



News Release

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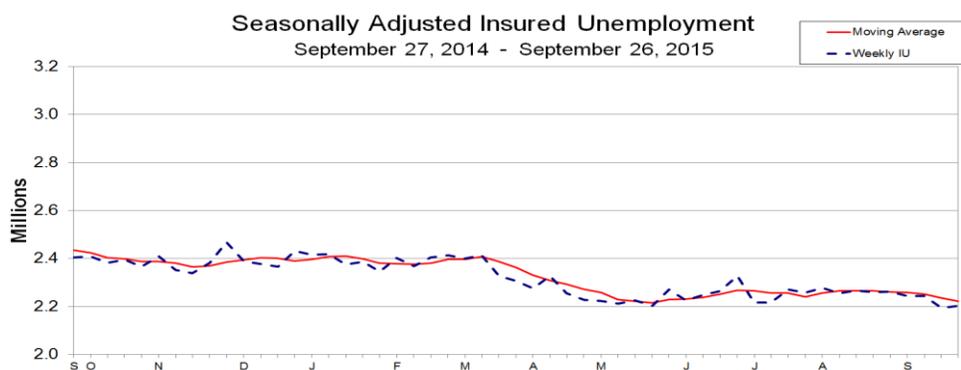
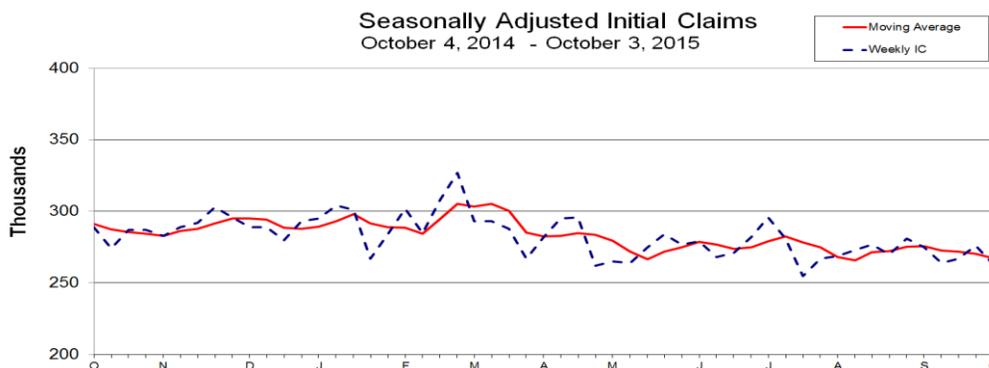
UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE WEEKLY CLAIMS

SEASONALLY ADJUSTED DATA

In the week ending October 3, the advance figure for seasonally adjusted **initial claims** was 263,000, a decrease of 13,000 from the previous week's revised level. The previous week's level was revised down by 1,000 from 277,000 to 276,000. The 4-week moving average was 267,500, a decrease of 3,000 from the previous week's revised average. The previous week's average was revised down by 250 from 270,750 to 270,500.

