



# News Release

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U.S. Department of Labor  
Employment and Training Administration  
Washington, D.C. 20210  
Release Number: USDL 14-2123-NAT

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**8:30 A.M. (Eastern) Thursday, November 20, 2014**

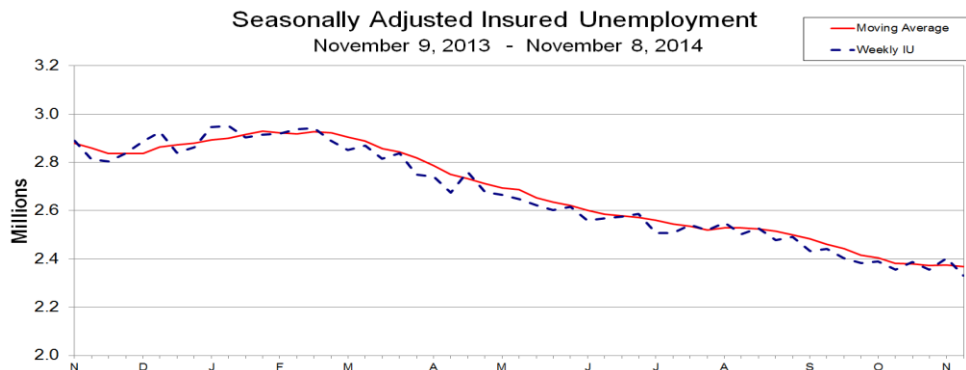
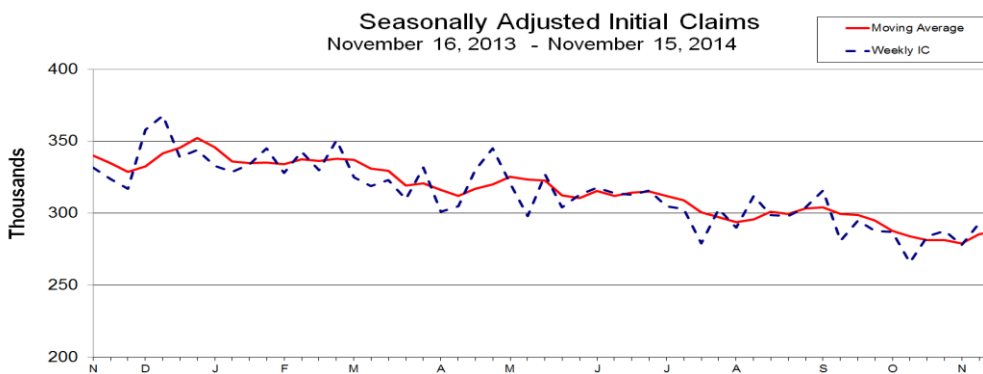
## UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE WEEKLY CLAIMS

### SEASONALLY ADJUSTED DATA

In the week ending November 15, the advance figure for seasonally adjusted **initial claims** was 291,000, a decrease of 2,000 from the previous week's revised level. The previous week's level was revised up by 3,000 from 290,000 to 293,000. The 4-week moving average was 287,500, an increase of 1,750 from the previous week's revised average. The previous week's average was revised up by 750 from 285,000 to 285,750.

