



# News Release

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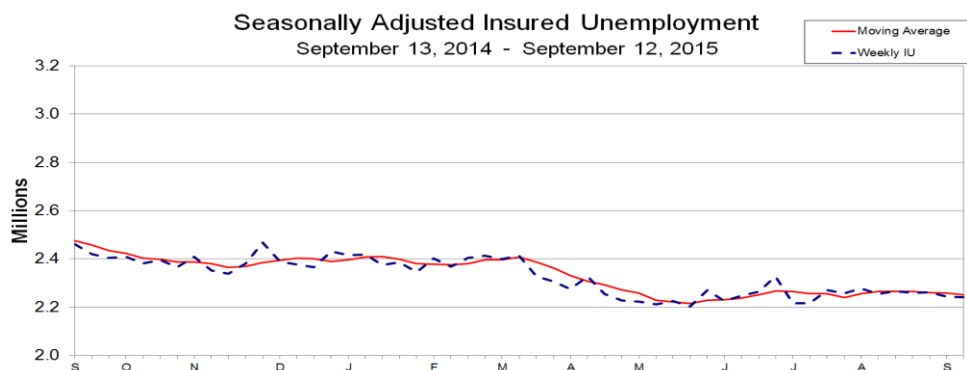
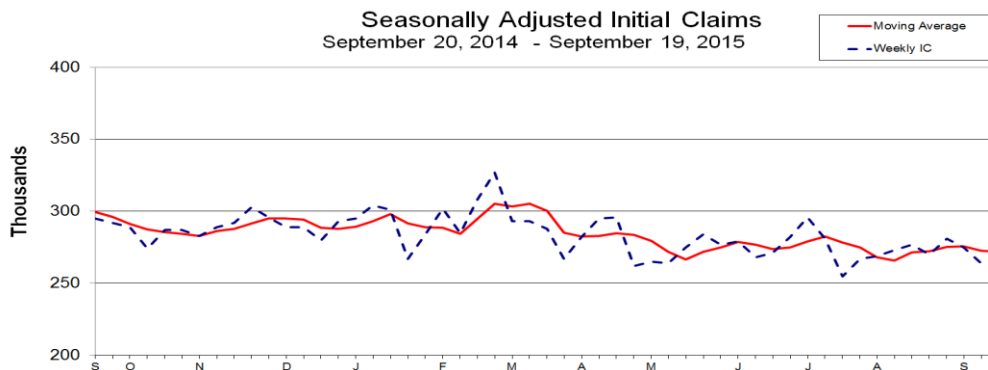
## UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE WEEKLY CLAIMS

### SEASONALLY ADJUSTED DATA

In the week ending September 19, the advance figure for seasonally adjusted **initial claims** was 267,000, an increase of 3,000 from the previous week's unrevised level of 264,000. The 4-week moving average was 271,750, a decrease of 750 from the previous week's unrevised average of 272,500.

