



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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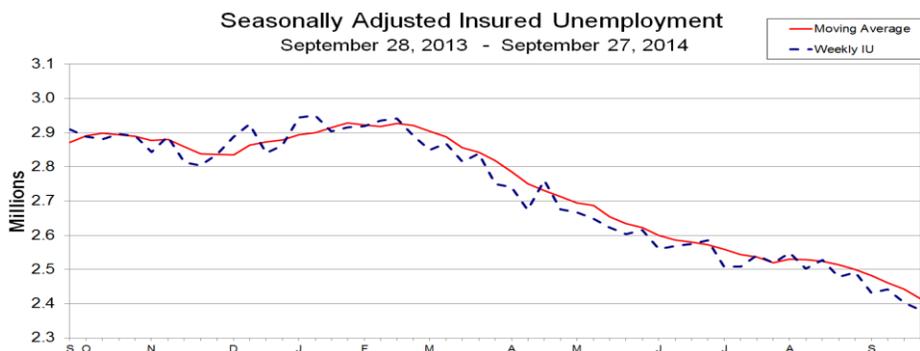
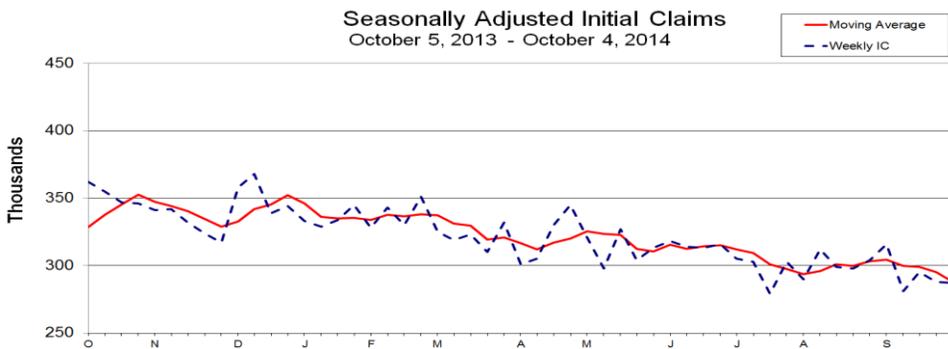
UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE WEEKLY CLAIMS

SEASONALLY ADJUSTED DATA

In the week ending October 4, the advance figure for seasonally adjusted **initial claims** was 287,000, a decrease of 1,000 from the previous week's revised level. The previous week's level was revised up by 1,000 from 287,000 to 288,000. The 4-week moving average was 287,750, a decrease of 7,250 from the previous week's revised average. This is the lowest level for this average since February 4, 2006 when it was 286,500. The previous week's average was revised up by 250 from 294,750 to 295,000.

