



# News Release

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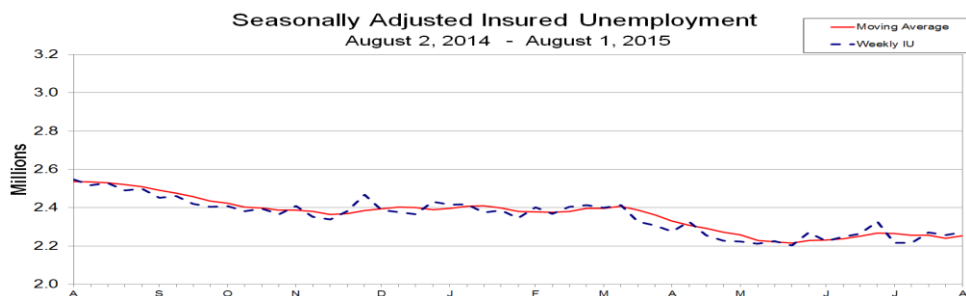
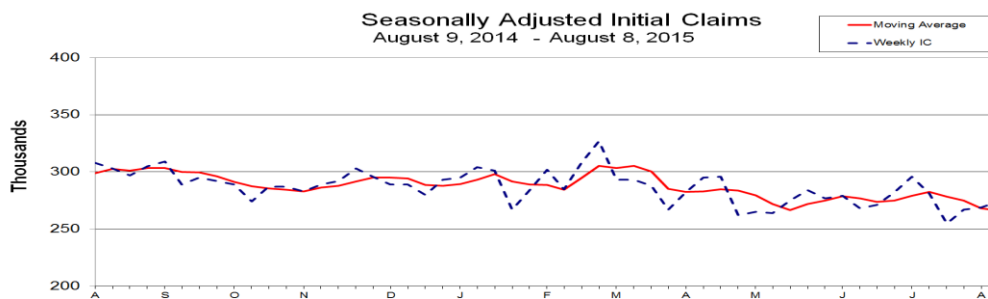
## UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE WEEKLY CLAIMS

### SEASONALLY ADJUSTED DATA

In the week ending August 8, the advance figure for seasonally adjusted **initial claims** was 274,000, an increase of 5,000 from the previous week's revised level. The previous week's level was revised down by 1,000 from 270,000 to 269,000. The 4-week moving average was 266,250, a decrease of 1,750 from the previous week's revised average. This is the lowest level for this average since April 15, 2000 when it was 266,250. The previous week's average was revised down by 250 from 268,250 to 268,000.

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

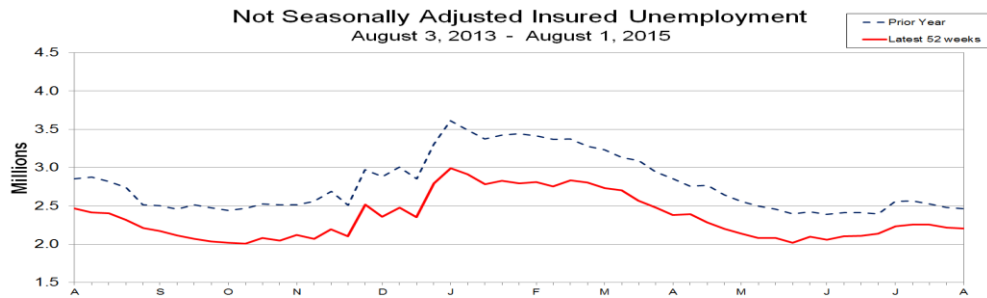
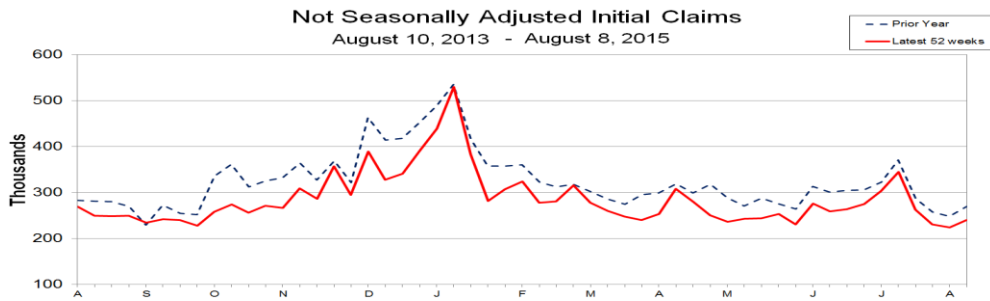
The advance seasonally adjusted **insured unemployment rate** was 1.7 percent for the week ending August 1, unchanged from the previous week's unrevised rate. The advance number for seasonally adjusted **insured unemployment** during the week ending August 1 was 2,273,000, an increase of 15,000 from the previous week's revised level. The previous week's level was revised up 3,000 from 2,255,000 to 2,258,000. The 4-week moving average was 2,254,250, an increase of 14,250 from the previous week's revised average. The previous week's average was revised up by 1,000 from 2,239,000 to 2,240,000.



