



News Release

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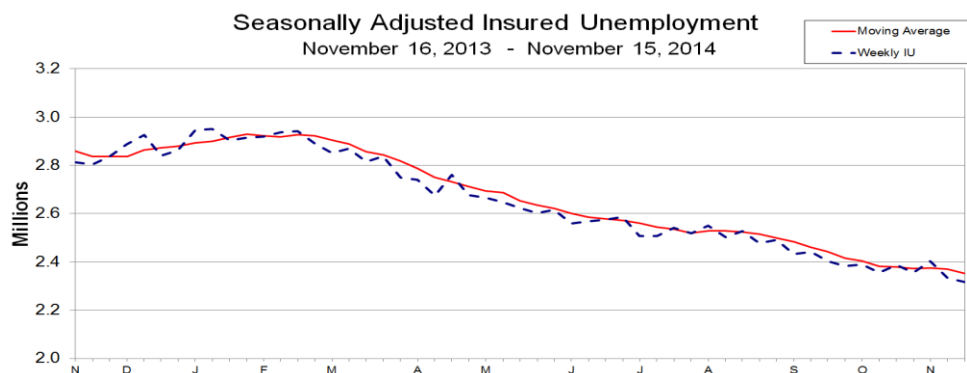
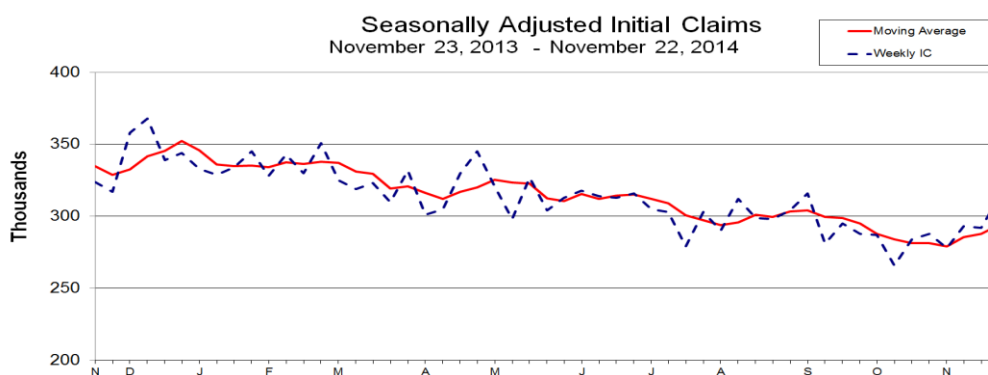
UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE WEEKLY CLAIMS

SEASONALLY ADJUSTED DATA

In the week ending November 22, the advance figure for seasonally adjusted **initial claims** was 313,000, an increase of 21,000 from the previous week's revised level. The previous week's level was revised up by 1,000 from 291,000 to 292,000. The 4-week moving average was 294,000, an increase of 6,250 from the previous week's revised average. The previous week's average was revised up by 250 from 287,500 to 287,750.