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

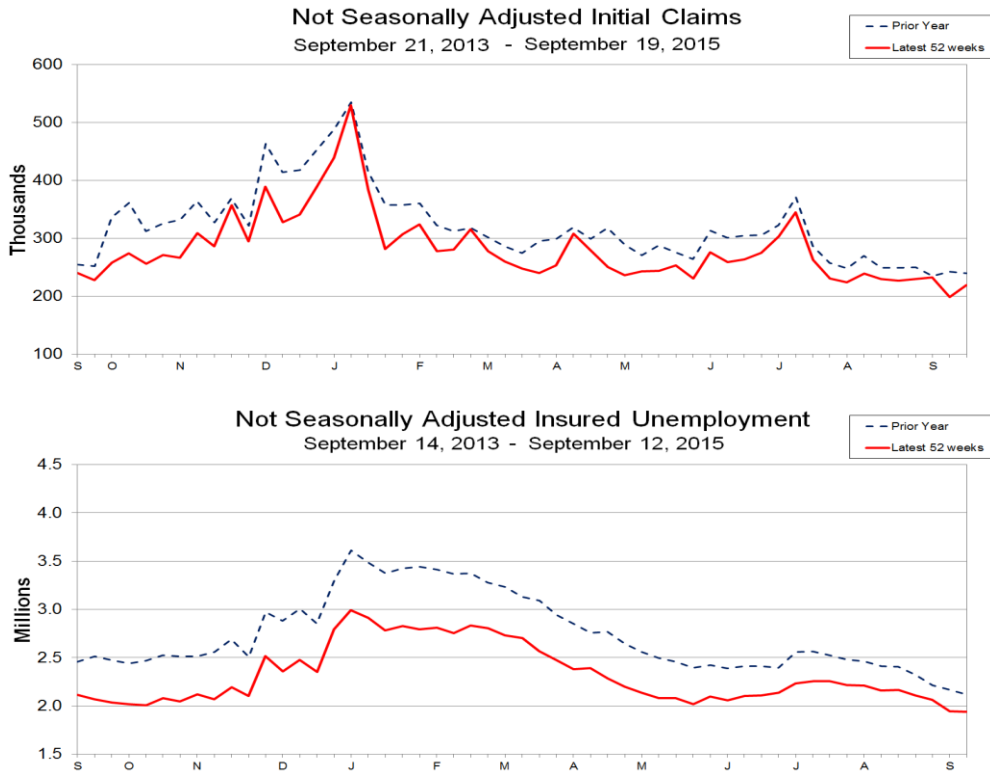
The advance seasonally adjusted **insured unemployment rate** was 1.7 percent for the week ending September 12, unchanged from the previous week's unrevised rate. The advance number for seasonally adjusted **insured unemployment** during the week ending September 12 was 2,242,000, a decrease of 1,000 from the previous week's revised level. The previous week's level was revised up 6,000 from 2,237,000 to 2,243,000. The 4-week moving average was 2,251,750, a decrease of 6,000 from the previous week's revised average. The previous week's average was revised up by 1,500 from 2,256,250 to 2,257,750.



## UNADJUSTED DATA

The advance number of actual initial claims under state programs, unadjusted, totaled 219,591 in the week ending September 19, an increase of 20,625 (or 10.4 percent) from the previous week. The seasonal factors had expected an increase of 18,232 (or 9.2 percent) from the previous week. There were 239,780 initial claims in the comparable week in 2014.

The advance unadjusted insured unemployment rate was 1.4 percent during the week ending September 12, unchanged from the prior week. The advance unadjusted number for persons claiming UI benefits in state programs totaled 1,937,453, a decrease of 5,366 (or -0.3 percent) from the preceding week. The seasonal factors had expected a decrease of 4,487 (or -0.2 percent) from the previous week. A year earlier the rate was 1.6 percent and the volume was 2,115,326.



The total number of people claiming benefits in all programs for the week ending September 5 was 1,988,080, a decrease of 118,826 from the previous week. There were 2,222,661 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 5.

Initial claims for UI benefits filed by former Federal civilian employees totaled 789 in the week ending September 12, a decrease of 149 from the prior week. There were 1,209 initial claims filed by newly discharged veterans, a decrease of 323 from the preceding week.

There were 11,497 former Federal civilian employees claiming UI benefits for the week ending September 5, an increase of 824 from the previous week. Newly discharged veterans claiming benefits totaled 17,437, a decrease of 382 from the prior week.

The highest insured unemployment rates in the week ending September 5 were in Puerto Rico (3.3), New Jersey (2.7), the Virgin Islands (2.3), Alaska (2.2), Nevada (2.2), Pennsylvania (2.2), California (2.1), Connecticut (2.1), Massachusetts (1.9), and West Virginia (1.9).

The largest increases in initial claims for the week ending September 12 were in North Dakota (+209), Oregon (+190), Minnesota (+93), Maine (+47), and Delaware (+17), while the largest decreases were in California (-5,286), Texas (-3,569), New York (-2,938), Illinois (-1,986), and Pennsylvania (-1,860).