## UNADJUSTED DATA

The advance number of actual initial claims under state programs, unadjusted, totaled 239,899 in the week ending August 8, an increase of 15,795 (or 7.0 percent) from the previous week. The seasonal factors had expected an increase of 11,568 (or 5.2 percent) from the previous week. There were 269,468 initial claims in the comparable week in 2014.

The advance unadjusted insured unemployment rate was 1.6 percent during the week ending August 1, unchanged from the prior week. The advance unadjusted number for persons claiming UI benefits in state programs totaled 2,204,679, a decrease of 10,236 (or -0.5 percent) from the preceding week. The seasonal factors had expected a decrease of 24,836 (or -1.1 percent) from the previous week. A year earlier the rate was 1.9 percent and the volume was 2,462,156.



The total number of people claiming benefits in all programs for the week ending July 25 was 2,260,417, a decrease of 42,092 from the previous week. There were 2,536,430 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 July 25.

Initial claims for UI benefits filed by former Federal civilian employees totaled 848 in the week ending August 1, a decrease of 108 from the prior week. There were 1,307 initial claims filed by newly discharged veterans, a decrease of 18 from the preceding week.

There were 10,777 former Federal civilian employees claiming UI benefits for the week ending July 25, an increase of 469 from the previous week. Newly discharged veterans claiming benefits totaled 18,392, an increase of 28 from the prior week.

The highest insured unemployment rates in the week ending July 25 were in Puerto Rico (4.1), New Jersey (3.0), Connecticut (2.7), Pennsylvania (2.5), California (2.3), Rhode Island (2.3), West Virginia (2.3), Alaska (2.2), Nevada (2.2), and the Virgin Islands (2.2).

The largest increases in initial claims for the week ending August 1 were in Virginia (+1,094), Iowa (+538), Florida (+340), Wisconsin (+257), and Indiana (+252), while the largest decreases were in California (-3,157), Tennessee (-1,451), New York (-1,247), Illinois (-1,099), and Georgia (-440).

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UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE DATA FOR REGULAR STATE PROGRAMS

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<b>WEEK ENDING</b>	<b>August 8</b>	<b>August 1</b>	<b>Change</b>	<b>July 25</b>	<b><u>Prior Year</u><sup>1</sup></b>
Initial Claims (SA)	274,000	269,000	+5,000	267,000	308,000
Initial Claims (NSA)	239,899	224,104	+15,795	230,314	269,468
4-Wk Moving Average (SA)	266,250	268,000	-1,750	274,750	299,000
<b>WEEK ENDING</b>	<b>August 1</b>	<b>July 25</b>	<b>Change</b>	<b>July 18</b>	<b><u>Prior Year</u><sup>1</sup></b>
Insured Unemployment (SA)	2,273,000	2,258,000	+15,000	2,270,000	2,546,000
Insured Unemployment (NSA)	2,204,679	2,214,915	-10,236	2,256,491	2,462,156
4-Wk Moving Average (SA)	2,254,250	2,240,000	+14,250	2,257,250	2,537,500
<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>	1.6%	1.6%	0.0	1.7%	1.9%