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

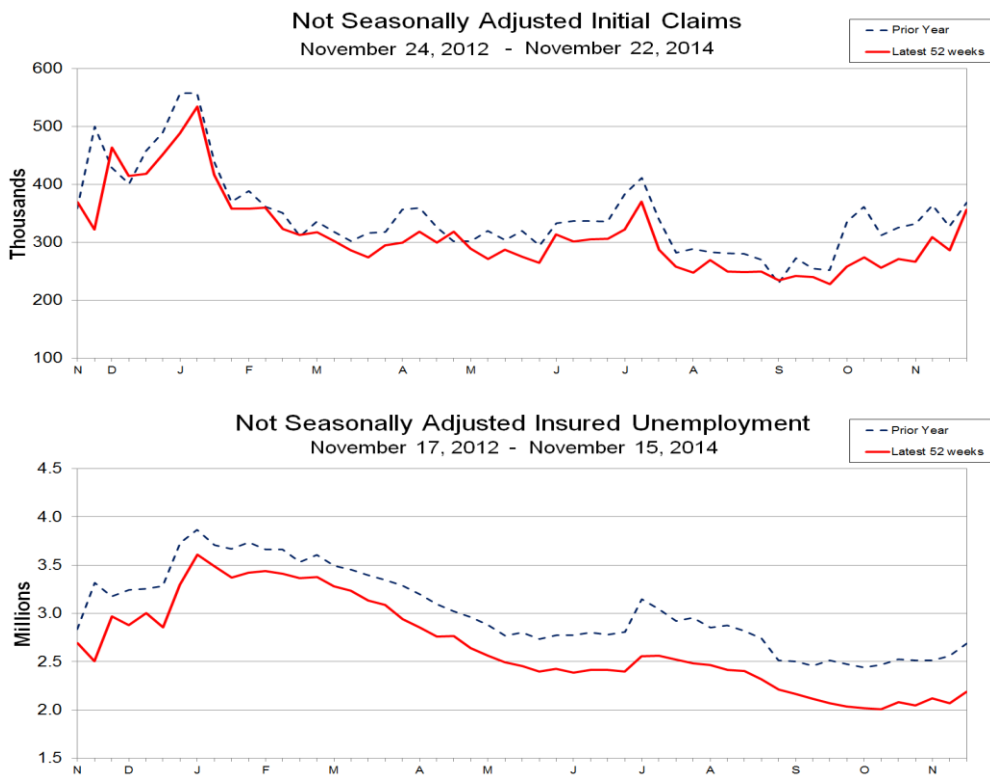
The advance seasonally adjusted **insured unemployment rate** was 1.7 percent for the week ending November 15, a decrease of 0.1 percentage point from the previous week's unrevised rate. The advance number for seasonally adjusted **insured unemployment** during the week ending November 15 was 2,316,000, a decrease of 17,000 from the previous week's revised level. This is the lowest level for insured unemployment since December 9, 2000 when it was 2,263,000. The previous week's level was revised up 3,000 from 2,330,000 to 2,333,000. The 4-week moving average was 2,352,000, a decrease of 17,750 from the previous week's revised average. This is the lowest level for this average since January 6, 2001 when it was 2,349,250. The previous week's average was revised up by 750 from 2,369,000 to 2,369,750.



UNADJUSTED DATA

The advance number of actual initial claims under state programs, unadjusted, totaled 355,887 in the week ending November 22, an increase of 69,772 (or 24.4 percent) from the previous week. The seasonal factors had expected an increase of 46,468 (or 16.2 percent) from the previous week. There were 369,197 initial claims in the comparable week in 2013.

The advance unadjusted insured unemployment rate was 1.6 percent during the week ending November 15, unchanged from the prior week. The advance unadjusted number for persons claiming UI benefits in state programs totaled 2,186,591, an increase of 119,254 (or 5.8 percent) from the preceding week. The seasonal factors had expected an increase of 135,334 (or 6.5 percent) from the previous week. A year earlier the rate was 2.1 percent and the volume was 2,689,171.



The total number of people claiming benefits in all programs for the week ending November 8 was 2,120,705, a decrease of 62,887 from the previous week. There were 3,930,715 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 8.

Initial claims for UI benefits filed by former Federal civilian employees totaled 1,415 in the week ending November 15, a decrease of 254 from the prior week. There were 1,473 initial claims filed by newly discharged veterans, a decrease of 460 from the preceding week.

There were 15,580 former Federal civilian employees claiming UI benefits for the week ending November 8, a decrease of 893 from the previous week. Newly discharged veterans claiming benefits totaled 25,138, a decrease of 9,421 from the prior week.

The highest insured unemployment rates in the week ending November 8 were in Alaska (3.6), Puerto Rico (3.2), New Jersey (2.8), California (2.3), Connecticut (2.3), Nevada (2.3), the Virgin Islands (2.3), Pennsylvania (2.2), Massachusetts (2.1), and Oregon (2.0).

The largest increases in initial claims for the week ending November 15 were in Minnesota (+2,904), Montana (+1,614), Wisconsin (+1,214), New York (+1,192), and Colorado (+1,131), while the largest decreases were in California (-17,588), New Jersey (-2,849), Pennsylvania (-1,645), Oregon (-1,357), and Massachusetts (-1,284).

UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE DATA FOR REGULAR STATE PROGRAMS

WEEK ENDING	November 22	November 15	Change	November 8	<u>Prior Year</u>¹
Initial Claims (SA)	313,000	292,000	+21,000	293,000	324,000
Initial Claims (NSA)	355,887	286,115	+69,772	309,338	369,197
4-Wk Moving Average (SA)	294,000	287,750	+6,250	285,750	334,750
WEEK ENDING	November 15	November 8	Change	November 1	<u>Prior Year</u>¹
Insured Unemployment (SA)	2,316,000	2,333,000	-17,000	2,403,000	2,813,000
Insured Unemployment (NSA)	2,186,591	2,067,337	+119,254	2,116,640	2,689,171
4-Wk Moving Average (SA)	2,352,000	2,369,750	-17,750	2,375,250	2,858,750
<u>Insured Unemployment Rate (SA)</u>²	1.7%	1.8%	-0.1	1.8%	2.2%
<u>Insured Unemployment Rate (NSA)</u>²	1.6%	1.6%	0.0	1.6%	2.1%

INITIAL CLAIMS FILED IN FEDERAL PROGRAMS (UNADJUSTED)

WEEK ENDING	November 15	November 8	Change	<u>Prior Year</u>¹
Federal Employees (UCFE)	1,415	1,669	-254	1,917
Newly Discharged Veterans (UCX)	1,473	1,933	-460	2,025

PERSONS CLAIMING UI BENEFITS IN ALL PROGRAMS (UNADJUSTED)

WEEK ENDING	November 8	November 1	Change	<u>Prior Year</u>¹
Regular State	2,064,655	2,112,743	-48,088	2,550,615
Federal Employees	15,580	16,473	-893	19,380
Newly Discharged Veterans	25,138	34,559	-9,421	31,474
<u>Extended Benefits</u>³	5	16	-11	211
<u>State Additional Benefits</u>⁴	5,206	5,469	-263	4,607
<u>STC / Workshare</u>⁵	10,121	14,332	-4,211	19,529
<u>TOTAL</u>⁶	2,120,705	2,183,592	-62,887	3,930,715

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.

UNADJUSTED INITIAL CLAIMS FOR WEEK ENDED NOVEMBER 15, 2014

STATES WITH A DECREASE OF MORE THAN 1,000

State	Change	State Supplied Comment
CA	-17,588	Fewer layoffs in the service industry.
NJ	-2,849	Fewer layoffs in the manufacturing, trade, accommodation and food service, and transportation and warehousing industries.
PA	-1,645	Fewer layoffs in the administrative and support and waste management and remediation service, professional, scientific and technical service, transportation and warehousing, and accommodation and food service industries.
OR	-1,357	No comment.
MA	-1,284	Fewer layoffs in the accommodation and food service, art, entertainment and recreation, and administrative and support and waste management and remediation service industries.
GA	-1,240	Fewer layoffs in the manufacturing, healthcare and social assistance, trade, and administrative and support and waste management and remediation service industries.
TX	-1,105	No comment.

STATES WITH AN INCREASE OF MORE THAN 1,000

State	Change	State Supplied Comment
MN	+2,904	No comment.
MT	+1,614	Layoffs due to adverse weather conditions.
WI	+1,214	No comment.
NY	+1,192	Layoffs in the construction, transportation and warehousing, and arts, entertainment, and recreation industries.
CO	+1,131	Layoffs due to adverse weather conditions.

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 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	2,333	-70	2,369.75	1.8
November 15, 2014	292	-1	287.75	2,316	-17	2,352.00	1.7
November 22, 2014	313	21	294.00				