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UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE DATA FOR REGULAR STATE PROGRAMS

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WEEK ENDING	September 19	September 12	Change	September 5	<u>Prior Year</u> <sup>1</sup>
Initial Claims (SA)	267,000	264,000	+3,000	275,000	295,000
Initial Claims (NSA)	219,591	198,966	+20,625	232,507	239,780
4-Wk Moving Average (SA)	271,750	272,500	-750	275,750	299,500
WEEK ENDING	September 12	September 5	Change	August 29	<u>Prior Year</u> <sup>1</sup>
Insured Unemployment (SA)	2,242,000	2,243,000	-1,000	2,263,000	2,460,000
Insured Unemployment (NSA)	1,937,453	1,942,819	-5,366	2,061,928	2,115,326
4-Wk Moving Average (SA)	2,251,750	2,257,750	-6,000	2,261,000	2,475,750
<u>Insured Unemployment Rate (SA)</u> <sup>2</sup>	1.7%	1.7%	0.0	1.7%	1.9%
<u>Insured Unemployment Rate (NSA)</u> <sup>2</sup>	1.4%	1.4%	0.0	1.5%	1.6%

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INITIAL CLAIMS FILED IN FEDERAL PROGRAMS (UNADJUSTED)

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WEEK ENDING	September 12	September 5	Change	<u>Prior Year</u> <sup>1</sup>
Federal Employees (UCFE)	789	938	-149	1,160
Newly Discharged Veterans (UCX)	1,209	1,532	-323	1,967

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PERSONS CLAIMING UI BENEFITS IN ALL PROGRAMS (UNADJUSTED)

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WEEK ENDING	September 5	August 29	Change	<u>Prior Year</u> <sup>1</sup>
Regular State	1,938,838	2,057,581	-118,743	2,163,873
Federal Employees	11,497	10,673	+824	15,748
Newly Discharged Veterans	17,437	17,819	-382	24,228
<u>Extended Benefits</u> <sup>3</sup>	0	0	0	6
<u>State Additional Benefits</u> <sup>4</sup>	6,243	6,463	-220	5,106
<u>STC / Workshare</u> <sup>5</sup>	14,065	14,370	-305	13,700
<u>TOTAL</u>	1,988,080	2,106,906	-118,826	2,222,661

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 September 19			Insured Unemployment For Week Ended September 12		
	Advance	Prior Wk	Change	Advance	Prior Wk	Change
Alabama	2,329	2,273	56	20,246	21,875	-1,629
Alaska	1,360	977	383	7,232	6,935	297
Arizona	3,576	3,277	299	30,945	34,404	-3,459
Arkansas	2,059	1,848	211	18,276	18,951	-675
California	40,949	36,839	4,110	346,579	322,058	24,521
Colorado	2,181	2,063	118	25,863	25,260	603
Connecticut	2,527	2,412	115	34,950	34,059	891
Delaware	580	621	-41	5,657	5,398	259
District of Columbia	538	301	237	8,023	8,555	-532
Florida	7,502	7,252	250	60,061	62,625	-2,564
Georgia	6,223	5,626	597	34,248	36,379	-2,131
Hawaii	1,251	1,117	134	7,419	7,111	308
Idaho	845	950	-105	5,018	6,008	-990
Illinois	8,637	8,417	220	107,367	102,562	4,805
Indiana	3,418	2,911	507	20,838	20,863	-25
Iowa	2,694	2,108	586	16,980	16,109	871
Kansas	4,816	1,322	3,494	12,649	11,300	1,349
Kentucky	2,312	2,395	-83	19,819	19,919	-100
Louisiana	2,044	2,015	29	22,636	24,253	-1,617
Maine	622	697	-75	4,577	4,921	-344
Maryland	3,192	2,894	298	32,077	36,453	-4,376
Massachusetts	4,606	4,338	268	56,456	61,762	-5,306
Michigan	5,105	5,120	-15	44,091	47,687	-3,596
Minnesota	3,311	3,316	-5	31,202	30,068	1,134
Mississippi	1,208	1,329	-121	11,231	13,501	-2,270
Missouri	3,885	3,564	321	24,847	27,664	-2,817
Montana	765	773	-8	4,677	5,052	-375
Nebraska	877	681	196	5,120	5,048	72
Nevada	2,788	2,309	479	24,093	25,525	-1,432
New Hampshire	502	485	17	3,976	4,460	-484
New Jersey	7,222	6,415	807	94,269	100,903	-6,634
New Mexico	887	871	16	10,725	11,059	-334
New York	16,112	14,016	2,096	146,303	159,659	-13,356
North Carolina	3,796	3,542	254	28,064	29,597	-1,533
North Dakota	633	563	70	5,450	2,427	3,023
Ohio	6,662	6,093	569	51,029	51,067	-38
Oklahoma	1,795	1,756	39	20,811	21,494	-683
Oregon	4,309	4,264	45	27,036	27,834	-798
Pennsylvania	13,591	13,443	148	123,475	120,851	2,624
Puerto Rico	1,714	1,524	190	30,188	29,672	516
Rhode Island	799	937	-138	7,282	7,450	-168
South Carolina	3,073	2,376	697	15,336	15,928	-592
South Dakota	151	163	-12	1,025	1,093	-68
Tennessee	3,093	2,500	593	22,413	23,236	-823
Texas	15,667	13,476	2,191	174,066	160,294	13,772
Utah	1,073	997	76	7,927	8,732	-805
Vermont	294	346	-52	2,995	2,866	129
Virgin Islands	52	89	-37	994	838	156
Virginia	3,211	2,988	223	27,201	25,749	1,452
Washington	6,462	5,797	665	44,277	44,987	-710
West Virginia	838	927	-89	13,307	12,846	461
Wisconsin	5,017	5,312	-295	32,452	33,621	-1,169
Wyoming	438	341	97	3,675	3,851	-176
US Total	219,591	198,966	20,625	1,937,453	1,942,819	-5,366