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

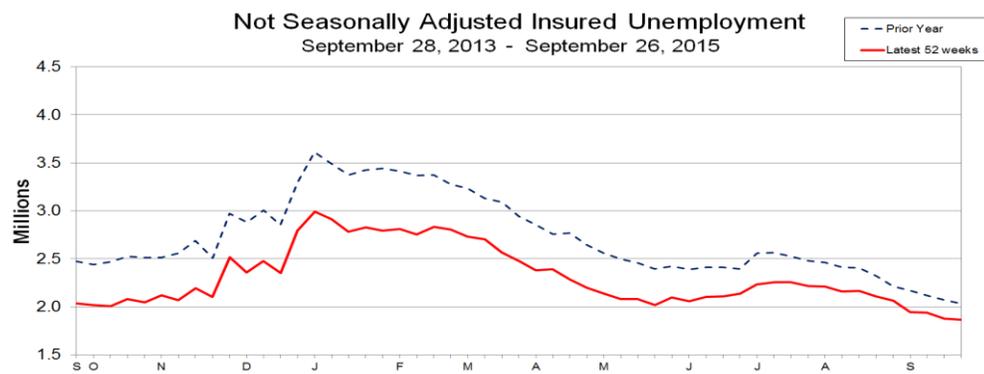
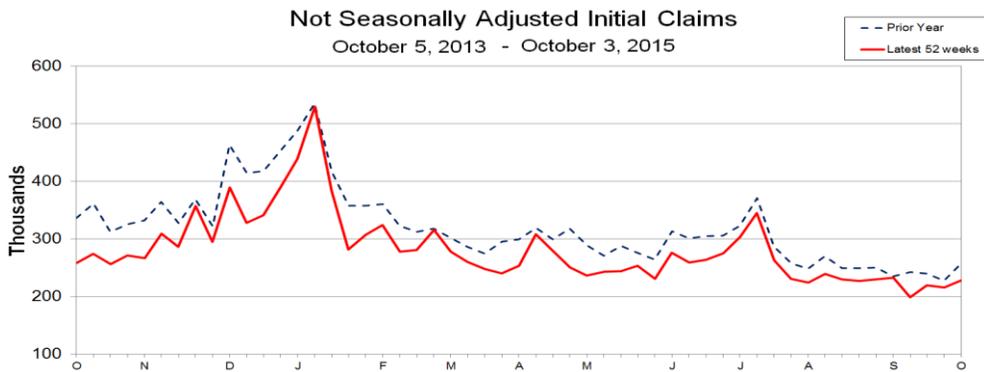
The advance seasonally adjusted **insured unemployment rate** was 1.6 percent for the week ending September 26, unchanged from the previous week's unrevised rate. The advance number for seasonally adjusted **insured unemployment** during the week ending September 26 was 2,204,000, an increase of 9,000 from the previous week's revised level. The previous week's level was revised up 4,000 from 2,191,000 to 2,195,000. The 4-week moving average was 2,221,500, a decrease of 14,750 from the previous week's revised average. The previous week's average was revised up by 1,000 from 2,235,250 to 2,236,250.



UNADJUSTED DATA

The advance number of actual initial claims under state programs, unadjusted, totaled 227,659 in the week ending October 3, an increase of 12,543 (or 5.8 percent) from the previous week. The seasonal factors had expected an increase of 24,608 (or 11.4 percent) from the previous week. There were 257,545 initial claims in the comparable week in 2014.

The advance unadjusted insured unemployment rate was 1.4 percent during the week ending September 26, unchanged from the prior week. The advance unadjusted number for persons claiming UI benefits in state programs totaled 1,866,956, a decrease of 10,002 (or -0.5 percent) from the preceding week. The seasonal factors had expected a decrease of 17,562 (or -0.9 percent) from the previous week. A year earlier the rate was 1.5 percent and the volume was 2,031,751.



The total number of people claiming benefits in all programs for the week ending September 19 was 1,923,735, a decrease of 61,340 from the previous week. There were 2,126,874 persons claiming benefits in all programs in the comparable week in 2014.

No state was triggered "on" the Extended Benefits program during the week ending September 19.

Initial claims for UI benefits filed by former Federal civilian employees totaled 941 in the week ending September 26, an increase of 74 from the prior week. There were 1,264 initial claims filed by newly discharged veterans, a decrease of 83 from the preceding week.

There were 11,525 former Federal civilian employees claiming UI benefits for the week ending September 19, an increase of 462 from the previous week. Newly discharged veterans claiming benefits totaled 17,771, a decrease of 20 from the prior week.

The highest insured unemployment rates in the week ending September 19 were in Puerto Rico (3.2), the Virgin Islands (3.0), Alaska (2.3), New Jersey (2.3), California (2.2), Nevada (2.2), Connecticut (2.0), Pennsylvania (2.0), West Virginia (1.8), Illinois (1.7), and Massachusetts.

The largest increases in initial claims for the week ending September 26 were in Michigan (+2,837), Illinois (+871), New York (+708), New Jersey (+558), and Puerto Rico (+194), while the largest decreases were in Kansas (-2,588), Georgia (-868), South Carolina (-789), Missouri (-524), and Texas (-501).

UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE DATA FOR REGULAR STATE PROGRAMS

WEEK ENDING	October 3	September 26	Change	September 19	<u>Prior Year</u>¹
Initial Claims (SA)	263,000	276,000	-13,000	267,000	289,000
Initial Claims (NSA)	227,659	215,116	+12,543	219,342	257,545
4-Wk Moving Average (SA)	267,500	270,500	-3,000	271,750	291,250
WEEK ENDING	September 26	September 19	Change	September 12	<u>Prior Year</u>¹
Insured Unemployment (SA)	2,204,000	2,195,000	+9,000	2,244,000	2,404,000
Insured Unemployment (NSA)	1,866,956	1,876,958	-10,002	1,938,892	2,031,751
4-Wk Moving Average (SA)	2,221,500	2,236,250	-14,750	2,252,250	2,434,250
<u>Insured Unemployment Rate (SA)</u>²	1.6%	1.6%	0.0	1.7%	1.8%
<u>Insured Unemployment Rate (NSA)</u>²	1.4%	1.4%	0.0	1.4%	1.5%

INITIAL CLAIMS FILED IN FEDERAL PROGRAMS (UNADJUSTED)

WEEK ENDING	September 26	September 19	Change	<u>Prior Year</u>¹
Federal Employees (UCFE)	941	867	+74	1,085
Newly Discharged Veterans (UCX)	1,264	1,347	-83	1,635

PERSONS CLAIMING UI BENEFITS IN ALL PROGRAMS (UNADJUSTED)

WEEK ENDING	September 19	September 12	Change	<u>Prior Year</u>¹
Regular State	1,872,468	1,934,225	-61,757	2,065,998
Federal Employees	11,525	11,063	+462	15,926
Newly Discharged Veterans	17,771	17,791	-20	24,436
<u>Extended Benefits</u>³	0	0	0	3
<u>State Additional Benefits</u>⁴	6,997	7,045	-48	5,212
<u>STC / Workshare</u>⁵	14,974	14,951	+23	15,299
<u>TOTAL</u>	1,923,735	1,985,075	-61,340	2,126,874

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 134,803,907 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 October 3			Insured Unemployment For Week Ended September 26		
	Advance	Prior Wk	Change	Advance	Prior Wk	Change
Alabama	2,625	2,434	191	19,763	20,936	-1,173
Alaska	1,532	1,185	347	7,708	7,336	372
Arizona	3,832	3,439	393	29,607	32,945	-3,338
Arkansas	2,203	2,158	45	17,726	18,547	-821
California	43,023	40,180	2,843	336,946	336,664	282
Colorado	2,832	2,206	626	25,198	24,765	433
Connecticut	2,947	2,357	590	33,670	32,988	682
Delaware	630	572	58	5,463	5,150	313
District of Columbia	664	258	406	7,733	8,278	-545
Florida	7,845	7,712	133	57,652	61,957	-4,305
Georgia	6,609	5,646	963	34,055	35,326	-1,271
Hawaii	1,135	1,029	106	7,094	6,797	297
Idaho	860	934	-74	4,803	5,562	-759
Illinois	9,411	9,423	-12	100,950	98,256	2,694
Indiana	3,153	3,034	119	20,483	20,807	-324
Iowa	2,415	2,273	142	16,917	16,634	283
Kansas	1,906	1,473	433	14,302	12,945	1,357
Kentucky	2,785	2,209	576	19,636	19,202	434
Louisiana	2,127	2,342	-215	22,071	23,357	-1,286
Maine	653	602	51	4,365	4,699	-334
Maryland	3,332	3,157	175	31,190	34,848	-3,658
Massachusetts	4,857	4,489	368	54,307	56,361	-2,054
Michigan	5,502	8,087	-2,585	42,189	43,564	-1,375
Minnesota	3,183	2,803	380	29,349	28,362	987
Mississippi	1,298	1,458	-160	10,850	12,350	-1,500
Missouri	3,727	4,000	-273	24,322	27,465	-3,143
Montana	1,090	882	208	4,398	4,906	-508
Nebraska	1,152	728	424	4,950	5,113	-163
* Nevada	2,403	2,685	-282	22,242	25,649	-3,407
New Hampshire	475	479	-4	3,827	4,151	-324
New Jersey	8,330	7,924	406	89,250	87,795	1,455
New Mexico	1,071	1,112	-41	10,755	10,999	-244
New York	15,166	16,602	-1,436	138,467	138,866	-399
North Carolina	4,147	3,510	637	27,180	28,672	-1,492
North Dakota	598	361	237	4,981	2,528	2,453
Ohio	6,879	6,221	658	49,152	51,180	-2,028
Oklahoma	1,850	1,711	139	20,171	20,819	-648
Oregon	3,852	4,032	-180	26,304	26,829	-525
Pennsylvania	15,892	13,343	2,549	116,277	111,591	4,686
Puerto Rico	1,643	1,962	-319	29,845	28,389	1,456
Rhode Island	826	677	149	6,923	6,872	51
* South Carolina	2,708	2,345	363	15,202	15,467	-265
South Dakota	177	174	3	929	1,021	-92
Tennessee	2,791	3,021	-230	21,351	22,826	-1,475
Texas	16,629	15,160	1,469	168,865	161,106	7,759
Utah	1,089	1,015	74	7,767	8,498	-731
Vermont	343	286	57	2,851	2,770	81
Virgin Islands	32	66	-34	1,076	1,110	-34
Virginia	3,831	2,910	921	26,320	25,415	905
Washington	6,854	6,030	824	43,116	42,136	980
West Virginia	908	935	-27	12,856	12,404	452
Wisconsin	5,290	5,059	231	29,926	30,063	-137
Wyoming	547	426	121	3,626	3,682	-56
US Total	227,659	215,116	12,543	1,866,956	1,876,958	-10,002

