



News Release

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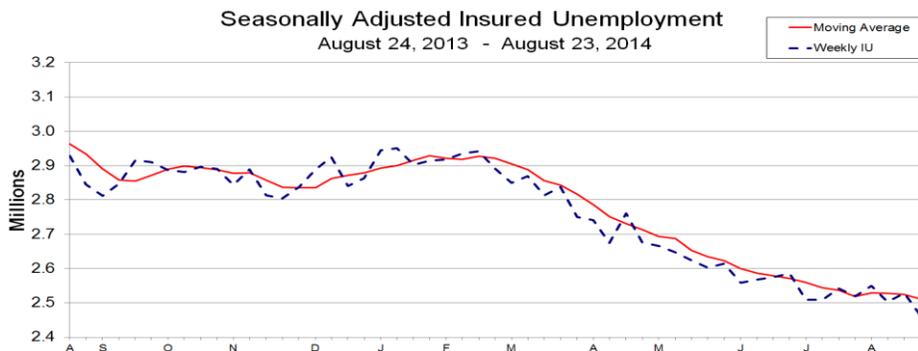
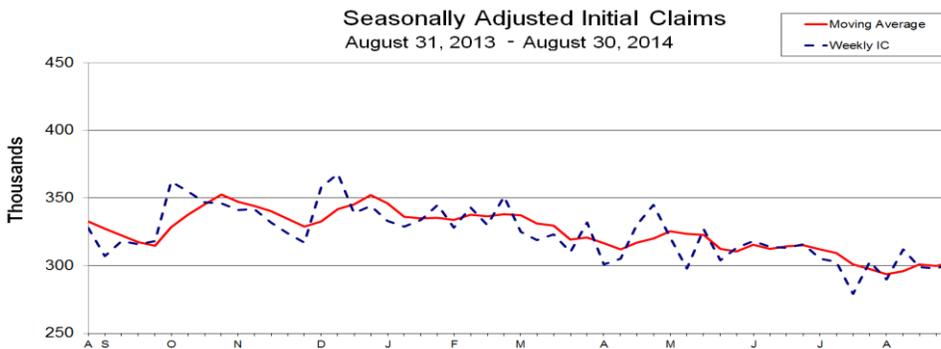
UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE WEEKLY CLAIMS

SEASONALLY ADJUSTED DATA

In the week ending August 30, the advance figure for seasonally adjusted **initial claims** was 302,000, an increase of 4,000 from the previous week's unrevised level of 298,000. The 4-week moving average was 302,750, an increase of 3,000 from the previous week's unrevised average of 299,750.

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

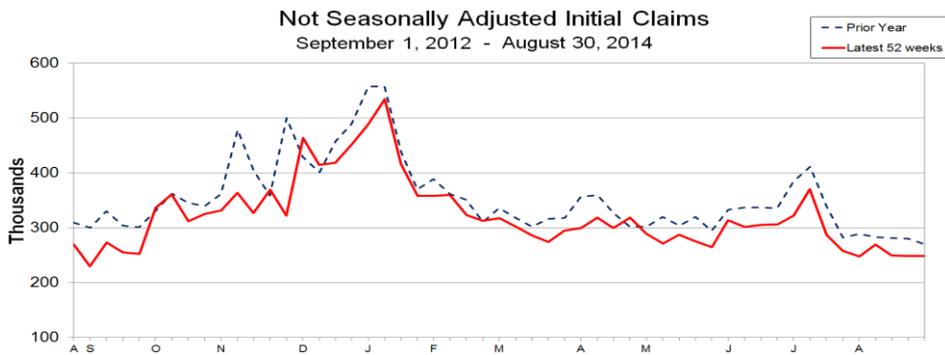
The advance seasonally adjusted **insured unemployment rate** was 1.9 percent for the week ending August 23, unchanged from the previous week's unrevised rate. The advance number for seasonally adjusted **insured unemployment** during the week ending August 23 was 2,464,000, a decrease of 64,000 from the previous week's revised level. This is the lowest level for insured unemployment since June 16, 2007 when it was 2,453,000. The previous week's level was revised up 1,000 from 2,527,000 to 2,528,000. The 4-week moving average was 2,510,750, a decrease of 13,750 from the previous week's revised average. This is the lowest level for this average since July 7, 2007 when it was 2,509,250. The previous week's average was revised up by 250 from 2,524,250 to 2,524,500.



