373,175, an increase of 85,441 (or 3.7 percent) from the preceding week. The seasonal factors had expected an increase of 69,854 (or 3.1 percent) from the previous week. A year earlier the rate was 1.8 percent and the volume was 2,494,547.



The total number of people claiming benefits in all programs for the week ending January 13 was 2,321,688, a decrease of 132,222 from the previous week. There were 2,505,316 persons claiming benefits in all programs in the comparable week in 2017.

Extended benefits were available in Alaska and the Virgin Islands during the week ending January 13.

Initial claims for UI benefits filed by former Federal civilian employees totaled 1,004 in the week ending January 20, a decrease of 654 from the prior week. There were 626 initial claims filed by newly discharged veterans, a decrease of 213 from the preceding week.

There were 11,817 former Federal civilian employees claiming UI benefits for the week ending January 13, a decrease of 2,674 from the previous week. Newly discharged veterans claiming benefits totaled 8,495, a decrease of 243 from the prior week.

The highest insured unemployment rates in the week ending January 13 were in the Virgin Islands (8.1), Puerto Rico (4.6), Alaska (4.0), New Jersey (2.9), Montana (2.8), Connecticut (2.7), Illinois (2.6), Pennsylvania (2.6), Massachusetts (2.5), and Rhode Island (2.5).

There were no increases in initial claims for the week ending January 20, the largest decreases were in Pennsylvania (-10,925), Texas (-7,747), California (-7,213), Georgia (-6,438), and New York (-4,954).

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UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE DATA FOR REGULAR STATE PROGRAMS

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<b>WEEK ENDING</b>	<b>January 27</b>	<b>January 20</b>	<b>Change</b>	<b>January 13</b>	<b><u>Prior Year</u><sup>1</sup></b>
Initial Claims (SA)	230,000	231,000	-1,000	216,000	250,000
Initial Claims (NSA)	267,674	260,070	+7,604	354,050	280,983
4-Wk Moving Average (SA)	234,500	239,500	-5,000	243,500	247,000
<b>WEEK ENDING</b>	<b>January 20</b>	<b>January 13</b>	<b>Change</b>	<b>January 6</b>	<b><u>Prior Year</u><sup>1</sup></b>
Insured Unemployment (SA)	1,953,000	1,940,000	+13,000	1,965,000	2,063,000
Insured Unemployment (NSA)	2,373,175	2,287,734	+85,441	2,416,486	2,494,547
4-Wk Moving Average (SA)	1,932,750	1,920,750	+12,000	1,923,500	2,072,000
<u>Insured Unemployment Rate (SA)</u> <sup>2</sup>	1.4%	1.4%	0.0	1.4%	1.5%
<u>Insured Unemployment Rate (NSA)</u> <sup>2</sup>	1.7%	1.6%	+0.1	1.7%	1.8%

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INITIAL CLAIMS FILED IN FEDERAL PROGRAMS (UNADJUSTED)

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<b>WEEK ENDING</b>	<b>January 20</b>	<b>January 13</b>	<b>Change</b>	<b><u>Prior Year</u><sup>1</sup></b>
Federal Employees (UCFE)	1,004	1,658	-654	1,007
Newly Discharged Veterans (UCX)	626	839	-213	776

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PERSONS CLAIMING UI BENEFITS IN ALL PROGRAMS (UNADJUSTED)

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<b>WEEK ENDING</b>	<b>January 13</b>	<b>January 6</b>	<b>Change</b>	<b><u>Prior Year</u><sup>1</sup></b>
Regular State	2,285,327	2,413,748	-128,421	2,460,515
Federal Employees	11,817	14,491	-2,674	13,226
Newly Discharged Veterans	8,495	8,738	-243	12,263
<u>Extended Benefits</u> <sup>3</sup>	1,310	1,409	-99	0
<u>State Additional Benefits</u> <sup>4</sup>	6,132	6,110	+22	6,834
<u>STC / Workshare</u> <sup>5</sup>	8,607	9,414	-807	12,478
<u>TOTAL</u>	2,321,688	2,453,910	-132,222	2,505,316