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

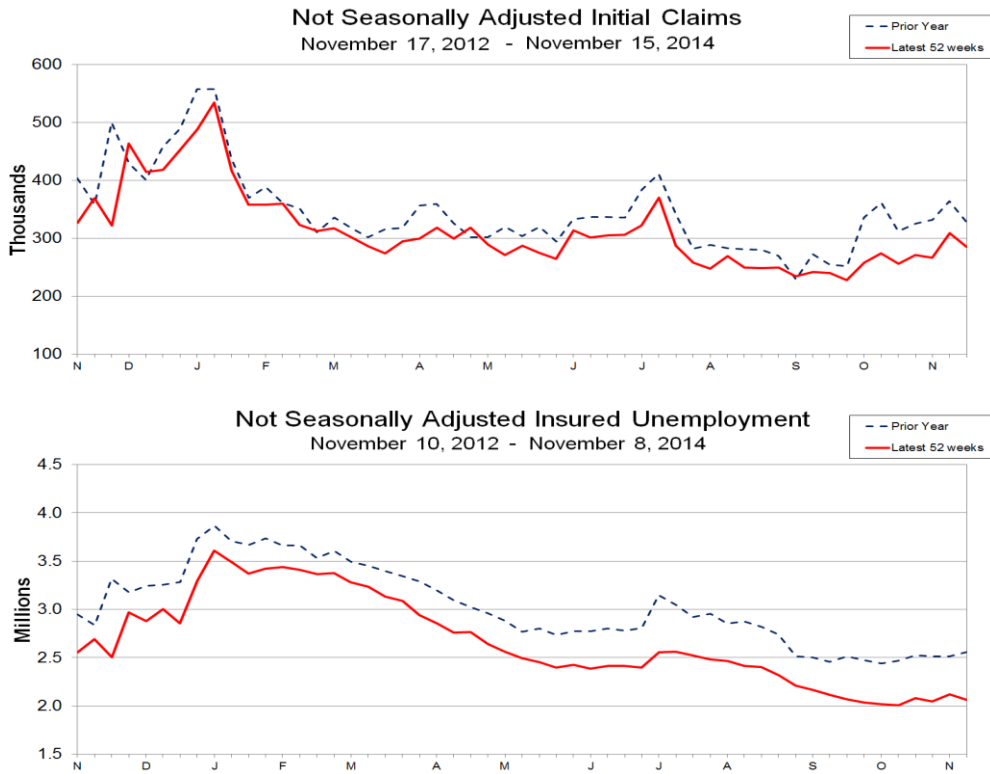
The advance seasonally adjusted **insured unemployment rate** was 1.8 percent for the week ending November 8, unchanged from the previous week's unrevised rate. The advance number for seasonally adjusted **insured unemployment** during the week ending November 8 was 2,330,000, a decrease of 73,000 from the previous week's revised level. This is the lowest level for insured unemployment since December 16, 2000 when it was 2,322,000. The previous week's level was revised up 11,000 from 2,392,000 to 2,403,000. The 4-week moving average was 2,369,000, a decrease of 6,250 from the previous week's revised average. This is the lowest level for this average since January 13, 2001 when it was 2,360,500. The previous week's average was revised up by 2,750 from 2,372,500 to 2,375,250.



## UNADJUSTED DATA

The advance number of actual initial claims under state programs, unadjusted, totaled 285,263 in the week ending November 15, a decrease of 24,075 (or -7.8 percent) from the previous week. The seasonal factors had expected a decrease of 22,827 (or -7.4 percent) from the previous week. There were 327,053 initial claims in the comparable week in 2013.

The advance unadjusted insured unemployment rate was 1.6 percent during the week ending November 8, unchanged from the prior week. The advance unadjusted number for persons claiming UI benefits in state programs totaled 2,064,638, a decrease of 52,002 (or -2.5 percent) from the preceding week. The seasonal factors had expected an increase of 12,013 (or 0.6 percent) from the previous week. A year earlier the rate was 2.0 percent and the volume was 2,556,519.



The total number of people claiming benefits in all programs for the week ending November 1 was 2,183,590, an increase of 81,659 from the previous week. There were 3,882,383 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 1.

Initial claims for UI benefits filed by former Federal civilian employees totaled 1,669 in the week ending November 8, an increase of 343 from the prior week. There were 1,933 initial claims filed by newly discharged veterans, an increase of 156 from the preceding week.

There were 16,473 former Federal civilian employees claiming UI benefits for the week ending November 1, an increase of 789 from the previous week. Newly discharged veterans claiming benefits totaled 34,559, an increase of 8,847 from the prior week.

The highest insured unemployment rates in the week ending November 1 were in Alaska (3.6), Puerto Rico (3.4), New Jersey (2.7), California (2.5), Connecticut (2.4), the Virgin Islands (2.3), Nevada (2.2), Pennsylvania (2.2), Massachusetts (2.1), and Oregon (2.0).

The largest increases in initial claims for the week ending November 8 were in California (+9,512), Pennsylvania (+2,697), Illinois (+2,624), New Jersey (+2,538), and Texas (+2,386), while the largest decreases were in Mississippi (-150), Rhode Island (-106), and Vermont (-89).

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UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE DATA FOR REGULAR STATE PROGRAMS

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<b>WEEK ENDING</b>	<b>November 15</b>	<b>November 8</b>	<b>Change</b>	<b>November 1</b>	<b><u>Prior Year</u><sup>1</sup></b>
Initial Claims (SA)	291,000	293,000	-2,000	278,000	332,000
Initial Claims (NSA)	285,263	309,338	-24,075	266,921	327,053
4-Wk Moving Average (SA)	287,500	285,750	+1,750	279,000	340,250
<b>WEEK ENDING</b>	<b>November 8</b>	<b>November 1</b>	<b>Change</b>	<b>October 25</b>	<b><u>Prior Year</u><sup>1</sup></b>
Insured Unemployment (SA)	2,330,000	2,403,000	-73,000	2,356,000	2,889,000
Insured Unemployment (NSA)	2,064,638	2,116,640	-52,002	2,045,437	2,556,519
4-Wk Moving Average (SA)	2,369,000	2,375,250	-6,250	2,371,750	2,879,500
<u>Insured Unemployment Rate (SA)</u> <sup>2</sup>	1.8%	1.8%	0.0	1.8%	2.2%
<u>Insured Unemployment Rate (NSA)</u> <sup>2</sup>	1.6%	1.6%	0.0	1.5%	2.0%