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 estimate.

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 27, 2014	292	-3	296.25	2,404	-17	2,434.25	1.8
October 4, 2014	289	-3	291.25	2,409	5	2,423.50	1.8
October 11, 2014	274	-15	287.50	2,383	-26	2,404.25	1.8
October 18, 2014	287	13	285.50	2,395	12	2,397.75	1.8
October 25, 2014	287	0	284.25	2,365	-30	2,388.00	1.8
November 1, 2014	283	-4	282.75	2,408	43	2,387.75	1.8
November 8, 2014	289	6	286.50	2,352	-56	2,380.00	1.8
November 15, 2014	292	3	287.75	2,339	-13	2,366.00	1.8
November 22, 2014	303	11	291.75	2,383	44	2,370.50	1.8
November 29, 2014	296	-7	295.00	2,469	86	2,385.75	1.9
December 6, 2014	289	-7	295.00	2,388	-81	2,394.75	1.8
December 13, 2014	289	0	294.25	2,377	-11	2,404.25	1.8
December 20, 2014	280	-9	288.50	2,366	-11	2,400.00	1.8
December 27, 2014	293	13	287.75	2,431	65	2,390.50	1.8
January 3, 2015	295	2	289.25	2,415	-16	2,397.25	1.8
January 10, 2015	304	9	293.00	2,418	3	2,407.50	1.8
January 17, 2015	301	-3	298.25	2,376	-42	2,410.00	1.8
January 24, 2015	267	-34	291.75	2,386	10	2,398.75	1.8
January 31, 2015	284	17	289.00	2,346	-40	2,381.50	1.8
February 7, 2015	302	18	288.50	2,402	56	2,377.50	1.8
February 14, 2015	285	-17	284.50	2,369	-33	2,375.75	1.8
February 21, 2015	308	23	294.75	2,405	36	2,380.50	1.8
February 28, 2015	327	19	305.50	2,414	9	2,397.50	1.8
March 7, 2015	293	-34	303.25	2,399	-15	2,396.75	1.8
March 14, 2015	293	0	305.25	2,413	14	2,407.75	1.8
March 21, 2015	288	-5	300.25	2,327	-86	2,388.25	1.7
March 28, 2015	267	-21	285.25	2,308	-19	2,361.75	1.7
April 4, 2015	282	15	282.50	2,275	-33	2,330.75	1.7
April 11, 2015	295	13	283.00	2,327	52	2,309.25	1.7
April 18, 2015	296	1	285.00	2,256	-71	2,291.50	1.7
April 25, 2015	262	-34	283.75	2,229	-27	2,271.75	1.7
May 2, 2015	265	3	279.50	2,223	-6	2,258.75	1.7
May 9, 2015	264	-1	271.75	2,212	-11	2,230.00	1.6
May 16, 2015	275	11	266.50	2,226	14	2,222.50	1.7
May 23, 2015	284	9	272.00	2,204	-22	2,216.25	1.6
May 30, 2015	277	-7	275.00	2,272	68	2,228.50	1.7
June 6, 2015	279	2	278.75	2,225	-47	2,231.75	1.7
June 13, 2015	268	-11	277.00	2,249	24	2,237.50	1.7
June 20, 2015	271	3	273.75	2,265	16	2,252.75	1.7
June 27, 2015	282	11	275.00	2,327	62	2,266.50	1.7
July 4, 2015	296	14	279.25	2,216	-111	2,264.25	1.6
July 11, 2015	281	-15	282.50	2,216	0	2,256.00	1.6
July 18, 2015	255	-26	278.50	2,270	54	2,257.25	1.7
July 25, 2015	267	12	274.75	2,258	-12	2,240.00	1.7
August 1, 2015	269	2	268.00	2,278	20	2,255.50	1.7
August 8, 2015	273	4	266.00	2,256	-22	2,265.50	1.7
August 15, 2015	277	4	271.50	2,266	10	2,264.50	1.7
August 22, 2015	270	-7	272.25	2,259	-7	2,264.75	1.7
August 29, 2015	281	11	275.25	2,263	4	2,261.00	1.7
September 5, 2015	275	-6	275.75	2,243	-20	2,257.75	1.7
September 12, 2015	264	-11	272.50	2,244	1	2,252.25	1.7
September 19, 2015	267	3	271.75	2,195	-49	2,236.25	1.6
September 26, 2015	276	9	270.50	2,204	9	2,221.50	1.6
October 3, 2015	263	-13	267.50				

