



News Release

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Program Contacts:
Tom Stengle (202) 693-2991
Tony Sznoluch (202) 693-3176
Media Contact: (202) 693-4676

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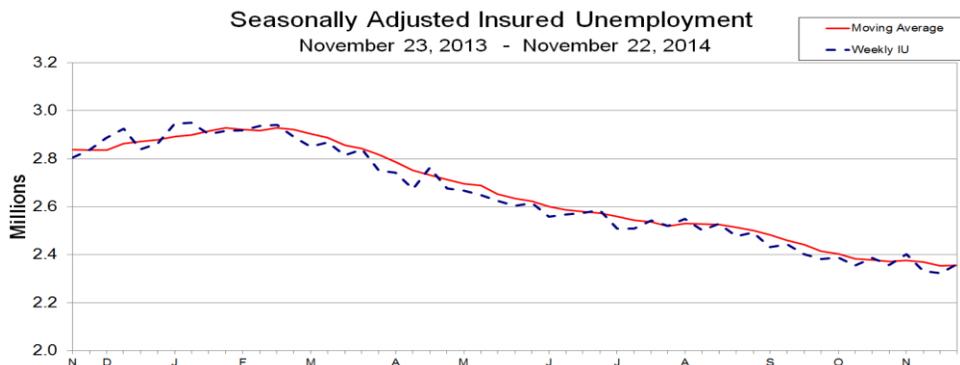
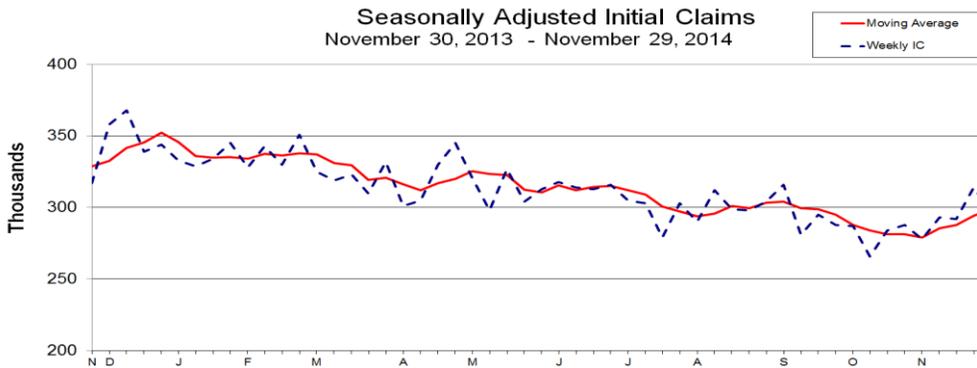
UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE WEEKLY CLAIMS

SEASONALLY ADJUSTED DATA

In the week ending November 29, the advance figure for seasonally adjusted **initial claims** was 297,000, a decrease of 17,000 from the previous week's revised level. The previous week's level was revised up by 1,000 from 313,000 to 314,000. The 4-week moving average was 299,000, an increase of 4,750 from the previous week's revised average. The previous week's average was revised up by 250 from 294,000 to 294,250.

There were no special factors impacting this week's initial claims.