UNADJUSTED DATA

The advance number of actual initial claims under state programs, unadjusted, totaled 248,570 in the week ending August 30, a decrease of 317 (or -0.1 percent) from the previous week. The seasonal factors had expected a decrease of 3,581 (or -1.4 percent) from the previous week. There were 269,359 initial claims in the comparable week in 2013.

The advance unadjusted insured unemployment rate was 1.7 percent during the week ending August 23, a decrease of 0.1 percentage point from the prior week. The advance unadjusted number for persons claiming UI benefits in state programs totaled 2,306,286, a decrease of 95,339 (or -4.0 percent) from the preceding week. The seasonal factors had expected a decrease of 35,392 (or -1.5 percent) from the previous week. A year earlier the rate was 2.1 percent and the volume was 2,737,229.



The total number of people claiming benefits in all programs for the week ending August 16 was 2,455,404, a decrease of 11,387 from the previous week. There were 4,388,758 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 August 16.

Initial claims for UI benefits filed by former Federal civilian employees totaled 1,548 in the week ending August 23, an increase of 535 from the prior week. There were 1,978 initial claims filed by newly discharged veterans, a decrease of 6 from the preceding week.

There were 14,401 former Federal civilian employees claiming UI benefits for the week ending August 16, a decrease of 1,014 from the previous week. Newly discharged veterans claiming benefits totaled 24,584, an increase of 54 from the prior week.

The highest insured unemployment rates in the week ending August 16 were in Puerto Rico (4.0), New Jersey (3.3), Alaska (3.1), Connecticut (3.1), Pennsylvania (2.8), California (2.7), Rhode Island (2.7), Massachusetts (2.5), and Nevada (2.5).

The largest increases in initial claims for the week ending August 23 were in New York (+2,560), Michigan (+1,845), California (+867), Illinois (+613), and Texas (+308), while the largest decreases were in Georgia (-1,369), Massachusetts (-1,283), Pennsylvania (-1,031), Iowa (-1,016), and Alabama (-689).

UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE DATA FOR REGULAR STATE PROGRAMS

WEEK ENDING	August 30	August 23	Change	August 16	<u>Prior Year</u>¹
Initial Claims (SA)	302,000	298,000	+4,000	299,000	328,000
Initial Claims (NSA)	248,570	248,887	-317	249,463	269,359
4-Wk Moving Average (SA)	302,750	299,750	+3,000	301,000	332,750
WEEK ENDING	August 23	August 16	Change	August 9	<u>Prior Year</u>¹
Insured Unemployment (SA)	2,464,000	2,528,000	-64,000	2,502,000	2,928,000
Insured Unemployment (NSA)	2,306,286	2,401,625	-95,339	2,412,394	2,737,229
4-Wk Moving Average (SA)	2,510,750	2,524,500	-13,750	2,528,000	2,963,250
<u>Insured Unemployment Rate (SA)</u> ²	1.9%	1.9%	0.0	1.9%	2.3%
<u>Insured Unemployment Rate (NSA)</u> ²	1.7%	1.8%	-0.1	1.8%	2.1%

INITIAL CLAIMS FILED IN FEDERAL PROGRAMS (UNADJUSTED)

WEEK ENDING	August 23	August 16	Change	<u>Prior Year</u>¹
Federal Employees (UCFE)	1,548	1,013	+535	1,254
Newly Discharged Veterans (UCX)	1,978	1,984	-6	2,313