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 141,013,239 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 January 27			Insured Unemployment For Week Ended January 20		
	Advance	Prior Wk	Change	Advance	Prior Wk	Change
Alabama	2,947	2,701	246	18,365	19,083	-718
Alaska	1,450	1,238	212	13,002	12,383	619
Arizona	3,973	3,614	359	19,919	21,984	-2,065
Arkansas	1,810	1,829	-19	15,416	15,487	-71
California	49,601	51,749	-2,148	405,976	339,287	66,689
Colorado	2,357	2,565	-208	26,673	23,846	2,827
Connecticut	5,278	4,257	1,021	51,804	44,545	7,259
Delaware	744	837	-93	7,305	7,073	232
District of Columbia	692	381	311	8,612	9,188	-576
Florida	7,343	7,315	28	39,452	42,495	-3,043
Georgia	7,673	4,852	2,821	31,146	31,607	-461
Hawaii	1,381	1,062	319	8,117	7,593	524
Idaho	1,686	1,780	-94	11,864	12,325	-461
Illinois	10,458	9,645	813	146,170	151,794	-5,624
Indiana	3,508	3,458	50	24,631	22,853	1,778
Iowa	3,025	3,017	8	33,303	31,002	2,301
Kansas	2,004	2,319	-315	16,246	15,232	1,014
Kentucky	3,130	3,299	-169	24,600	25,180	-580
Louisiana	2,245	1,737	508	16,523	19,150	-2,627
Maine *	1,011	1,346	-335	9,560	9,660	-100
Maryland	3,828	4,233	-405	37,222	39,615	-2,393
Massachusetts	6,674	7,322	-648	89,980	87,895	2,085
Michigan	12,080	14,269	-2,189	88,330	91,278	-2,948
Minnesota	3,877	3,921	-44	66,840	62,887	3,953
Mississippi	1,081	939	142	8,984	10,079	-1,095
Missouri	11,000	5,142	5,858	36,547	36,083	464
Montana	1,048	1,193	-145	13,175	12,321	854
Nebraska	918	1,083	-165	9,082	8,980	102
Nevada	3,010	2,654	356	21,338	22,315	-977
New Hampshire	603	685	-82	5,042	5,389	-347
New Jersey	8,871	10,806	-1,935	121,093	116,061	5,032
New Mexico	947	989	-42	10,800	10,995	-195
New York	18,414	18,072	342	181,326	182,096	-770
North Carolina	3,945	2,554	1,391	22,088	22,893	-805
North Dakota	736	769	-33	9,535	7,824	1,711
Ohio	7,544	8,324	-780	83,624	85,971	-2,347
Oklahoma	1,396	1,472	-76	14,441	15,024	-583
Oregon	4,782	4,557	225	32,751	32,172	579
Pennsylvania	18,694	17,051	1,643	162,651	148,245	14,406
Puerto Rico <sup>1M</sup>	2,827	2,704	123	39,154	39,873	-719
Rhode Island	1,333	1,685	-352	13,372	11,669	1,703
South Carolina	2,876	3,725	-849	19,827	20,291	-464
South Dakota	248	314	-66	3,409	3,369	40
Tennessee	3,024	3,335	-311	23,695	24,074	-379
Texas	13,947	12,793	1,154	138,992	144,349	-5,357
Utah	1,362	932	430	12,408	12,496	-88
Vermont	574	511	63	5,919	5,792	127
Virgin Islands	18	14	4	5,750	3,016	2,734
Virginia	3,713	3,772	-59	28,601	28,055	546
Washington	7,052	6,812	240	66,164	64,769	1,395
West Virginia <sup>1M</sup>	1,453	1,752	-299	15,920	15,212	708
Wisconsin	6,982	6,244	738	51,393	50,588	805
Wyoming	501	441	60	5,038	4,291	747
US Total	267,674	260,070	7,604	2,373,175	2,287,734	85,441

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.

<sup>1</sup>Affected by Hurricane Irma.

<sup>M</sup>Affected by Hurricane Maria.