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INITIAL CLAIMS FILED IN FEDERAL PROGRAMS (UNADJUSTED)

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<b>WEEK ENDING</b>	<b>August 1</b>	<b>July 25</b>	<b>Change</b>	<b><u>Prior Year</u><sup>1</sup></b>
Federal Employees (UCFE)	848	956	-108	1,059
Newly Discharged Veterans (UCX)	1,307	1,325	-18	1,826

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PERSONS CLAIMING UI BENEFITS IN ALL PROGRAMS (UNADJUSTED)

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<b>WEEK ENDING</b>	<b>July 25</b>	<b>July 18</b>	<b>Change</b>	<b><u>Prior Year</u><sup>1</sup></b>
Regular State	2,209,616	2,251,501	-41,885	2,477,345
Federal Employees	10,777	10,308	+469	15,312
Newly Discharged Veterans	18,392	18,364	+28	24,452
<u>Extended Benefits</u> <sup>3</sup>	0	0	0	285
<u>State Additional Benefits</u> <sup>4</sup>	6,403	6,417	-14	5,322
<u>STC / Workshare</u> <sup>5</sup>	15,229	15,919	-690	13,714
<u>TOTAL</u>	2,260,417	2,302,509	-42,092	2,536,430

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 August 8			Insured Unemployment For Week Ended August 1		
	Advance	Prior Wk	Change	Advance	Prior Wk	Change
Alabama	2,748	2,918	-170	23,678	25,217	-1,539
Alaska	1,005	839	166	7,191	6,968	223
Arizona	4,208	4,385	-177	36,138	39,771	-3,633
Arkansas	2,210	2,142	68	20,850	22,192	-1,342
California	44,730	41,871	2,859	376,884	365,036	11,848
Colorado	2,228	2,094	134	27,568	28,458	-890
Connecticut	3,429	3,098	331	44,540	43,569	971
Delaware	709	643	66	7,091	7,599	-508
District of Columbia	699	360	339	8,756	9,186	-430
Florida	9,854	10,350	-496	65,850	71,836	-5,986
Georgia	6,021	5,855	166	36,088	38,901	-2,813
Hawaii	1,234	1,093	141	7,630	7,346	284
Idaho	845	757	88	6,009	6,414	-405
Illinois	10,752	8,635	2,117	116,504	116,098	406
Indiana	3,325	3,391	-66	21,573	21,528	45
Iowa	3,005	2,589	416	19,397	18,212	1,185
Kansas	2,214	2,229	-15	15,718	14,103	1,615
Kentucky	2,864	2,772	92	21,918	23,485	-1,567
Louisiana	2,163	2,479	-316	25,642	27,591	-1,949
Maine	742	652	90	5,799	6,098	-299
Maryland	4,004	3,591	413	37,931	41,807	-3,876
Massachusetts	5,311	4,585	726	68,985	70,979	-1,994
Michigan	5,555	5,700	-145	50,744	56,977	-6,233
Minnesota	3,307	2,811	496	33,937	32,146	1,791
Mississippi	1,652	1,794	-142	15,889	17,836	-1,947
Missouri	3,984	4,108	-124	33,182	36,093	-2,911
Montana	654	692	-38	5,406	5,923	-517
Nebraska	795	707	88	7,063	7,128	-65
Nevada	2,853	2,439	414	24,833	26,574	-1,741
New Hampshire	689	562	127	5,040	5,386	-346
New Jersey	8,478	7,735	743	113,130	113,016	114
New Mexico	964	969	-5	12,700	13,327	-627
New York	15,933	14,176	1,757	167,613	167,221	392
North Carolina	4,272	3,981	291	34,096	35,504	-1,408
North Dakota	613	445	168	6,815	3,656	3,159
Ohio	7,210	6,573	637	58,629	59,268	-639
Oklahoma	1,761	1,583	178	22,359	23,242	-883
Oregon	4,431	3,918	513	30,612	30,747	-135
Pennsylvania	15,768	14,736	1,032	146,459	139,219	7,240
Puerto Rico	2,809	1,938	871	34,776	36,765	-1,989
Rhode Island	922	974	-52	10,057	10,285	-228
South Carolina	2,714	2,654	60	18,062	18,709	-647
South Dakota	160	184	-24	1,332	1,481	-149
Tennessee	3,044	3,182	-138	27,297	29,305	-2,008
Texas	17,367	16,281	1,086	190,120	182,537	7,583
Utah	1,061	1,111	-50	8,787	9,564	-777
Vermont	400	388	12	4,194	3,968	226
Virgin Islands	36	43	-7	786	830	-44
Virginia	3,901	3,915	-14	30,920	29,355	1,565
Washington	6,800	6,023	777	46,629	45,430	1,199
West Virginia	1,120	1,230	-110	15,066	15,352	-286
Wisconsin	5,937	5,614	323	42,050	40,931	1,119
Wyoming	409	310	99	4,356	4,746	-390
US Total	239,899	224,104	15,795	2,204,679	2,214,915	-10,236

