



News Release

Connect with DOL at
<http://social.dol.gov!>



U.S. Department of Labor
Employment and Training Administration
Washington, D.C.
Release Number: USDL 14-709 NAT

Program Contacts
Tom Stengle (202) 693-2991
Tony Sznoluch (202) 693-3176
Media Contact (202) 693-4676

TRANSMISSION OF MATERIALS IN THIS RELEASE IS EMBARGOED UNTIL
8:30 A.M. (Eastern) Thursday, May 1, 2014

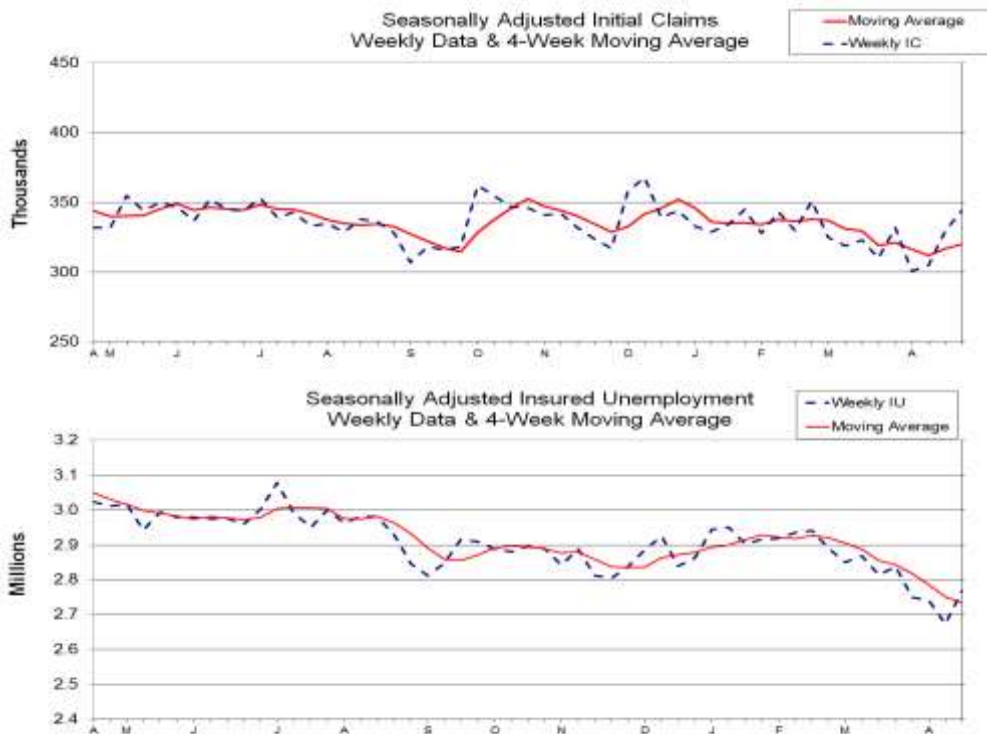
UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE WEEKLY CLAIMS

SEASONALLY ADJUSTED DATA

In the week ending April 26, the advance figure for seasonally adjusted **initial claims** was 344,000, an increase of 14,000 from the previous week's revised level. The previous week's level was revised up by 1,000 from 329,000 to 330,000. The 4-week moving average was 320,000, an increase of 3,000 from the previous week's revised average. The previous week's average was revised up by 250 from 316,750 to 317,000.