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

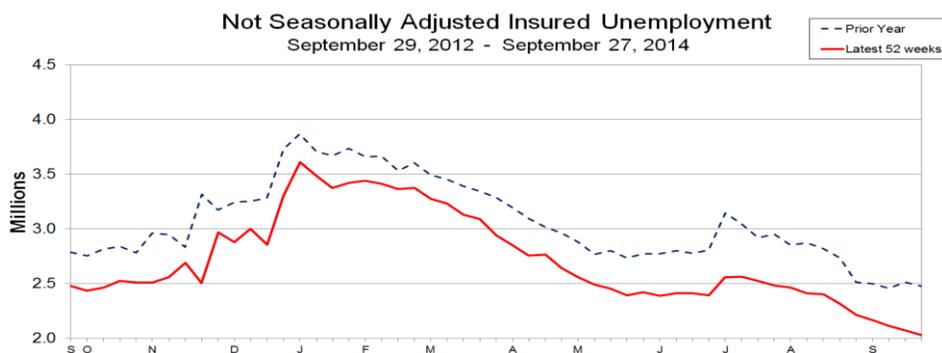
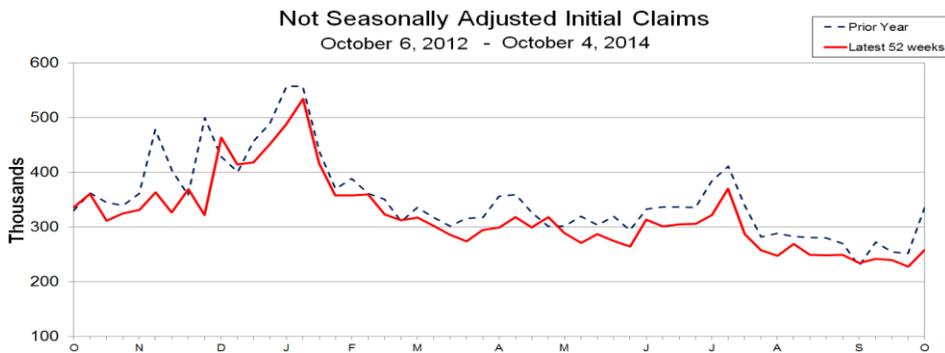
The advance seasonally adjusted **insured unemployment rate** was 1.8 percent for the week ending September 27, unchanged from the previous week's unrevised rate. The advance number for seasonally adjusted **insured unemployment** during the week ending September 27 was 2,381,000, a decrease of 21,000 from the previous week's revised level. This is the lowest level for insured unemployment since May 27, 2006 when it was 2,381,000. The previous week's level was revised up 4,000 from 2,398,000 to 2,402,000. The 4-week moving average was 2,414,250, a decrease of 27,750 from the previous week's revised average. This is the lowest level for this average since July 1, 2006 when it was 2,406,250. The previous week's average was revised up by 750 from 2,441,250 to 2,442,000.



UNADJUSTED DATA

The advance number of actual initial claims under state programs, unadjusted, totaled 257,736 in the week ending October 4, an increase of 30,056 (or 13.2 percent) from the previous week. The seasonal factors had expected an increase of 30,838 (or 13.5 percent) from the previous week. There were 335,937 initial claims in the comparable week in 2013.

The advance unadjusted insured unemployment rate was 1.5 percent during the week ending September 27, a decrease of 0.1 percentage point from the prior week. The advance unadjusted number for persons claiming UI benefits in state programs totaled 2,031,232, a decrease of 39,590 (or -1.9 percent) from the preceding week. The seasonal factors had expected a decrease of 21,621 (or -1.0 percent) from the previous week. A year earlier the rate was 1.9 percent and the volume was 2,476,262.



The total number of people claiming benefits in all programs for the week ending September 20 was 2,127,499, a decrease of 44,363 from the previous week. There were 4,010,587 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 September 20.

Initial claims for UI benefits filed by former Federal civilian employees totaled 1,080 in the week ending September 27, an increase of 48 from the prior week. There were 1,634 initial claims filed by newly discharged veterans, a decrease of 245 from the preceding week.

There were 15,923 former Federal civilian employees claiming UI benefits for the week ending September 20, a decrease of 70 from the previous week. Newly discharged veterans claiming benefits totaled 24,469, a decrease of 471 from the prior week.

The highest insured unemployment rates in the week ending September 20 were in Puerto Rico (3.5), Alaska (2.9), New Jersey (2.7), Virgin Islands (2.7), California (2.4), Connecticut (2.4), Nevada (2.3), Pennsylvania (2.2), Massachusetts (2.0), Illinois (1.9), Maryland (1.9), and Rhode Island (1.9).

The largest increases in initial claims for the week ending September 27 were in New Jersey (+615), Indiana (+482), Washington (+345), Idaho (+340), and Georgia (+148), while the largest decreases were in California (-7,715), Michigan (-2,082), New York (-719), Texas (-635), and Florida (-517).

UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE DATA FOR REGULAR STATE PROGRAMS

WEEK ENDING	October 4	September 27	Change	September 20	<u>Prior Year</u>¹
Initial Claims (SA)	287,000	288,000	-1,000	295,000	362,000
Initial Claims (NSA)	257,736	227,680	+30,056	239,791	335,937
4-Wk Moving Average (SA)	287,750	295,000	-7,250	299,000	328,500
WEEK ENDING	September 27	September 20	Change	September 13	<u>Prior Year</u>¹
Insured Unemployment (SA)	2,381,000	2,402,000	-21,000	2,442,000	2,910,000
Insured Unemployment (NSA)	2,031,232	2,070,822	-39,590	2,115,116	2,476,262
4-Wk Moving Average (SA)	2,414,250	2,442,000	-27,750	2,461,000	2,871,250
<u>Insured Unemployment Rate (SA)</u>²	1.8%	1.8%	0.0	1.8%	2.2%
<u>Insured Unemployment Rate (NSA)</u>²	1.5%	1.6%	-0.1	1.6%	1.9%

INITIAL CLAIMS FILED IN FEDERAL PROGRAMS (UNADJUSTED)

WEEK ENDING	September 27	September 20	Change	<u>Prior Year</u>¹
Federal Employees (UCFE)	1,080	1,032	+48	1,415
Newly Discharged Veterans (UCX)	1,634	1,879	-245	2,098

PERSONS CLAIMING UI BENEFITS IN ALL PROGRAMS (UNADJUSTED)

WEEK ENDING	September 20	September 13	Change	<u>Prior Year</u>¹
Regular State	2,066,592	2,111,174	-44,582	2,508,017
Federal Employees	15,923	15,993	-70	19,905
Newly Discharged Veterans	24,469	24,940	-471	31,626
<u>Extended Benefits</u>³	3	7	-4	262
<u>State Additional Benefits</u>⁴	5,213	5,242	-29	4,880
<u>STC / Workshare</u>⁵	15,299	14,506	+793	20,413
<u>TOTAL</u>⁶	2,127,499	2,171,862	-44,363	4,010,587

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 SEPTEMBER 27, 2014

STATES WITH A DECREASE OF MORE THAN 1,000

State	Change	State Supplied Comment
CA	-7,715	No comment.
MI	-2,082	No comment.

STATES WITH AN INCREASE OF MORE THAN 1,000

State	Change	State Supplied Comment
None		

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	
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	2478	-50	2514.25	1.9
August 30, 2014	304	6	303.25	2492	14	2500.00	1.9
September 6, 2014	316	12	304.25	2432	-60	2482.50	1.8
September 13, 2014	281	-35	299.75	2442	10	2461.00	1.8
September 20, 2014	295	14	299.00	2402	-40	2442.00	1.8
September 27, 2014	288	-7	295.00	2381	-21	2414.25	1.8
October 4, 2014	287	-1	287.75				