PERSONS CLAIMING UI BENEFITS IN ALL PROGRAMS (UNADJUSTED)

WEEK ENDING	August 16	August 9	Change	<u>Prior Year</u>¹
Regular State	2,397,899	2,408,598	-10,699	2,814,920
Federal Employees	14,401	15,415	-1,014	20,753
Newly Discharged Veterans	24,584	24,530	+54	33,629
<u>Extended Benefits</u> ³	15	2	+13	242
<u>State Additional Benefits</u> ⁴	4,723	4,923	-200	3,923
<u>STC / Workshare</u> ⁵	13,782	13,323	+459	20,549
<u>TOTAL</u> ⁶	2,455,404	2,466,791	-11,387	4,388,758

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 132,140,947 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 AUGUST 23, 2014**STATES WITH A DECREASE OF MORE THAN 1,000**

State	Change	State Supplied Comment
GA	-1,369	Fewer layoffs in the manufacturing industry.
MA	-1,283	Fewer layoffs in the retail trade industry.
PA	-1,031	Fewer layoffs in the administrative and support service, transportation, educational service, and construction industries.
IA	-1,016	Fewer layoffs in the manufacturing industry.

STATES WITH AN INCREASE OF MORE THAN 1,000

State	Change	State Supplied Comment
NY	+2,560	Layoffs in the transportation and warehousing, educational service, and health care and social assistance industries.
MI	+1,845	Layoffs in the wholesale trade industry.

Seasonally Adjusted US Weekly UI Claims (in thousands)

Week Ending	Change			Insured Unemployment	Change		IUR
	Initial Claims	from Prior Week	4-Week Average		from Prior Week	4-Week Average	
August 24, 2013	336	-2	334.50	2928	-53	2963.25	2.3
August 31, 2013	328	-8	332.75	2845	-83	2933.75	2.2
September 7, 2013	307	-21	327.25	2812	-33	2891.50	2.2
September 14, 2013	318	11	322.25	2847	35	2858.00	2.2
September 21, 2013	316	-2	317.25	2916	69	2855.00	2.2
September 28, 2013	318	2	314.75	2910	-6	2871.25	2.2
October 5, 2013	362	44	328.50	2888	-22	2890.25	2.2
October 12, 2013	355	-7	337.75	2881	-7	2898.75	2.2
October 19, 2013	347	-8	345.50	2896	15	2893.75	2.2
October 26, 2013	346	-1	352.50	2890	-6	2888.75	2.2
November 2, 2013	341	-5	347.25	2843	-47	2877.50	2.2
November 9, 2013	342	1	344.00	2889	46	2879.50	2.2