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.

## 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 13, 2014	289	-20	300.00	2,460	8	2,475.75	1.9	
September 20, 2014	295	6	299.50	2,421	-39	2,458.25	1.8	
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	2,242	-1	2,251.75	1.7	
September 19, 2015	267	3	271.75					

Initial Claims Filed During Week Ended September 12 INITIAL CLAIMS						Insured Unemployment For Week Ended September 5 INSURED UNEMPLOYMENT						
STATE	STATE	CHANGE FROM		UCFE <sup>1</sup>	UCX <sup>1</sup>	STATE	%	CHANGE FROM		UCFE <sup>1</sup>	UCX <sup>1</sup>	ALL PROGRAMS EXCLUDING RAILROAD RETIREMENT
		LAST WEEK	YEAR AGO					LAST WEEK	YEAR AGO			
Alabama	2273	-682	-1141	8	17	21875	1.2	-437	-3490	114	172	22161
Alaska	977	-65	-224	1	5	6935	2.2	-189	-2098	74	60	7069
Arizona	3277	-695	-906	6	14	34404	1.4	-1183	-3657	134	209	34747
Arkansas	1848	-400	-839	5	3	18951	1.7	-591	-1590	103	171	19225
California	36839	-5286	-6164	138	181	322058	2.1	-26504	-43412	1960	3322	327340
Colorado	2063	-512	-238	10	43	25260	1.1	198	-2117	220	749	26229
Connecticut	2412	-528	-584	2	6	34059	2.1	-6278	-5888	80	150	34289
Delaware	621	17	-26	1	1	5398	1.3	-1403	-716	16	25	5439
District of Columbia	301	-22	-34	9	1	8555	1.6	-418	-1635	349	20	8924
Florida	7252	-1317	-6071	26	72	62625	0.8	-3343	-28181	349	430	63404
Georgia	5626	-626	-1795	26	46	36379	0.9	390	-7437	287	617	37283
Hawaii	1117	-456	-301	7	28	7111	1.2	-485	-1924	79	154	7344
Idaho	950	-245	-161	0	1	6008	0.9	-57	-1259	29	39	6076
Illinois	8417	-1986	-701	10	21	102562	1.8	-6001	-9711	396	516	103474
Indiana	2911	-288	-702	3	13	20863	0.7	-473	-3141	117	113	21093
Iowa	2108	-360	203	2	7	16109	1.1	-456	133	62	98	16269
Kansas	1322	-287	-781	4	3	11300	0.8	-451	-4230	57	134	11491
Kentucky	2395	-54	-22	14	7	19919	1.1	-373	-2076	495	293	20707
Louisiana	2015	-402	-56	6	11	24253	1.3	-172	3767	29	80	24362
Maine	697	47	-132	0	4	4921	0.9	-360	-1712	17	37	4975
Maryland	2894	-723	-880	31	16	36453	1.5	-1883	-9217	373	305	37131
Massachusetts	4338	-773	-1122	19	34	61762	1.9	-5673	-8554	225	363	62350
Michigan	5120	-682	-987	16	14	47687	1.2	-859	-16761	126	274	48087
Minnesota	3316	93	66	2	10	30068	1.1	-165	-577	66	159	30293
Mississippi	1329	-272	-319	2	6	13501	1.3	-679	-3400	70	62	13633
Missouri	3564	-623	-2691	87	27	27664	1.1	-875	-5610	627	128	28419
Montana	773	-82	-14	6	4	5052	1.2	-482	-285	44	58	5154
Nebraska	681	-19	-248	2	0	5048	0.5	-167	-2003	43	23	5114
Nevada	2309	-619	-830	1	7	25525	2.2	-321	-1847	61	167	25753
New Hampshire	485	-133	-181	0	2	4460	0.7	-407	-1070	16	10	4486
New Jersey	6415	-1592	-2576	14	20	100903	2.7	-10436	-12685	276	524	101703