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

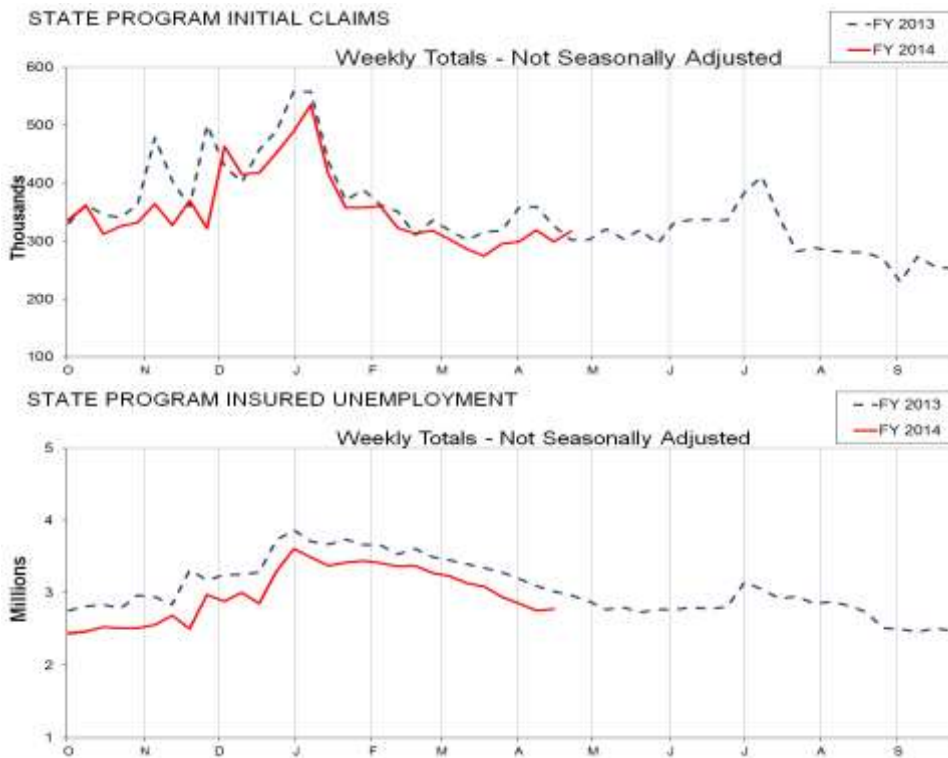
The advance seasonally adjusted **insured unemployment rate** was 2.1 percent for the week ending April 19, an increase of 0.1 percentage point from the previous week's unrevised rate of 2.0 percent. The advance number for seasonally adjusted **insured unemployment** during the week ending April 19 was 2,771,000, an increase of 97,000 from the previous week's revised level. The previous week's level was revised down by 6,000 from 2,680,000 to 2,674,000. The 4-week moving average was 2,734,000, a decrease of 16,750 from the previous week's revised average. This is the lowest level for this average since December 29, 2007 when it was 2,730,250. The previous week's average was revised down by 1,500 from 2,752,250 to 2,750,750.



UNADJUSTED DATA

The advance number of actual initial claims under state programs, unadjusted, totaled 317,184 in the week ending April 26, an increase of 18,002 (or 6.0 percent) from the previous week. The seasonal factors had expected an increase of 5,284 (or 1.8 percent) from the previous week. There were 301,622 initial claims in the comparable week in 2013.

The advance unadjusted insured unemployment rate was 2.1 percent during the week ending April 19, unchanged from the prior week. The advance unadjusted number for persons claiming UI benefits in state programs totaled 2,776,672, an increase of 19,294 (or 0.7 percent) from the preceding week. The seasonal factors had expected a decrease of 77,560 (or -2.8 percent) from the previous week. A year earlier the rate was 2.3 percent and the volume was 3,020,992.



The total number of people claiming benefits in all programs for the week ending April 12 was 2,822,340, a decrease of 99,855 from the previous week. There were 4,956,474 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 April 12.

Initial claims for UI benefits filed by former Federal civilian employees totaled 949 in the week ending April 19, a decrease of 289 from the prior week. There were 1,489 initial claims filed by newly discharged veterans, a decrease of 187 from the preceding week.

There were 15,115 former Federal civilian employees claiming UI benefits for the week ending April 12, a decrease of 905 from the previous week. Newly discharged veterans claiming benefits totaled 26,058, a decrease of 9 from the prior week.

The highest insured unemployment rates in the week ending April 12 were in Alaska (4.6), New Jersey (3.3), California (3.2), Puerto Rico (3.2), Pennsylvania (3.1), Connecticut (3.0), Illinois (2.9), Michigan (2.8), Nevada (2.8), and Rhode Island (2.8).