November 16, 2013	332	-10	340.25	2813	-76	2858.75	2.2
November 23, 2013	324	-8	334.75	2804	-9	2837.25	2.2
November 30, 2013	317	-7	328.75	2837	33	2835.75	2.2
December 7, 2013	358	41	332.75	2887	50	2835.25	2.2
December 14, 2013	368	10	341.75	2925	38	2863.25	2.2
December 21, 2013	339	-29	345.50	2840	-85	2872.25	2.2
December 28, 2013	344	5	352.25	2863	23	2878.75	2.2
January 4, 2014	333	-11	346.00	2945	82	2893.25	2.2
January 11, 2014	329	-4	336.25	2951	6	2899.75	2.3
January 18, 2014	334	5	335.00	2903	-48	2915.50	2.2
January 25, 2014	345	11	335.25	2915	12	2928.50	2.2
February 1, 2014	328	-17	334.00	2918	3	2921.75	2.2
February 8, 2014	343	15	337.50	2936	18	2918.00	2.2
February 15, 2014	330	-13	336.50	2941	5	2927.50	2.2
February 22, 2014	351	21	338.00	2890	-51	2921.25	2.2
March 1, 2014	325	-26	337.25	2850	-40	2904.25	2.2
March 8, 2014	319	-6	331.25	2869	19	2887.50	2.2
March 15, 2014	323	4	329.50	2814	-55	2855.75	2.1
March 22, 2014	310	-13	319.25	2838	24	2842.75	2.2
March 29, 2014	332	22	321.00	2750	-88	2817.75	2.1
April 5, 2014	301	-31	316.50	2741	-9	2785.75	2.1
April 12, 2014	305	4	312.00	2674	-67	2750.75	2.0
April 19, 2014	330	25	317.00	2761	87	2731.50	2.1
April 26, 2014	345	15	320.25	2676	-85	2713.00	2.0
May 3, 2014	321	-24	325.25	2666	-10	2694.25	2.0
May 10, 2014	298	-23	323.50	2648	-18	2687.75	2.0
May 17, 2014	327	29	322.75	2623	-25	2653.25	2.0
May 24, 2014	304	-23	312.50	2603	-20	2635.00	2.0
May 31, 2014	313	9	310.50	2615	12	2622.25	2.0
June 7, 2014	318	5	315.50	2559	-56	2600.00	1.9
June 14, 2014	314	-4	312.25	2568	9	2586.25	2.0
June 21, 2014	313	-1	314.50	2575	7	2579.25	2.0
June 28, 2014	316	3	315.25	2586	11	2572.00	2.0
July 5, 2014	305	-11	312.00	2508	-78	2559.25	1.9
July 12, 2014	303	-2	309.25	2508	0	2544.25	1.9
July 19, 2014	279	-24	300.75	2542	34	2536.00	1.9
July 26, 2014	303	24	297.50	2519	-23	2519.25	1.9
August 2, 2014	290	-13	293.75	2549	30	2529.50	1.9
August 9, 2014	312	22	296.00	2502	-47	2528.00	1.9
August 16, 2014	299	-13	301.00	2528	26	2524.50	1.9
August 23, 2014	298	-1	299.75	2464	-64	2510.75	1.9
August 30, 2014	302	4	302.75				