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INITIAL CLAIMS FILED IN FEDERAL PROGRAMS (UNADJUSTED)

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<b>WEEK ENDING</b>	<b>November 8</b>	<b>November 1</b>	<b>Change</b>	<b><u>Prior Year</u><sup>1</sup></b>
Federal Employees (UCFE)	1,669	1,326	+343	2,153
Newly Discharged Veterans (UCX)	1,933	1,777	+156	2,439

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PERSONS CLAIMING UI BENEFITS IN ALL PROGRAMS (UNADJUSTED)

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<b>WEEK ENDING</b>	<b>November 1</b>	<b>October 25</b>	<b>Change</b>	<b><u>Prior Year</u><sup>1</sup></b>
Regular State	2,112,743	2,041,796	+70,947	2,504,379
Federal Employees	16,473	15,684	+789	19,986
Newly Discharged Veterans	34,559	25,712	+8,847	30,898
<u>Extended Benefits</u> <sup>3</sup>	16	20	-4	158
<u>State Additional Benefits</u> <sup>4</sup>	5,467	5,370	+97	4,597
<u>STC / Workshare</u> <sup>5</sup>	14,332	13,349	+983	20,803
<u>TOTAL</u> <sup>6</sup>	2,183,590	2,101,931	+81,659	3,882,383

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.

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**UNADJUSTED INITIAL CLAIMS FOR WEEK ENDED NOVEMBER 8, 2014**

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

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<b>State</b>	<b>Change</b>	<b>State Supplied Comment</b>
None		

**STATES WITH AN INCREASE OF MORE THAN 1,000**

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<b>State</b>	<b>Change</b>	<b>State Supplied Comment</b>
CA	+9,512	Layoffs in the service industry.
PA	+2,697	Layoffs in the construction, administrative and support and waste management and remediation services, and arts, entertainment and recreation industries.
IL	+2,624	Layoffs in the construction, administrative and support and waste management and remediation service, wholesale trade, and retail trade industries.
NJ	+2,538	Layoffs in the educational service, transportation and warehousing, and accommodation and food service industries.
TX	+2,386	Layoffs in the manufacturing, support service, finance and insurance, and health care and social assistance industries.
MI	+1,966	Layoffs in the wholesale trade industry.
MA	+1,697	Layoffs in the accommodation and food service, arts, entertainment and recreation, manufacturing, and professional, scientific, and technical service industries.
MN	+1,549	No comment.
TN	+1,306	Layoffs in the administrative and support and waste management and remediation service, manufacturing, accommodation and food service, and construction industries.
MO	+1,305	Layoffs in the construction, manufacturing, and accommodation and food service industries.
GA	+1,161	Layoffs in the manufacturing, administrative and support and waste management and remediation service, trade, health care and social assistance industries.
WI	+1,030	No comment.

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## 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 9, 2013	342	1	344.00	2,889	46	2,879.50	2.2
November 16, 2013	332	-10	340.25	2,813	-76	2,858.75	2.2
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	2,330	-73	2,369.00	1.8
November 15, 2014	291	-2	287.50				