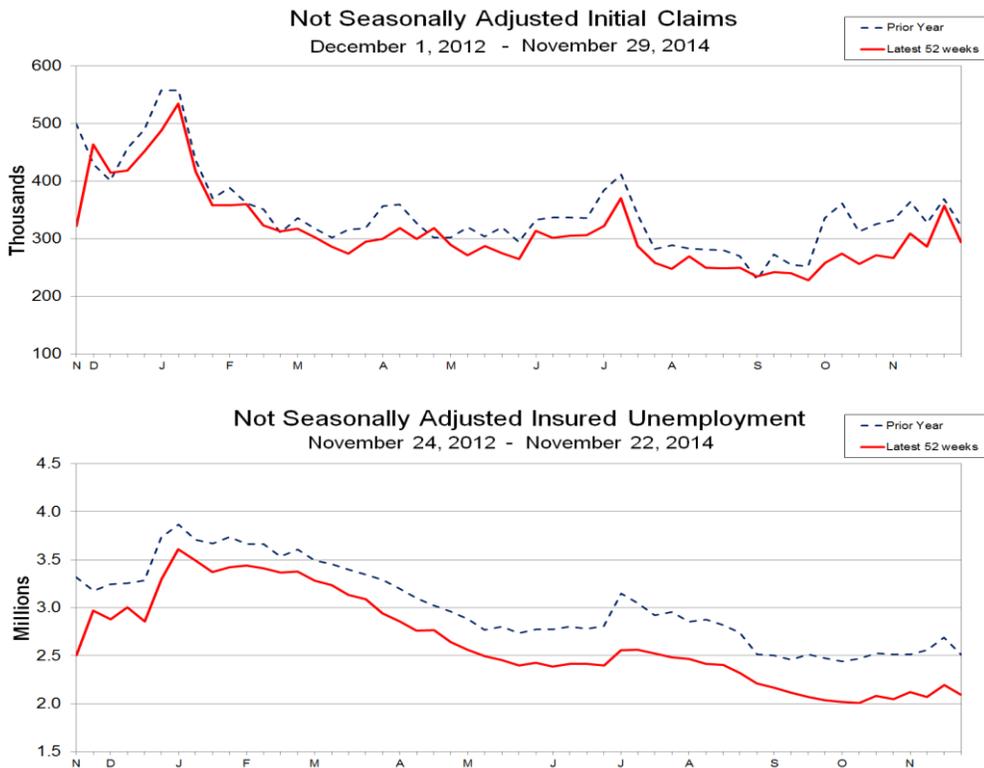
The advance seasonally adjusted **insured unemployment rate** was 1.8 percent for the week ending November 22, unchanged from the previous week's revised rate. The previous week's rate was revised up by 0.1 from 1.7 to 1.8 percent. The advance number for seasonally adjusted **insured unemployment** during the week ending November 22 was 2,362,000, an increase of 39,000 from the previous week's revised level. The previous week's level was revised up 7,000 from 2,316,000 to 2,323,000. The 4-week moving average was 2,355,250, an increase of 1,500 from the previous week's revised average. The previous week's average was revised up by 1,750 from 2,352,000 to 2,353,750.



UNADJUSTED DATA

The advance number of actual initial claims under state programs, unadjusted, totaled 294,185 in the week ending November 29, a decrease of 62,943 (or -17.6 percent) from the previous week. The seasonal factors had expected a decrease of 46,132 (or -12.9 percent) from the previous week. There were 321,896 initial claims in the comparable week in 2013.

The advance unadjusted insured unemployment rate was 1.6 percent during the week ending November 22, a decrease of 0.1 percentage point from the prior week. The advance unadjusted number for persons claiming UI benefits in state programs totaled 2,092,758, a decrease of 99,911 (or -4.6 percent) from the preceding week. The seasonal factors had expected a decrease of 134,719 (or -6.1 percent) from the previous week. A year earlier the rate was 1.9 percent and the volume was 2,506,700.



The total number of people claiming benefits in all programs for the week ending November 15 was 2,249,458, an increase of 128,753 from the previous week. There were 4,112,807 persons claiming benefits in all programs in the comparable week in 2013.

No state was triggered "on" the Extended Benefits program during the week ending November 15.

Initial claims for UI benefits filed by former Federal civilian employees totaled 1,928 in the week ending November 22, an increase of 513 from the prior week. There were 1,651 initial claims filed by newly discharged veterans, an increase of 178 from the preceding week.

There were 17,017 former Federal civilian employees claiming UI benefits for the week ending November 15, an increase of 1,437 from the previous week. Newly discharged veterans claiming benefits totaled 25,646, an increase of 508 from the prior week.

The highest insured unemployment rates in the week ending November 15 were in Alaska (4.2), Puerto Rico (3.4), the Virgin Islands (3.1), New Jersey (2.9), California (2.5), Connecticut (2.4), Nevada (2.4), Montana (2.3), Pennsylvania (2.3), and Massachusetts (2.2).

The largest increases in initial claims for the week ending November 22 were in California (+19,173), Pennsylvania (+8,213), Ohio (+7,117), Illinois (+4,283), and Wisconsin (+3,262), while the largest decreases were in Montana (-1,182), Colorado (-622), Wyoming (-291), South Carolina (-237), and District of Columbia (-7).

UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE DATA FOR REGULAR STATE PROGRAMS

WEEK ENDING	November 29	November 22	Change	November 15	<u>Prior Year</u>¹
Initial Claims (SA)	297,000	314,000	-17,000	292,000	317,000
Initial Claims (NSA)	294,185	357,128	-62,943	286,115	321,896
4-Wk Moving Average (SA)	299,000	294,250	+4,750	287,750	328,750
WEEK ENDING	November 22	November 15	Change	November 8	<u>Prior Year</u>¹
Insured Unemployment (SA)	2,362,000	2,323,000	+39,000	2,333,000	2,804,000
Insured Unemployment (NSA)	2,092,758	2,192,669	-99,911	2,067,337	2,506,700
4-Wk Moving Average (SA)	2,355,250	2,353,750	+1,500	2,369,750	2,837,250
<u>Insured Unemployment Rate (SA)</u> ²	1.8%	1.8%	0.0	1.8%	2.2%
<u>Insured Unemployment Rate (NSA)</u> ²	1.6%	1.7%	-0.1	1.6%	1.9%

INITIAL CLAIMS FILED IN FEDERAL PROGRAMS (UNADJUSTED)

WEEK ENDING	November 22	November 15	Change	<u>Prior Year</u>¹
Federal Employees (UCFE)	1,928	1,415	+513	2,379
Newly Discharged Veterans (UCX)	1,651	1,473	+178	2,145

PERSONS CLAIMING UI BENEFITS IN ALL PROGRAMS (UNADJUSTED)

WEEK ENDING	November 15	November 8	Change	<u>Prior Year</u>¹
Regular State	2,189,625	2,064,655	+124,970	2,683,542
Federal Employees	17,017	15,580	+1,437	20,627
Newly Discharged Veterans	25,646	25,138	+508	32,182
<u>Extended Benefits</u> ³	3	5	-2	227
<u>State Additional Benefits</u> ⁴	5,647	5,206	+441	4,703
<u>STC / Workshare</u> ⁵	11,520	10,121	+1,399	20,922
<u>TOTAL</u> ⁶	2,249,458	2,120,705	+128,753	4,112,807

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 132,731,174 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](#)
6. Prior Year Total includes Emergency Unemployment Compensation (EUC08) claimants.

UNADJUSTED INITIAL CLAIMS FOR WEEK ENDED NOVEMBER 22, 2014

STATES WITH A DECREASE OF MORE THAN 1,000

State	Change	State Supplied Comment
MT	-1,182	No comment.

STATES WITH AN INCREASE OF MORE THAN 1,000

State	Change	State Supplied Comment
CA	+19,173	Layoffs in the service industry.
PA	+8,213	Layoffs in the construction, administrative and support and waste management and remediation service industries.
OH	+7,117	Layoffs in the construction, manufacturing, and retail industries.
IL	+4,283	Layoffs in the construction, administrative and support and waste management and remediation service, and manufacturing industries.
WI	+3,262	No comment.
MI	+3,017	Layoffs in the construction industry.
OR	+2,348	No comment.
IA	+2,276	Layoffs in the construction industry.
MN	+1,955	Layoffs due to adverse weather conditions.
IN	+1,789	Layoffs in the construction industry.
MO	+1,692	Layoffs in the construction, manufacturing, and administrative and support and waste management and remediation service industries.
WA	+1,645	Layoffs in the agriculture, forestry, fishing and hunting, manufacturing, and information industries.
NJ	+1,622	Layoffs in the construction, trade, administrative and support and waste management and remediation service, accommodation and food service, and arts, entertainment and recreation industries.
MA	+1,295	Layoffs in the construction, arts and entertainment, accommodations and food service, and administrative and support and waste management and remediation service industries.
AL	+1,178	Layoffs in the manufacturing and construction industry.
MD	+1,169	No comment.