Initial Claims Filed During Week Ended August 23
INITIAL CLAIMS

Insured Unemployment For Week Ended August 16
INSURED UNEMPLOYMENT

STATE	CHANGE FROM					STATE	RATE (%) ²	CHANGE FROM				ALL PROGRAMS EXCLUDING RAILROAD RETIREMENT
	STATE	LAST WEEK	YEAR AGO	UCFE ¹	UCX ¹			LAST WEEK	YEAR AGO	UCFE ¹	UCX ¹	
Alabama	3170	-689	-638	13	35	26919	1.5	-1568	-6887	100	261	27280
Alaska	1135	33	-85	5	4	9604	3.1	279	-1033	108	87	9799
Arizona	4296	-85	-375	9	4	41987	1.7	-1507	-4104	172	312	42483
Arkansas	2358	36	-672	6	11	21965	2.0	-845	-5746	90	250	22305
California	47139	867	-1307	244	320	405581	2.7	6210	-53271	2602	4596	412779
Colorado	2182	110	-486	9	59	29401	1.3	-825	-7063	217	867	30485
Connecticut	3153	-406	-717	6	21	50261	3.1	180	-5224	86	222	50569
Delaware	584	-76	-173	2	7	7722	1.9	-146	-1069	31	64	7817
District of Columbia	361	-21	-67	4	2	10831	2.1	-325	-1275	363	15	11209
Florida	13139	-133	730	33	105	96339	1.3	503	-20838	507	825	97671
Georgia	7229	-1369	-1749	118	82	45739	1.2	-2854	-13276	361	909	47009
Hawaii	1607	29	-64	8	31	9750	1.7	4	-1449	123	249	10122
Idaho	1179	78	-168	7	12	8285	1.3	-49	-1862	33	57	8375
Illinois	9477	613	-2114	17	44	123151	2.2	-4064	-25104	452	673	124276
Indiana	3775	-80	-978	17	23	26336	0.9	-507	-14232	204	204	26744
Iowa	1895	-1016	-451	8	7	19084	1.3	256	-1111	65	134	19283
Kansas	1773	15	-580	5	10	15467	1.2	-1180	-6498	118	204	15789
Kentucky	2853	210	-582	66	16	24606	1.4	-155	-6463	260	513	25379
Louisiana	2268	-74	-237	7	11	22027	1.2	-366	-3920	86	110	22223
Maine	809	-60	-167	1	0	7527	1.3	-309	-1465	28	48	7603
Maryland	3922	52	-918	22	34	51478	2.2	-757	-1255	539	390	52407
Massachusetts	5751	-1283	585	70	39	82334	2.5	1772	4976	351	489	83174
Michigan	9351	1845	1122	11	43	66585	1.7	2020	-5761	161	404	67150
Minnesota	2968	147	-241	7	12	32792	1.2	-893	-5813	93	233	33118
Mississippi	1815	11	-959	10	17	20293	1.9	-1550	-5551	119	161	20573
Missouri	4590	212	-1178	183	41	36838	1.4	-2573	-9487	833	259	37930
Montana	725	33	-79	6	7	5941	1.4	-205	-2156	62	65	6068
Nebraska	904	-42	-284	2	4	6737	0.7	-584	-1936	23	38	6798
Nevada	2897	-103	-511	3	24	28074	2.5	-953	-2330	96	256	28426
New Hampshire	892	-509	82	1	2	7473	1.2	236	-438	14	24	7511
New Jersey	8547	71	-231	19	32	125903	3.3	897	-6674	268	554	126725
New Mexico	1000	64	-232	13	16	13811	1.8	-746	-2493	122	142	14075
New York	19716	2560	-2912	103	80	186333	2.2	919	-43845	934	1149	188416
North Carolina	4656	24	-1553	11	55	50891	1.3	-1176	-30570	199	760	51850
North Dakota	186	-15	-45	0	2	1744	0.4	-139	-489	116	13	1873
Ohio	6803	-61	-1968	12	67	61915	1.2	-1459	-12179	254	587	62756
Oklahoma	1452	27	-405	9	30	16017	1.1	-295	-3833	72	184	16273
Oregon	4344	-91	-387	14	39	32826	2.0	-543	-8237	248	368	33442
Pennsylvania	14699	-1031	-2625	160	132	153470	2.8	3412	-22750	619	910	154999
Puerto Rico	2336	-115	-200	2	13	36204	4.0	-1756	-5569	228	319	36751
Rhode Island	965	98	-248	1	4	11933	2.7	484	-760	50	52	12035
South Carolina	3125	-388	-1564	9	33	20734	1.1	-157	-10058	67	246	21047
South Dakota	196	-7	-41	2	1	1300	0.3	-29	-356	161	13	1474
Tennessee	3595	127	-678	69	31	31177	1.2	-598	-8163	249	300	31726
Texas	14166	308	-1306	138	214	152401	1.4	5206	-15040	1278	3444	157126
Utah	1232	-1	-304	36	8	10374	0.9	-429	-2218	233	97	10704
Vermont	350	-20	-116	1	0	4244	1.4	142	-508	14	21	4279
Virgin Islands	63	37	6	0	2	816	2.2	30	-294	0	12	828
Virginia	3887	-268	-304	11	48	34627	1.0	-966	-6878	395	894	35916
Washington	6061	-386	-544	24	117	48635	1.7	-910	-9807	371	1290	50296
West Virginia	1008	-14	-302	3	8	12614	1.9	-1277	-1841	75	86	12775
Wisconsin	6020	139	-1479	9	15	49694	1.8	-873	-13201	117	189	50000
Wyoming	283	21	-217	2	4	2835	1.0	249	-965	34	35	2904
Totals	248887	-576	-30916	1548	1978	2401625	1.8	-10769	-418369	14401	24584	2440625

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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