The largest increases in initial claims for the week ending April 19 were in New Jersey (+4,652), Connecticut (+2,073), Maryland (+998), Nevada (+402), and Vermont (+202), while the largest decreases were in Texas (-3,118), California (-2,887), Pennsylvania (-2,738), New York (-1,740), and Indiana (-1,577).

UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE DATA FOR REGULAR STATE PROGRAMS

WEEK ENDING	Advance April 26	April 19	Change	April 12	Prior Year ¹
Initial Claims (SA)	344,000	330,000	+14,000	305,000	332,000
Initial Claims (NSA)	317,184	299,182	+18,002	318,793	301,622
4-Wk Moving Average (SA)	320,000	317,000	+3,000	312,000	344,000
WEEK ENDING	Advance April 19	April 12	Change	April 5	Prior Year ¹
Insured Unemployment (SA)	2,771,000	2,674,000	+97,000	2,741,000	3,024,000
Insured Unemployment (NSA)	2,776,672	2,757,378	+19,294	2,853,279	3,020,992
4-Wk Moving Average (SA)	2,734,000	2,750,750	-16,750	2,785,750	3,050,250
Insured Unemployment Rate (SA)²	2.1%	2.0%	+0.1	2.1%	2.3%
Insured Unemployment Rate (NSA)²	2.1%	2.1%	0.0	2.2%	2.3%

INITIAL CLAIMS FILED IN FEDERAL PROGRAMS (UNADJUSTED)

WEEK ENDING	April 19	April 12	Change	Prior Year ¹
Federal Employees (UCFE)	949	1,238	-289	1,444
Newly Discharged Veterans (UCX)	1,489	1,676	-187	2,033

PERSONS CLAIMING UI BENEFITS IN ALL PROGRAMS (UNADJUSTED)

WEEK ENDING	April 12	April 5	Change	Prior Year ¹
Regular State	2,752,219	2,846,895	-94,676	3,089,710
Federal Employees	15,115	16,020	-905	18,093
Newly Discharged Veterans	26,058	26,067	-9	37,054
Extended Benefits³	140	258	-118	326
State Additional Benefits⁴	9,921	10,548	-627	7,357
STC / Workshare⁵	18,887	22,407	-3,520	26,197
TOTAL⁶	2,822,340	2,922,195	-99,855	4,956,474

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 131,532,656 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 APRIL 19, 2014

STATES WITH AN DECREASE OF MORE THAN 1,000

State	Change	State Supplied Comment
TX	-3,118	No comment.
CA	-2,887	No comment.
PA	-2,738	Fewer layoffs in the construction, and administrative and support services industries.
NY	-1,740	Fewer layoffs in the manufacturing, retail trade, and construction industries.
IN	-1,577	No comment.
IL	-1,420	No comment.
MI	-1,247	Fewer layoffs in the construction industry.
AZ	-1,205	No comment.
NC	-1,159	Fewer layoffs in the nonclassifiable establishments, and administrative and support services industries.

STATES WITH AN INCREASE OF MORE THAN 1,000

State	Change	State Supplied Comment
NJ	+4,652	Layoffs in the educational services industry.
CT	+2,073	Layoffs in the educational services; transportation and warehousing, accommodation and food services, and public administration industries.

Seasonally Adjusted US Weekly Claims (in thousands)