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		
November 23, 2013	324	-8	334.75	2,804	-9	2,837.25	2.2	
November 30, 2013	317	-7	328.75	2,837	33	2,835.75	2.2	
December 7, 2013	358	41	332.75	2,887	50	2,835.25	2.2	
December 14, 2013	368	10	341.75	2,925	38	2,863.25	2.2	
December 21, 2013	339	-29	345.50	2,840	-85	2,872.25	2.2	
December 28, 2013	344	5	352.25	2,863	23	2,878.75	2.2	
January 4, 2014	333	-11	346.00	2,945	82	2,893.25	2.2	
January 11, 2014	329	-4	336.25	2,951	6	2,899.75	2.3	
January 18, 2014	334	5	335.00	2,903	-48	2,915.50	2.2	
January 25, 2014	345	11	335.25	2,915	12	2,928.50	2.2	
February 1, 2014	328	-17	334.00	2,918	3	2,921.75	2.2	
February 8, 2014	343	15	337.50	2,936	18	2,918.00	2.2	
February 15, 2014	330	-13	336.50	2,941	5	2,927.50	2.2	
February 22, 2014	351	21	338.00	2,890	-51	2,921.25	2.2	
March 1, 2014	325	-26	337.25	2,850	-40	2,904.25	2.2	
March 8, 2014	319	-6	331.25	2,869	19	2,887.50	2.2	
March 15, 2014	323	4	329.50	2,814	-55	2,855.75	2.1	
March 22, 2014	310	-13	319.25	2,838	24	2,842.75	2.2	
March 29, 2014	332	22	321.00	2,750	-88	2,817.75	2.1	
April 5, 2014	301	-31	316.50	2,741	-9	2,785.75	2.1	
April 12, 2014	305	4	312.00	2,674	-67	2,750.75	2.0	
April 19, 2014	330	25	317.00	2,761	87	2,731.50	2.1	
April 26, 2014	345	15	320.25	2,676	-85	2,713.00	2.0	
May 3, 2014	321	-24	325.25	2,666	-10	2,694.25	2.0	
May 10, 2014	298	-23	323.50	2,648	-18	2,687.75	2.0	
May 17, 2014	327	29	322.75	2,623	-25	2,653.25	2.0	
May 24, 2014	304	-23	312.50	2,603	-20	2,635.00	2.0	
May 31, 2014	313	9	310.50	2,615	12	2,622.25	2.0	
June 7, 2014	318	5	315.50	2,559	-56	2,600.00	1.9	
June 14, 2014	314	-4	312.25	2,568	9	2,586.25	2.0	
June 21, 2014	313	-1	314.50	2,575	7	2,579.25	2.0	
June 28, 2014	316	3	315.25	2,586	11	2,572.00	2.0	
July 5, 2014	305	-11	312.00	2,508	-78	2,559.25	1.9	
July 12, 2014	303	-2	309.25	2,508	0	2,544.25	1.9	
July 19, 2014	279	-24	300.75	2,542	34	2,536.00	1.9	
July 26, 2014	303	24	297.50	2,519	-23	2,519.25	1.9	
August 2, 2014	290	-13	293.75	2,549	30	2,529.50	1.9	
August 9, 2014	312	22	296.00	2,502	-47	2,528.00	1.9	
August 16, 2014	299	-13	301.00	2,528	26	2,524.50	1.9	
August 23, 2014	298	-1	299.75	2,478	-50	2,514.25	1.9	
August 30, 2014	304	6	303.25	2,492	14	2,500.00	1.9	
September 6, 2014	316	12	304.25	2,432	-60	2,482.50	1.8	
September 13, 2014	281	-35	299.75	2,442	10	2,461.00	1.8	
September 20, 2014	295	14	299.00	2,402	-40	2,442.00	1.8	
September 27, 2014	288	-7	295.00	2,382	-20	2,414.50	1.8	
October 4, 2014	287	-1	287.75	2,389	7	2,403.75	1.8	
October 11, 2014	266	-21	284.00	2,355	-34	2,382.00	1.8	
October 18, 2014	284	18	281.25	2,387	32	2,378.25	1.8	
October 25, 2014	288	4	281.25	2,356	-31	2,371.75	1.8	
November 1, 2014	278	-10	279.00	2,403	47	2,375.25	1.8	
November 8, 2014	293	15	285.75	2,333	-70	2,369.75	1.8	
November 15, 2014	292	-1	287.75	2,323	-10	2,353.75	1.8	
November 22, 2014	314	22	294.25	2,362	39	2,355.25	1.8	
November 29, 2014	297	-17	299.00					