Initial Claims Filed During Week Ended September 26
INITIAL CLAIMS

Insured Unemployment For Week Ended September 19
INSURED UNEMPLOYMENT

STATE	CHANGE FROM						CHANGE FROM					ALL PROGRAMS EXCLUDING RAILROAD RETIREMENT
	STATE	LAST WEEK	YEAR AGO	UCFE ¹	UCX ¹	STATE	LAST WEEK	YEAR AGO	UCFE ¹	UCX ¹		
Alabama	2434	-95	-538	11	17	20936	1.2	-399	-3261	92	176	21204
Alaska	1185	78	-106	5	2	7336	2.3	-123	-1704	69	64	7469
Arizona	3439	-303	-956	11	5	32945	1.3	-1338	-3555	129	172	33246
Arkansas	2158	-38	62	5	9	18547	1.6	-463	-1391	92	147	18786
California	40180	-384	-3938	189	210	336664	2.2	-2317	-33665	2165	3515	342344
Colorado	2206	32	72	9	37	24765	1.0	-538	-2084	207	713	25685
Connecticut	2357	-173	-469	6	5	32988	2.0	-222	-5564	86	162	33236
Delaware	572	-36	-57	2	5	5150	1.2	-231	-748	17	23	5190
District of Columbia	258	-42	-50	8	3	8278	1.6	-131	-1240	321	25	8624
Florida	7712	-105	-4925	15	78	61957	0.8	-4381	-26360	339	418	62714
Georgia	5646	-868	-912	36	55	35326	0.9	-837	-6592	284	576	36186
Hawaii	1029	-196	-309	6	19	6797	1.1	-369	-2016	85	148	7030
Idaho	934	-35	-269	3	8	5562	0.9	-233	-881	24	40	5626
Illinois	9423	871	1051	11	14	98256	1.7	-8349	-9140	382	499	99137
Indiana	3034	-360	-727	13	11	20807	0.7	-29	-2491	125	122	21054
Iowa	2273	-282	380	2	5	16634	1.1	482	1223	52	92	16778
Kansas	1473	-2588	-283	2	9	12945	1.0	1557	-1383	64	142	13151
Kentucky	2209	-108	-538	33	9	19202	1.1	-809	-2003	462	285	19949
Louisiana	2342	35	455	8	12	23357	1.2	-435	3771	30	71	23458
Maine	602	-44	-134	2	1	4699	0.8	-83	-1647	28	34	4761
Maryland	3157	-117	-544	18	15	34848	1.4	-620	-9366	363	291	35502
Massachusetts	4489	-214	-719	16	14	56361	1.7	-949	-9299	194	389	56944
Michigan	8087	2837	2068	23	28	43564	1.1	-2194	-17846	113	271	43948
Minnesota	2803	-412	-20	8	4	28362	1.1	-1086	-532	67	176	28605
Mississippi	1458	10	-200	4	4	12350	1.1	-241	-3446	59	58	12467
Missouri	4000	-524	-347	67	31	27465	1.1	-174	-4366	658	140	28263
Montana	882	38	46	12	5	4906	1.1	-314	-42	49	67	5022
Nebraska	728	-150	-168	6	2	5113	0.6	85	-858	32	23	5168
Nevada	2685	167	-417	3	10	25649	2.2	166	-689	63	169	25881