## 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	
January 21, 2017	252	11	244.75	2,063	-20	2,072.00	1.5
January 28, 2017	250	-2	247.00	2,067	4	2,068.50	1.5
February 4, 2017	237	-13	245.00	2,071	4	2,071.00	1.5
February 11, 2017	248	11	246.75	2,052	-19	2,063.25	1.5
February 18, 2017	247	-1	245.50	2,057	5	2,061.75	1.5
February 25, 2017	227	-20	239.75	2,059	2	2,059.75	1.5
March 4, 2017	252	25	243.50	2,025	-34	2,048.25	1.5
March 11, 2017	246	-6	243.00	1,987	-38	2,032.00	1.4
March 18, 2017	261	15	246.50	2,052	65	2,030.75	1.5
March 25, 2017	259	-2	254.50	2,035	-17	2,024.75	1.5
April 1, 2017	235	-24	250.25	2,028	-7	2,025.50	1.5
April 8, 2017	234	-1	247.25	1,978	-50	2,023.25	1.4
April 15, 2017	243	9	242.75	1,987	9	2,007.00	1.4
April 22, 2017	257	14	242.25	1,979	-8	1,993.00	1.4
April 29, 2017	238	-19	243.00	1,920	-59	1,966.00	1.4
May 6, 2017	236	-2	243.50	1,899	-21	1,946.25	1.4
May 13, 2017	233	-3	241.00	1,924	25	1,930.50	1.4
May 20, 2017	235	2	235.50	1,919	-5	1,915.50	1.4
May 27, 2017	255	20	239.75	1,929	10	1,917.75	1.4
June 3, 2017	245	-10	242.00	1,936	7	1,927.00	1.4
June 10, 2017	238	-7	243.25	1,942	6	1,931.50	1.4
June 17, 2017	242	4	245.00	1,945	3	1,938.00	1.4
June 24, 2017	244	2	242.25	1,965	20	1,947.00	1.4
July 1, 2017	250	6	243.50	1,949	-16	1,950.25	1.4
July 8, 2017	248	-2	246.00	1,977	28	1,959.00	1.4
July 15, 2017	234	-14	244.00	1,965	-12	1,964.00	1.4
July 22, 2017	245	11	244.25	1,967	2	1,964.50	1.4
July 29, 2017	241	-4	242.00	1,956	-11	1,966.25	1.4
August 5, 2017	244	3	241.00	1,954	-2	1,960.50	1.4
August 12, 2017	232	-12	240.50	1,954	0	1,957.75	1.4
August 19, 2017	235	3	238.00	1,945	-9	1,952.25	1.4
August 26, 2017	236	1	236.75	1,951	6	1,951.00	1.4
September 2, 2017	298	62	250.25	1,935	-16	1,946.25	1.4
September 9, 2017	281	-17	262.50	1,979	44	1,952.50	1.4
September 16, 2017	260	-21	268.75	1,911	-68	1,944.00	1.4
September 23, 2017	269	9	277.00	1,921	10	1,936.50	1.4
September 30, 2017	258	-11	267.00	1,904	-17	1,928.75	1.4
October 7, 2017	244	-14	257.75	1,896	-8	1,908.00	1.3
October 14, 2017	223	-21	248.50	1,900	4	1,905.25	1.4
October 21, 2017	234	11	239.75	1,884	-16	1,896.00	1.3
October 28, 2017	229	-5	232.50	1,904	20	1,896.00	1.4
November 4, 2017	239	10	231.25	1,868	-36	1,889.00	1.3
November 11, 2017	252	13	238.50	1,915	47	1,892.75	1.4
November 18, 2017	240	-12	240.00	1,960	45	1,911.75	1.4
November 25, 2017	238	-2	242.25	1,911	-49	1,913.50	1.4
December 2, 2017	236	-2	241.50	1,889	-22	1,918.75	1.3
December 9, 2017	225	-11	234.75	1,936	47	1,924.00	1.4
December 16, 2017	245	20	236.00	1,951	15	1,921.75	1.4
December 23, 2017	247	2	238.25	1,905	-46	1,920.25	1.4
December 30, 2017	250	3	241.75	1,873	-32	1,916.25	1.3
January 6, 2018	261	11	250.75	1,965	92	1,923.50	1.4
January 13, 2018	216	-45	243.50	1,940	-25	1,920.75	1.4
January 20, 2018	231	15	239.50	1,953	13	1,932.75	1.4
January 27, 2018	230	-1	234.50				