Week Ending	Change from			Insured Unemployment	Change from		IUR
	Initial Claims	Prior Week	4-Week Average		Prior Week	4-Week Average	
April 20, 2013	343	-10	354.75	3024	12	3050.25	2.3
April 27, 2013	332	-11	344.00	3011	-13	3030.75	2.3
May 4, 2013	332	0	340.00	3017	6	3016.00	2.3
May 11, 2013	355	23	340.50	2943	-74	2998.75	2.3
May 18, 2013	344	-11	340.75	2994	51	2991.25	2.3
May 25, 2013	350	6	345.25	2979	-15	2983.25	2.3
June 1, 2013	347	-3	349.00	2980	1	2974.00	2.3
June 8, 2013	337	-10	344.50	2975	-5	2982.00	2.3
June 15, 2013	352	15	346.50	2977	2	2977.75	2.3
June 22, 2013	345	-7	345.25	2959	-18	2972.75	2.3
June 29, 2013	344	-1	344.50	3003	44	2978.50	2.3
July 6, 2013	353	9	348.50	3079	76	3004.50	2.4
July 13, 2013	339	-14	345.25	2991	-88	3008.00	2.3
July 20, 2013	343	4	344.75	2950	-41	3005.75	2.3
July 27, 2013	333	-10	342.00	3001	51	3005.25	2.3
August 3, 2013	335	2	337.50	2963	-38	2976.25	2.3
August 10, 2013	329	-6	335.00	2981	18	2973.75	2.3
August 17, 2013	338	9	333.75	2981	0	2981.50	2.3
August 24, 2013	336	-2	334.50	2928	-53	2963.25	2.3
August 31, 2013	328	-8	332.75	2845	-83	2933.75	2.2
September 7, 2013	307	-21	327.25	2812	-33	2891.50	2.2
September 14, 2013	318	11	322.25	2847	35	2858.00	2.2
September 21, 2013	316	-2	317.25	2916	69	2855.00	2.2
September 28, 2013	318	2	314.75	2910	-6	2871.25	2.2
October 5, 2013	362	44	328.50	2888	-22	2890.25	2.2
October 12, 2013	355	-7	337.75	2881	-7	2898.75	2.2
October 19, 2013	347	-8	345.50	2896	15	2893.75	2.2
October 26, 2013	346	-1	352.50	2890	-6	2888.75	2.2
November 2, 2013	341	-5	347.25	2843	-47	2877.50	2.2
November 9, 2013	342	1	344.00	2889	46	2879.50	2.2
November 16, 2013	332	-10	340.25	2813	-76	2858.75	2.2
November 23, 2013	324	-8	334.75	2804	-9	2837.25	2.2
November 30, 2013	317	-7	328.75	2837	33	2835.75	2.2
December 7, 2013	358	41	332.75	2887	50	2835.25	2.2
December 14, 2013	368	10	341.75	2925	38	2863.25	2.2
December 21, 2013	339	-29	345.50	2840	-85	2872.25	2.2
December 28, 2013	344	5	352.25	2863	23	2878.75	2.2
January 4, 2014	333	-11	346.00	2945	82	2893.25	2.2
January 11, 2014	329	-4	336.25	2951	6	2899.75	2.3
January 18, 2014	334	5	335.00	2903	-48	2915.50	2.2
January 25, 2014	345	11	335.25	2915	12	2928.50	2.2
February 1, 2014	328	-17	334.00	2918	3	2921.75	2.2
February 8, 2014	343	15	337.50	2936	18	2918.00	2.2
February 15, 2014	330	-13	336.50	2941	5	2927.50	2.2
February 22, 2014	351	21	338.00	2890	-51	2921.25	2.2
March 1, 2014	325	-26	337.25	2850	-40	2904.25	2.2
March 8, 2014	319	-6	331.25	2869	19	2887.50	2.2
March 15, 2014	323	4	329.50	2814	-55	2855.75	2.1
March 22, 2014	310	-13	319.25	2838	24	2842.75	2.2
March 29, 2014	332	22	321.00	2750	-88	2817.75	2.1
April 5, 2014	301	-31	316.50	2741	-9	2785.75	2.1
April 12, 2014	305	4	312.00	2674	-67	2750.75	2.0
April 19, 2014	330	25	317.00	2771	97	2734.00	2.1
April 26, 2014	344	14	320.00				