Initial Claims Filed During Week Ended November 8 INITIAL CLAIMS							Insured Unemployment For Week Ended November 1 INSURED UNEMPLOYMENT					
STATE	STATE	CHANGE FROM		UCFE 1	UCX 1	STATE	%	CHANGE FROM		UCFE 1	UCX 1	ALL PROGRAMS EXCLUDING RAILROAD RETIREMENT
		LAST WEEK	YEAR AGO					LAST WEEK	YEAR AGO			
Alabama	3591	158	-604	19	41	23772	1.3	78	-6852	115	269	24156
Alaska	1992	382	-152	19	2	11320	3.6	1338	-3887	226	82	11628
Arizona	4494	465	-383	36	10	32157	1.3	-1234	-5131	216	281	32654
Arkansas	3456	111	-563	15	15	20626	1.8	1030	-6134	128	278	21032
California	58026	9512	-10133	414	254	386772	2.5	33996	1814	2743	5124	394641
Colorado	3156	457	-715	51	60	28440	1.2	1714	-7627	354	912	29706
Connecticut	3951	826	-65	3	12	38518	2.4	94	-5829	95	241	38854
Delaware	850	36	-151	2	2	6270	1.5	-145	-1289	31	69	6370
District of Columbia	414	46	-21	6	3	9459	1.8	121	-2599	371	24	9854
Florida	11878	266	-4502	32	118	78311	1.1	-580	-24635	432	771	79514
Georgia	8159	1161	-1188	24	78	40429	1.1	163	-13970	539	872	41840
Hawaii	1454	66	-264	7	26	8729	1.5	43	-2242	114	306	9149
Idaho	2197	718	356	19	10	7858	1.3	1136	-2054	95	67	8020
Illinois	12895	2624	-1236	20	39	107248	1.9	2710	-28274	393	650	108291
Indiana	4615	394	-1267	10	25	24368	0.9	646	-14479	213	205	24786
Iowa	2713	292	-621	6	18	17010	1.1	-49	-945	50	132	17192
Kansas	2183	221	-636	4	5	13615	1.0	1	-5909	114	204	13933
Kentucky	3392	184	-513	33	13	21113	1.2	131	-6816	279	458	21851
Louisiana	2352	174	-355	4	17	19067	1.0	-123	-3419	70	121	19258
Maine	1708	162	-451	3	3	7528	1.3	522	-2375	31	52	7611
Maryland	4770	466	-1203	26	44	44946	1.9	497	-6129	515	444	45905
Massachusetts	7873	1697	393	21	42	68149	2.1	469	2822	389	574	69112
Michigan	11319	1966	-3414	50	53	62749	1.6	9055	-5843	220	461	63430
Minnesota	5428	1549	-761	17	19	32698	1.2	2380	-6460	125	260	33083
Mississippi	1891	-150	-498	10	7	14147	1.3	-126	-5690	131	170	14448
Missouri	6091	1305	-1077	56	25	32468	1.3	347	-9682	941	207	33616
Montana	1697	350	-189	4	6	6993	1.6	661	-2009	219	63	7275
Nebraska	1219	183	-317	4	6	6499	0.7	81	-1453	41	34	6574
Nevada	3685	753	-1714	20	6	25889	2.2	30	-718	160	247	26296
New Hampshire	923	76	-185	1	0	5670	0.9	101	-989	8	25	5703
New Jersey	12694	2538	-284	21	30	103154	2.7	-949	-7264	302	661	104117
New Mexico	1396	98	-148	25	11	12694	1.7	291	-2252	265	168	13127
New York	19092	796	-4024	45	100	165507	1.9	6534	-33897	1040	1335	167882
North Carolina	5702	817	-1413	14	46	41189	1.1	-1472	-29844	221	750	42160
North Dakota	490	223	41	8	3	1320	0.3	81	-301	18	11	1349
Ohio	8814	177	-2744	24	39	57750	1.1	1727	-12415	241	697	58688
Oklahoma	1638	7	-402	13	37	14708	1.0	93	-3920	67	231	15006
Oregon	6339	953	91	124	43	33655	2.0	778	-6628	400	364	34419
Pennsylvania	19655	2697	-3377	107	80	120019	2.2	2893	-29259	1156	9710	130896
Puerto Rico	2049	49	-494	1	9	30712	3.4	-926	-6302	158	338	31208
Rhode Island	925	-106	-504	5	6	8017	1.8	-110	-1758	49	74	8140
South Carolina	3636	788	-1755	9	36	17162	0.9	393	-9277	64	287	17513
South Dakota	411	115	17	11	3	1240	0.3	41	-214	16	9	1265
Tennessee	4496	1306	-543	20	28	26479	1.0	440	-6348	280	298	27057
Texas	16440	2386	-1965	69	275	125826	1.2	-177	-24077	1348	3284	130460
Utah	1858	380	-485	67	10	9550	0.8	333	-3460	264	96	9910
Vermont	833	-89	-31	1	1	4173	1.4	531	-215	22	22	4217
Virgin Islands	42	21	15	1	0	860	2.3	-286	-612	0	12	872
Virginia	4326	627	-1361	29	39	30647	0.9	62	-7344	387	966	32000
Washington	9586	849	-818	93	143	52601	1.8	3236	-9780	510	1353	54464
West Virginia	1459	275	-296	3	12	11848	1.7	248	-2896	76	98	12022
Wisconsin	8567	1030	-1748	24	18	41421	1.5	1763	-15771	144	153	41718
Wyoming	518	30	-172	19	5	3290	1.2	592	-1341	87	39	3416
Totals	309338	42417	-54829	1669	1933	2116640	1.6	71203	-393978	16473	34559	2167688

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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