Initial Claims Filed During Week Ended January 20 INITIAL CLAIMS								Insured Unemployment For Week Ended January 13 INSURED UNEMPLOYMENT				
STATE	STATE	CHANGE FROM				STATE	LAST WEEK	YEAR AGO	CHANGE FROM		ALL PROGRAMS EXCLUDING RAILROAD RETIREMENT	
		LAST WEEK	YEAR AGO	UCFE 1	UCX 1				(%) 2	LAST WEEK		YEAR AGO
Alabama	2701	-1686	-259	17	8	19083	1.0	-2669	-2394	67	79	19229
Alaska	1238	-461	-174	8	2	12383	4.0	-879	-2223	192	40	13924
Arizona	3614	-1057	-330	21	6	21984	0.8	-519	-3928	288	75	22347
Arkansas	1829	-518	-225	6	3	15487	1.3	-1434	-1954	75	114	15676
California	51749	-7213	-10165	238	117	339287	2.0	-44414	-43427	2134	1683	343104
Colorado	2565	-447	-298	34	22	23846	0.9	-22	-7981	260	245	24351
Connecticut	4257	-2792	-1054	3	4	44545	2.7	-7184	-4593	49	90	44684
Delaware	837	-551	56	0	1	7073	1.6	-661	-100	23	10	7106
District of Columbia	381	-57	63	19	1	9188	1.6	147	315	351	16	9555
Florida	7315	-1686	-77	20	43	42495	0.5	-2274	-2498	153	180	42828
Georgia	4852	-6438	-2104	20	19	31607	0.8	-9096	-3729	204	234	32045
Hawaii	1062	-510	-103	6	14	7593	1.2	-1030	-634	75	105	7773
Idaho	1780	-875	-237	28	4	12325	1.8	-93	-2719	355	17	12697
Illinois	9645	-4929	-1913	8	10	151794	2.6	1047	-9683	285	251	152330
Indiana	3458	-1975	-487	2	7	22853	0.8	483	-9208	41	50	22944
Iowa	3017	-1331	202	5	2	31002	2.0	-1762	-4286	58	41	31101
Kansas	2319	-1281	-324	1	0	15232	1.1	604	-1718	54	47	15333
Kentucky	3299	-699	274	3	2	25180	1.4	1075	-1607	140	159	25479
Louisiana	1737	-1208	-721	9	7	19150	1.0	-774	-3504	41	32	19223
Maine	1346	-420	203	3	0	9660	1.6	599	-444	27	12	9699
Maryland	4233	-820	10	30	8	39615	1.6	3531	-3969	384	112	40111
Massachusetts	7322	-3240	262	15	12	87895	2.5	-3384	-1440	142	160	88197
Michigan	14269	-921	3667	23	13	91278	2.2	-3480	-1687	187	109	91574
Minnesota	3921	-1668	-227	6	3	62887	2.2	-3437	-4190	137	75	63099
Mississippi	939	-794	-391	2	3	10079	0.9	-623	-2545	49	29	10157
Missouri	5142	-2128	195	7	3	36083	1.3	-2304	-197	283	59	36425
Montana	1193	-622	44	51	5	12321	2.8	357	-2239	586	24	12931
Nebraska	1083	-272	30	3	1	8980	0.9	-424	-192	23	18	9021
Nevada	2654	-591	-178	9	3	22315	1.7	-200	-2513	183	77	22575
New Hampshire	685	-125	-67	1	1	5389	0.8	-12	-333	6	10	5405
New Jersey	10806	-4234	177	22	23	116061	2.9	-5592	-1406	261	298	116620
New Mexico	989	-179	-181	5	1	10995	1.4	-376	-1875	317	61	11373
New York	18072	-4954	659	34	48	182096	2.0	-5991	-3346	355	440	182891
North Carolina	2554	-1929	-1449	2	9	22893	0.5	352	-5430	92	168	23153
North Dakota	769	-1093	-24	2	0	7824	1.9	323	-1232	11	7	7842
Ohio	8324	-3866	116	13	19	85971	1.6	-890	1316	141	227	86339
Oklahoma	1472	-366	-331	11	7	15024	1.0	-323	-3637	70	92	15186
Oregon	4557	-410	-2050	51	12	32172	1.8	-976	-5796	769	110	33051
Pennsylvania	17051	-10925	-2603	73	43	148245	2.6	-16303	-13219	526	347	149118
Puerto Rico	2704	-1215	274	0	6	39873	4.6	-6965	17018	24	32	39929
Rhode Island	1685	-303	295	3	4	11669	2.5	-663	-741	14	19	11702
South Carolina	3725	-2151	1018	7	12	20291	1.0	-1765	3003	56	65	20413
South Dakota	314	-170	27	1	0	3369	0.8	0	-443	41	3	3413
Tennessee	3335	-1058	-30	11	8	24074	0.8	-613	1388	122	70	24266
Texas	12793	-7747	-2271	57	83	144349	1.2	170	-17326	638	1281	146268
Utah	932	-520	-548	66	2	12496	0.9	626	-2306	392	25	12913
Vermont	511	-213	-100	2	1	5792	1.9	-284	-593	11	5	5808
Virgin Islands	14	-29	-8	0	0	3016	8.1	-1168	2534	0	0	3016
Virginia	3772	-325	-621	14	10	28055	0.8	-324	-2535	300	370	28725
Washington	6812	-1541	-762	19	9	64769	2.0	-1015	-3837	513	629	65911
West Virginia	1752	-757	90	2	0	15212	2.3	-1417	-2486	59	43	15314
Wisconsin	6244	-2365	-1242	6	4	50588	1.8	-6357	-7197	123	40	50751
Wyoming	441	-315	-68	5	1	4291	1.6	-369	-2792	130	10	4431
Totals	260070	-93980	-23960	1004	626	2287734	1.6	-128752	-176558	11817	8495	2309356