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		
August 2, 2014	297	-5	297.75	2,546	14	2,537.50	1.9	
August 9, 2014	308	11	299.00	2,518	-28	2,535.75	1.9	
August 16, 2014	303	-5	302.50	2,528	10	2,531.00	1.9	
August 23, 2014	297	-6	301.25	2,491	-37	2,520.75	1.9	
August 30, 2014	305	8	303.25	2,500	9	2,509.25	1.9	
September 6, 2014	309	4	303.50	2,452	-48	2,492.75	1.9	
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	2,273	15	2,254.25	1.7	
August 8, 2015	274	5	266.25					

Initial Claims Filed During Week Ended August 1  
INITIAL CLAIMS

Insured Unemployment For Week Ended July 25  
INSURED UNEMPLOYMENT

STATE	CHANGE FROM					STATE	RATE (%)	CHANGE FROM				ALL PROGRAMS EXCLUDING RAILROAD RETIREMENT
	STATE	LAST WEEK	YEAR AGO	UCFE <sup>1</sup>	UCX <sup>1</sup>			LAST WEEK	YEAR AGO	UCFE <sup>1</sup>	UCX <sup>1</sup>	
Alabama	2918	-173	-326	13	18	25217	1.4	-308	-4022	124	180	25521
Alaska	839	-23	-123	3	2	6968	2.2	-510	-2761	60	69	7097
Arizona	4385	-81	-359	15	10	39771	1.6	-215	-5263	357	215	40343
Arkansas	2142	-265	-460	7	5	22192	2.0	-175	-1646	118	175	22485
California	41871	-3157	-3065	172	229	365036	2.3	-8812	-51453	1947	3506	370489
Colorado	2094	2	-299	14	45	28458	1.2	970	-2882	143	805	29406
Connecticut	3098	154	-391	10	7	43569	2.7	-14	-6145	77	170	43816
Delaware	643	-4	-9	1	0	7599	1.8	630	-931	21	25	7645
District of Columbia	360	-8	-49	3	1	9186	1.7	28	-1732	344	16	9546
Florida	10350	340	-3148	28	85	71836	0.9	263	-24883	175	480	72491
Georgia	5855	-440	-1118	25	59	38901	1.0	-732	-9992	297	630	39828
Hawaii	1093	-141	-286	4	14	7346	1.2	-477	-2189	99	182	7627
Idaho	757	-147	-299	2	1	6414	1.0	-547	-2070	25	19	6458
Illinois	8635	-1099	-1131	15	32	116098	2.0	-6246	-16070	404	523	117025
Indiana	3391	252	-675	11	15	21528	0.8	-293	-5738	84	108	21720
Iowa	2589	538	-111	1	5	18212	1.2	-367	102	70	96	18378
Kansas	2229	-146	-149	5	12	14103	1.1	292	-2854	101	175	14379
Kentucky	2772	129	-285	39	6	23485	1.3	1279	-2781	337	347	24169
Louisiana	2479	-31	186	4	11	27591	1.5	-278	4387	35	85	27711
Maine	652	-5	-178	1	0	6098	1.1	-153	-1901	17	26	6141
Maryland	3591	121	-421	31	22	41807	1.7	-62	-11499	334	312	42453
Massachusetts	4585	-85	-905	13	15	70979	2.1	669	-9620	205	388	71572
Michigan	5700	-395	-1784	6	19	56977	1.4	-3754	-16998	141	294	57412
Minnesota	2811	-22	-270	5	10	32146	1.2	-203	-2412	64	182	32392
Mississippi	1794	-124	-160	5	8	17836	1.7	1	-5242	97	67	18000