New Hampshire	479	-32	-159	1	0	4151	0.7	-28	-1187	3	9	4163
New Jersey	7924	558	-1246	15	33	87795	2.3	-5396	-14138	235	530	88560
New Mexico	1112	151	207	28	4	10999	1.4	3	-1632	74	93	11166
New York	16602	708	1411	36	51	138866	1.6	-5699	-13583	593	912	140371
North Carolina	3510	-95	-1104	12	46	28672	0.7	-575	-15861	128	393	29193
North Dakota	361	-22	193	0	2	2528	0.6	-185	1410	11	7	2546
Ohio	6221	-294	157	16	44	51180	1.0	104	-1309	222	443	51845
Oklahoma	1711	-59	94	8	16	20819	1.4	-425	5787	74	157	21050
Oregon	4032	-286	-445	24	34	26829	1.6	-346	-2890	180	312	27321
Pennsylvania	13343	-254	98	104	63	111591	2.0	-9450	-7122	754	597	112942
Puerto Rico	1962	194	344	1	7	28389	3.2	-1759	-3762	126	232	28747
Rhode Island	677	-131	-283	4	1	6872	1.5	-337	-1395	27	59	6958
South Carolina	2345	-789	-503	4	21	15467	0.8	-615	-2168	49	130	15646
South Dakota	174	8	-5	3	1	1021	0.3	-58	-29	25	4	1050
Tennessee	3021	-283	-119	14	13	22826	0.8	-492	-5708	124	180	23130
Texas	15160	-501	2654	51	178	161106	1.4	-8009	31104	1090	2758	164954
Utah	1015	-90	-93	40	3	8498	0.7	-21	-666	369	55	8922
Vermont	286	-23	-74	2	2	2770	0.9	-67	-389	14	12	2796
Virgin Islands	66	4	-3	0	0	1110	3.0	118	108	6	6	1122
Virginia	2910	-12	-518	12	28	25415	0.7	-496	-5558	287	664	26366
Washington	6030	-64	-583	23	75	42136	1.4	-489	-2231	296	1031	43463
West Virginia	935	21	70	3	3	12404	1.8	-285	1365	72	77	12553
Wisconsin	5059	25	-194	4	10	30063	1.1	-2528	-7678	95	75	30233
Wyoming	426	46	138	2	2	3682	1.3	-324	1437	20	27	3729
Totals	215116	-4226	-12455	941	1264	1876958	1.4	-61934	-193270	11525	17771	1906254

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.

UNADJUSTED INITIAL CLAIMS FOR WEEK ENDED SEPTEMBER 26, 2015

STATES WITH AN INCREASE OF MORE THAN 1,000

State	Change	State Supplied Comment
MI	+2,837	Layoffs in the manufacturing industry.

STATES WITH A DECREASE OF MORE THAN 1,000

State	Change	State Supplied Comment
KS	-2,588	No comment.

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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