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.

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**UNADJUSTED INITIAL CLAIMS FOR WEEK ENDED JANUARY 20, 2018**

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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>
None		

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

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<b>State</b>	<b>Change</b>	<b>State Supplied Comment</b>
PA	-10,925	Fewer layoffs in the construction, administrative, support, waste management and remediation service, and transportation and warehousing, industries.
TX	-7,747	No comment.
CA	-7,213	Fewer layoffs in the agriculture, forestry, fishing and hunting industry.
GA	-6,438	Fewer layoffs in the manufacturing, construction, administrative, support, waste management and remediation service, trade, and accommodation and food service industries.
NY	-4,954	Fewer layoffs in the construction, transportation and warehousing, and accommodation and food service industries.
IL	-4,929	No comment.
NJ	-4,234	Fewer layoffs in the construction, manufacturing, trade, transportation and warehousing, and accommodation and food service industries.
OH	-3,866	No comment.
MA	-3,240	Fewer layoffs in the construction, transportation and warehousing, administrative, support, waste management and remediation service, and accommodation and food service industries.
CT	-2,792	No comment.
WI	-2,365	Fewer layoffs in the construction, manufacturing, and transportation and warehousing industries.
SC	-2,151	No comment.
MO	-2,128	Fewer layoffs in the construction, administrative, support, waste management and remediation service, and accommodation and food service industries.
IN	-1,975	No comment.
NC	-1,929	Fewer layoffs in the accommodation and food service, administrative, support, waste management and remediation service, and construction industries.
FL	-1,686	Fewer layoffs in the construction, manufacturing, wholesale trade, retail trade, and service industries.
AL	-1,686	Fewer layoffs in the administrative, support, waste management and remediation service, construction, retail trade, and accommodation and food service industries.
MN	-1,668	No comment.
WA	-1,541	No comment.
IA	-1,331	No comment.
KS	-1,281	No comment.
PR	-1,215	No comment.
LA	-1,208	No comment.
ND	-1,093	No comment.
TN	-1,058	No comment.
AZ	-1,057	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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Release Number: USDL 18-172-NAT

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