Initial Claims Filed During Week Ended November 22 INITIAL CLAIMS							Insured Unemployment For Week Ended November 15 INSURED UNEMPLOYMENT					
STATE	CHANGE FROM					STATE	CHANGE FROM				ALL PROGRAMS EXCLUDING RAILROAD RETIREMENT	
	STATE	LAST WEEK	YEAR AGO	UCFE ¹	UCX ¹		LAST WEEK	YEAR AGO	UCFE ¹	UCX ¹		
					(%) 2							
Alabama	4263	1178	389	14	29	24497	1.4	611	-6271	122	260	24879
Alaska	1787	83	-131	16	1	13282	4.2	2031	-3902	235	72	13589
Arizona	4427	480	-227	28	5	30966	1.3	-152	-5716	231	274	31471
Arkansas	3582	173	-488	8	10	21928	1.9	1276	-5232	119	296	22343
California	59611	19173	-12230	512	234	386060	2.5	34740	-73748	3007	4747	393814
Colorado	3665	-622	-97	59	52	29968	1.3	2814	-8281	388	912	31268
Connecticut	4065	676	-119	13	10	39645	2.4	1765	-5859	91	248	39984
Delaware	918	159	-97	0	4	6568	1.6	133	-1392	28	62	6658
District of Columbia	356	-7	-63	13	1	9238	1.8	8	-2828	384	31	9653
Florida	11640	273	-5327	19	42	76200	1.0	305	-33749	360	763	77323
Georgia	7592	673	-1316	34	62	40071	1.0	-106	-13559	513	834	41418
Hawaii	1449	117	-254	3	27	8825	1.5	409	-2303	134	285	9244
Idaho	3012	667	891	32	7	9417	1.5	888	-1187	108	61	9586
Illinois	18100	4283	1949	19	42	113083	2.0	8146	-27565	433	667	114183
Indiana	6559	1789	292	11	24	25578	0.9	975	-13612	195	232	26005
Iowa	5988	2276	2366	6	9	17717	1.2	1590	-1742	55	162	17934
Kansas	3205	455	584	6	10	15526	1.2	1803	-3903	128	213	15867
Kentucky	4340	976	456	53	15	21202	1.2	-19	-7042	266	438	21906
Louisiana	2547	170	-307	5	9	19764	1.1	513	-3075	68	118	19950
Maine	1645	72	-243	5	3	9058	1.6	1006	-1973	37	58	9153
Maryland	5288	1169	-405	30	21	45984	1.9	541	-6926	509	461	46954
Massachusetts	7884	1295	690	21	20	71544	2.2	2904	1236	431	550	72525
Michigan	13350	3017	-1408	44	45	62729	1.6	2507	-24064	291	481	63501
Minnesota	10287	1955	2837	19	14	42658	1.6	7715	-2416	149	283	43090
Mississippi	2442	377	-194	6	9	13917	1.3	331	-6701	136	172	14225
Missouri	7613	1692	1520	56	24	34128	1.3	1448	-8355	834	246	35208
Montana	2129	-1182	12	104	6	9614	2.3	2277	-397	355	72	10041
Nebraska	1988	241	415	4	4	6831	0.7	867	-1224	45	33	6909
Nevada	4487	522	-1887	25	3	27902	2.4	1764	366	203	253	28358
New Hampshire	1023	261	-122	2	3	5951	1.0	260	-1133	10	24	5985
New Jersey	11467	1622	449	20	28	110379	2.9	4005	-9588	305	672	111356
New Mexico	1255	35	-163	30	6	13019	1.7	402	-2655	299	165	13483
New York	21140	856	-1202	56	93	168174	2.0	3870	-38836	914	1271	170359
North Carolina	5557	825	-1291	29	50	39504	1.0	874	-32342	196	649	40349
North Dakota	1024	200	140	1	5	2126	0.5	569	43	26	13	2165
Ohio	15508	7117	3091	10	52	57407	1.1	1339	-15061	264	669	58340
Oklahoma	1577	161	-657	8	22	14800	1.0	168	-3833	77	244	15121
Oregon	7330	2348	-343	135	45	34988	2.1	1168	-7626	474	377	35839
Pennsylvania	26223	8213	1887	99	100	127991	2.3	9316	-30382	1107	979	130077
Puerto Rico	1605	291	-326	2	0	30643	3.4	2105	-3224	139	363	31145
Rhode Island	1684	575	512	8	5	8822	2.0	633	-705	41	71	8934
South Carolina	3077	-237	-1298	8	23	18350	1.0	685	-7948	63	278	18691
South Dakota	915	144	417	8	3	1961	0.5	589	239	30	10	2001
Tennessee	3778	184	-902	25	32	26018	1.0	443	-7028	274	300	26592
Texas	16016	681	-1904	92	226	131892	1.2	8736	-26212	1253	3450	136598
Utah	1858	132	-369	67	10	9550	0.8	-496	-4666	264	96	9910
Vermont	1011	219	206	3	5	4984	1.7	564	-32	22	21	5027
Virgin Islands	39	-4	15	2	1	1174	3.1	306	-106	0	16	1190
Virginia	4356	339	-625	34	39	31331	0.9	788	-7498	399	961	32691
Washington	11001	1645	794	99	116	55161	1.9	2843	-9241	609	1416	57186
West Virginia	1728	305	-208	4	13	12776	1.9	652	-3115	83	107	12966
Wisconsin	13043	3262	2173	12	16	47888	1.8	5817	-12886	173	169	48230
Wyoming	694	-291	49	9	8	3880	1.4	606	-1247	140	41	4061
Totals	357128	71013	-12069	1928	1643	2192669	1.7	125332	-496502	17017	25646	2235335

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.

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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