Initial Claims Filed During Week Ended November 15 INITIAL CLAIMS						Insured Unemployment For Week Ended November 8 INSURED UNEMPLOYMENT						
STATE	STATE	CHANGE FROM		CHANGE FROM		STATE	%	CHANGE FROM		ALL PROGRAMS EXCLUDING RAILROAD RETIREMENT		
		LAST WEEK	YEAR AGO	UCFE ¹	UCX ¹			LAST WEEK	YEAR AGO	UCFE ¹	UCX ¹	
Alabama	3085	-506	-565	14	25	23886	1.3	114	-6409	120	268	24274
Alaska	1704	-288	62	13	3	11251	3.6	-69	-3227	180	99	11530
Arizona	3947	-547	-403	23	4	31118	1.3	-1039	-5387	226	273	31617
Arkansas	3409	-47	321	5	9	20652	1.8	26	-5501	168	273	21093
California	40438	-17588	-23077	344	232	351320	2.3	-35452	-59937	2537	4432	358289
Colorado	4287	1131	1248	42	51	27154	1.2	-1286	-8692	292	953	28399
Connecticut	3389	-562	-225	7	12	37880	2.3	-638	-6783	85	256	38221
Delaware	759	-91	-166	2	2	6435	1.6	165	-1254	29	70	6535
District of Columbia	363	-51	-39	0	0	9230	1.8	-229	-2738	364	17	9611
Florida	11367	-511	-6558	19	20	75895	1.0	-2416	-33082	359	792	77046
Georgia	6919	-1240	-830	35	65	40177	1.0	-252	-13221	473	808	41458
Hawaii	1332	-122	-146	7	25	8416	1.4	-313	-2147	117	274	8807
Idaho	2345	148	-69	21	7	8529	1.4	671	-1861	94	64	8687
Illinois	13817	922	304	11	30	104937	1.9	-2311	-28365	423	652	106012
Indiana	4770	155	-462	15	22	24603	0.9	235	-14454	194	195	24992
Iowa	3712	999	794	3	14	16127	1.1	-883	-2573	64	131	16322
Kansas	2750	567	366	3	5	13723	1.0	108	-5528	112	200	14035
Kentucky	3364	-28	-159	28	29	21221	1.2	108	-5963	301	573	22096
Louisiana	2377	25	14	8	13	19251	1.0	184	-3153	69	130	19450
Maine	1573	-135	-263	5	2	8052	1.4	524	-2167	36	48	8136
Maryland	4119	-651	-1162	33	28	45443	1.9	497	-6366	494	450	46387
Massachusetts	6589	-1284	500	24	24	68640	2.1	491	2731	396	534	69570
Michigan	10333	-986	-999	27	43	60222	1.5	-2527	-19082	253	437	60912
Minnesota	8332	2904	1988	21	12	34943	1.3	2245	-6278	133	271	35347
Mississippi	2065	174	-858	9	7	13586	1.3	-561	-6135	120	171	13877
Missouri	5921	-170	151	50	29	32680	1.3	212	-9208	891	239	33810
Montana	3311	1614	1672	67	4	7337	1.7	344	-2432	252	68	7657
Nebraska	1747	528	416	1	2	5964	0.6	-535	-2017	41	31	6036
Nevada	3965	280	-1357	15	4	26138	2.3	249	-114	173	245	26556
New Hampshire	762	-161	-169	0	4	5691	0.9	21	-1180	12	24	5727
New Jersey	9845	-2849	-1745	20	29	106374	2.8	3220	-11336	337	663	107374
New Mexico	1220	-176	-91	23	7	12617	1.7	-77	-2385	264	152	13033
New York	20284	1192	-586	53	65	164304	1.9	-1203	-36895	926	1271	166501
North Carolina	4732	-970	-1514	15	54	38630	1.0	-2559	-32285	188	665	39483
North Dakota	824	334	272	3	1	1557	0.4	237	-264	17	10	1584
Ohio	8391	-423	-1999	17	41	56068	1.1	-1682	-13885	269	661	56998
Oklahoma	1416	-222	-205	6	15	14632	1.0	-76	-3825	69	237	14938
Oregon	4982	-1357	-1203	62	26	33820	2.0	165	-6874	458	361	34639
Pennsylvania	18010	-1645	-1910	74	77	118675	2.2	-1344	-28780	853	1027	120556
Puerto Rico	1314	-735	-486	2	5	28538	3.2	-2174	-6207	139	306	28983
Rhode Island	1109	184	630	4	2	8189	1.8	172	-36	44	75	8308
South Carolina	3314	-322	-729	3	34	17665	1.0	503	-9589	65	279	18009
South Dakota	771	360	415	6	1	1372	0.3	132	-260	28	11	1411
Tennessee	3594	-902	-484	26	21	25575	1.0	-904	-6876	275	292	26142
Texas	15335	-1105	-486	87	206	123156	1.1	-2670	-25098	1118	3398	127674
Utah	1726	-132	-201	58	14	10046	0.8	496	-3735	280	99	10425
Vermont	792	-41	3	2	0	4420	1.5	247	-275	14	22	4456
Virgin Islands	43	1	30	0	0	868	2.3	8	-324	2	18	888
Virginia	4017	-309	-1036	18	28	30543	0.9	-104	-7669	372	961	31876
Washington	9356	-230	17	60	92	52318	1.8	-283	-9734	527	1364	54209
West Virginia	1423	-36	-160	4	6	12124	1.8	276	-2179	72	107	12303
Wisconsin	9781	1214	-269	9	21	42071	1.6	650	-16755	159	147	42377
Wyoming	985	467	470	11	1	3274	1.2	-16	-1393	96	34	3404
Totals	286115	-23223	-40938	1415	1473	2067337	1.6	-49303	-489182	15580	25138	2108060

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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