Missouri	4108	-61	-557	35	8	36093	1.4	-347	-4486	329	177	36599
Montana	692	55	-16	0	9	5923	1.4	-241	-464	70	46	6039
Nebraska	707	-22	-206	3	3	7128	0.8	-201	-517	32	20	7180
Nevada	2439	-44	-732	4	9	26574	2.2	-479	-2939	82	171	26827
New Hampshire	562	-1	-131	0	1	5386	0.9	-73	-1596	7	9	5402
New Jersey	7735	-264	-1038	21	33	113016	3.0	-1818	-14482	247	480	113743
New Mexico	969	-25	-8	5	8	13327	1.7	83	-2084	142	102	13571
New York	14176	-1247	-1969	39	50	167221	1.9	-1605	-20177	555	909	168685
North Carolina	3981	33	-1110	13	32	35504	0.9	-722	-17306	155	460	36119
North Dakota	445	25	143	6	3	3656	0.8	30	1726	172	13	3841
Ohio	6573	1	-836	12	46	59268	1.2	-1654	-6076	128	460	59856
Oklahoma	1583	-27	26	6	16	23242	1.5	-304	6249	81	168	23491
Oregon	3918	141	253	16	37	30747	1.8	135	-3796	215	255	31217
Pennsylvania	14736	99	-867	77	53	139219	2.5	-10594	-12410	649	629	140497
Puerto Rico	1938	40	-353	1	10	36765	4.1	1975	-2186	82	253	37100
Rhode Island	974	189	13	2	5	10285	2.3	-172	-1192	29	43	10357
South Carolina	2654	-56	-1015	10	15	18709	1.0	1774	-2195	70	155	18934
South Dakota	184	3	2	8	0	1481	0.4	6	80	257	3	1741
Tennessee	3182	-1451	-385	11	18	29305	1.1	-1474	-4526	126	220	29651
Texas	16281	11	2132	89	186	182537	1.6	-4793	29777	669	2804	186010
Utah	1111	136	-202	31	3	9564	0.8	-220	-1331	277	63	9904
Vermont	388	-31	35	0	1	3968	1.3	-26	-440	11	6	3985
Virgin Islands	43	6	1	0	2	830	2.2	22	76	2	12	844
Virginia	3915	1094	-113	9	33	29355	0.8	33	-5503	299	664	30318
Washington	6023	-30	-604	13	72	45430	1.5	127	-3886	193	1022	46645
West Virginia	1230	-215	275	2	7	15352	2.3	369	-3420	93	71	15516
Wisconsin	5614	257	-785	2	10	40931	1.5	-2042	-8816	109	77	41117
Wyoming	310	-16	89	0	6	4746	1.7	-351	2070	20	25	4791
Totals	224104	-6210	-23773	848	1307	2214915	1.6	-41576	-266445	10777	18392	2244084

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 AUGUST 1, 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>
VA	+1,094	Layoffs in the manufacturing industry.

### 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	-3,157	Fewer layoffs in the service industry.
TN	-1,451	No comment.
NY	-1,247	Fewer layoffs in the health care and social assistance, transportation and warehousing, and educational service industries.
IL	-1,099	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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