Initial Claims Filed During Week Ended September 27
INITIAL CLAIMS

Insured Unemployment For Week Ended September 20
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	2972	-135	-369	10	23	24197	1.4	-423	-6444	107	246	24550
Alaska	1291	54	-437	12	4	9040	2.9	-132	-1639	134	81	9255
Arizona	4395	11	-200	16	4	36500	1.5	-792	-3977	147	283	36930
Arkansas	2096	-127	-480	7	10	19938	1.8	-162	-5149	103	228	20269
California	44118	-7715	6170	203	231	370329	2.4	-16283	-70882	2510	4600	377439
Colorado	2134	-71	-744	15	55	26849	1.2	206	-7261	284	870	28003
Connecticut	2826	23	-173	9	19	38552	2.4	-426	-5485	69	249	38870
Delaware	629	-430	-103	1	4	5898	1.4	354	-1180	26	69	5994
District of Columbia	308	-24	-174	10	2	9518	1.8	-191	-1899	351	15	9884
Florida	12637	-517	694	27	118	88317	1.2	155	-21718	501	768	89586
Georgia	6558	148	-495	23	68	41918	1.1	-47	-11585	662	868	43448
Hawaii	1338	-87	-159	3	28	8813	1.5	35	-2215	94	261	9168
Idaho	1312	340	95	1	6	7037	1.1	-84	-921	25	66	7128
Illinois	8372	-423	-2684	10	26	107396	1.9	-2458	-28095	390	676	108462
Indiana	3761	482	-1160	12	20	23298	0.8	-417	-15817	201	231	23730
Iowa	1893	-1	-194	1	8	15411	1.0	-376	-2340	65	127	15603
Kansas	1756	-49	-550	5	7	14328	1.1	61	-4872	102	198	14628
Kentucky	2747	-186	-1066	49	9	21205	1.2	-1069	-8064	334	445	21984
Louisiana	1887	-181	-420	8	14	19586	1.1	-467	-3965	82	97	19765
Maine	736	-115	-257	1	0	6346	1.1	-128	-1692	28	49	6423
Maryland	3701	88	-845	26	26	44214	1.9	-488	-5066	519	418	45151
Massachusetts	5208	2	448	21	28	65660	2.0	-488	2493	547	487	66694
Michigan	6019	-2082	746	16	30	61410	1.5	6435	4443	146	431	61987
Minnesota	2823	-50	-565	9	10	28894	1.1	-696	-5192	74	233	29201
Mississippi	1658	-67	-350	6	9	15796	1.5	-261	-4786	131	182	16109
Missouri	4347	-116	-1325	64	34	31831	1.2	-1424	-7622	1179	234	33244
Montana	836	73	-269	8	9	4948	1.2	-129	-1682	51	78	5077
Nebraska	896	70	-202	2	7	5971	0.7	-66	-1620	26	32	6029
Nevada	3102	111	-435	6	5	26338	2.3	-6	4	86	234	26658
New Hampshire	638	22	-85	2	3	5338	0.9	1	-1049	10	23	5371
New Jersey	9170	615	563	21	18	101933	2.7	-3708	-14167	317	584	102834
New Mexico	905	0	-79	44	11	12631	1.7	-169	-2221	136	147	12914
New York	15191	-719	-1719	45	69	152449	1.8	-3581	-41532	1164	1145	154758
North Carolina	4614	-95	-1334	13	60	44533	1.1	-1161	-28223	200	756	45489
North Dakota	168	-13	-35	1	0	1118	0.3	-87	-288	15	15	1148
Ohio	6064	19	-2245	21	55	52489	1.0	-1223	-12461	261	701	53451
Oklahoma	1617	127	-52	9	26	15032	1.0	0	-3685	58	193	15283
Oregon	4477	-117	-1861	26	40	29719	1.8	-514	-6506	197	385	30301
Pennsylvania	13245	70	-3753	80	70	118713	2.2	-4322	-25653	1091	947	120751
Puerto Rico	1618	-222	-1011	4	8	32151	3.5	-1472	-4383	176	326	32653
Rhode Island	960	-68	-84	6	2	8267	1.9	-134	-1116	47	79	8393
South Carolina	2848	-56	-619	7	27	17635	1.0	-184	-8977	55	244	17934
South Dakota	179	-12	-55	6	4	1050	0.3	-32	-272	19	11	1080
Tennessee	3140	-335	-601	16	28	28534	1.1	-246	-6975	430	318	29282
Texas	12506	-635	-2275	59	212	130002	1.2	-5785	-26250	1550	3145	134699
Utah	1108	23	-251	89	9	9164	0.8	-218	-2761	253	89	9506
Vermont	360	-50	-48	2	3	3159	1.1	-60	-414	11	16	3186
Virgin Islands	69	4	0	0	0	1002	2.7	108	-236	0	14	1016
Virginia	3428	-95	-939	15	47	30973	0.9	-311	-6806	376	973	32322
Washington	6613	345	-201	26	104	44367	1.5	-92	-6982	353	1327	46047
West Virginia	865	30	-293	0	8	11039	1.6	-220	-2072	67	98	11204
Wisconsin	5253	-18	-1942	4	12	37741	1.4	-963	-14475	122	143	38006
Wyoming	288	43	-94	3	4	2245	0.8	-154	-1205	41	34	2320
Totals	227680	-12111	-24516	1080	1634	2070822	1.6	-44294	-442937	15923	24469	2111217

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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