New Mexico	871	-122	-74	7	8	11059	1.4	-634	-1869	73	102	11234
New York	14016	-2938	-4953	31	64	159659	1.8	-9402	-13936	630	917	161206
North Carolina	3542	-341	-1274	8	38	29597	0.7	-689	-17295	125	372	30094
North Dakota	563	209	376	1	3	2427	0.6	-112	1044	14	8	2449
Ohio	6093	-1423	-288	9	33	51067	1.0	-2136	-4209	215	437	51719
Oklahoma	1756	-245	224	1	16	21494	1.4	-309	5931	83	157	21734
Oregon	4264	190	-1158	17	27	27834	1.6	-1561	-2864	188	294	28316
Pennsylvania	13443	-1860	-561	72	67	120851	2.2	-17147	-7220	771	570	122192
Puerto Rico	1524	-770	-474	9	7	29672	3.3	-1474	-3164	121	201	29994
Rhode Island	937	-1	-146	3	4	7450	1.6	-1951	-1240	25	47	7522
South Carolina	2376	-186	-644	4	21	15928	0.9	-483	-2095	52	127	16107
South Dakota	163	-15	-38	1	0	1093	0.3	-77	-59	26	6	1125
Tennessee	2500	-426	-1452	14	17	23236	0.9	-871	-6421	125	194	23555
Texas	13476	-3569	3	71	157	160294	1.4	-9959	25894	1036	2585	163915
Utah	997	-248	-210	34	7	8732	0.7	-112	-840	335	57	9124
Vermont	346	5	-12	2	1	2866	1.0	-273	-328	17	11	2894
Virgin Islands	89	6	34	1	2	838	2.3	-70	-38	4	10	852
Virginia	2988	-194	-984	10	27	25749	0.7	1507	-6485	281	675	26705
Washington	5797	-1220	-753	26	73	44987	1.5	1511	-904	286	1029	46302
West Virginia	927	-204	-19	4	7	12846	1.9	-270	1092	85	73	13004
Wisconsin	5312	-578	-452	5	3	33621	1.2	-3689	-9086	93	77	33791
Wyoming	341	-39	-40	1	3	3851	1.4	-375	1643	18	26	3895
Totals	198966	-33541	-43352	789	1209	1942819	1.4	-119109	-224832	11497	17437	1971753

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 12, 2015**

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STATES WITH AN INCREASE OF MORE THAN 1,000

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

STATES WITH A DECREASE OF MORE THAN 1,000

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<b>State</b>	<b>Change</b>	<b>State Supplied Comment</b>
CA	-5,286	Fewer layoffs in the service industry.
TX	-3,569	Fewer layoffs in the health care and social assistance, transportation and warehousing, and educational services industries.
NY	-2,938	Fewer layoffs in the transportation and warehousing, and manufacturing industries.
IL	-1,986	No comment.
PA	-1,860	Fewer layoffs in the administrative and support and waste management and remediation service, construction, and manufacturing industries.
NJ	-1,592	Fewer layoffs in the construction, administrative and support and waste management and remediation service, and accommodation and food service industries.
OH	-1,423	No comment.
FL	-1,317	No comment.
WA	-1,220	No comment.

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## 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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