Initial Claims Filed During Week Ended April 19								Insured Unemployment For Week Ended April 12				
INITIAL CLAIMS								INSURED UNEMPLOYMENT				
CHANGE FROM								CHANGE FROM				
STATE	STATE	LAST WEEK	YEAR AGO	UCFE ¹	UCX ¹	STATE	(%) ²	LAST WEEK	YEAR AGO	UCFE ¹	UCX ¹	ALL PROGRAMS EXCLUDING RAILROAD RETIREMENT
Alabama	3178	-381	-907	11	17	27347	1.5	286	-3088	131	287	27765
Alaska	1502	-303	-1222	8	6	14529	4.6	-954	-1398	155	92	14776
Arizona	6531	-1205	-241	5	3	38041	1.6	1658	-522	228	285	38554
Arkansas	2466	-242	-534	9	6	22264	2.0	-399	-4778	138	217	22619
California	62405	-2887	11566	189	243	475987	3.2	6800	-15566	3243	4739	483973
Colorado	3011	-259	-1012	16	60	41058	1.8	2038	104	426	1132	42616
Connecticut	6060	2073	-786	8	7	49106	3.0	-4045	-3623	89	236	49431
Delaware	582	-230	-199	2	3	7830	1.9	-505	-542	37	57	7927
District of Columbia	347	-64	-383	4	1	10189	2.0	-274	-452	371	26	10588
Florida	15005	-377	1397	68	114	99729	1.4	8945	-9680	374	898	101001
Georgia	7297	-108	-2043	32	72	46306	1.2	-222	-21216	354	914	47574
Hawaii	1584	-205	-176	5	23	9909	1.7	-186	-1413	137	237	10283
Idaho	1285	-220	-611	4	7	11127	1.8	-1369	-3476	162	84	11373
Illinois	10657	-1420	-1453	19	31	163964	2.9	-18144	-13354	517	735	165216
Indiana	4168	-1577	-1480	21	21	39094	1.4	-4086	-9831	278	338	39710
Iowa	2398	-22	-206	5	8	22475	1.5	-3869	-6782	89	146	22710
Kansas	2194	-402	-364	10	6	19767	1.5	17	-2681	228	259	20254
Kentucky	3149	-340	-584	33	14	27231	1.6	-4237	-7415	158	548	27937
Louisiana	1951	-510	-668	11	11	18996	1.0	-135	-3938	116	108	19220
Maine	1479	-1	189	0	1	15377	2.7	-638	-712	48	65	15490
Maryland	5742	998	1123	27	22	52697	2.2	-1294	-2232	558	454	53709
Massachusetts	5258	-408	-4125	20	26	86491	2.7	-10400	-4549	265	469	87225
Michigan	14164	-1247	1419	16	33	112321	2.8	1110	1644	230	505	113056
Minnesota	3743	-435	-875	13	10	60459	2.3	-6289	-6754	142	297	60898
Mississippi	2000	-374	-756	31	10	17126	1.6	199	-5088	203	141	17470
Missouri	5141	-788	-881	12	0	38883	1.5	-1781	-8247	207	214	39304
Montana	1107	-89	-303	12	12	10218	2.4	-924	-2415	346	87	10651
Nebraska	1045	64	-375	5	2	8143	0.9	-713	-2798	20	37	8200
Nevada	3902	402	-437	8	18	31233	2.8	-454	-854	226	283	31742
New Hampshire	853	-22	-196	4	5	8620	1.4	-521	-937	11	15	8646
New Jersey	13330	4652	3834	15	21	123505	3.3	-10211	-9523	264	559	124450
New Mexico	1442	-34	212	5	11	16352	2.1	264	-445	165	156	16673
New York	16729	-1740	-3194	50	59	205348	2.4	-10495	-33117	824	1333	207506
North Carolina	4378	-1159	-6276	11	39	56689	1.5	-1116	-33077	252	863	57804
North Dakota	232	-189	-197	2	1	3594	0.9	-948	-1295	21	10	3625
Ohio	7421	-588	-1717	12	51	82458	1.6	-8563	-13516	194	666	83318
Oklahoma	1516	-150	-545	9	11	16218	1.1	-552	-4017	90	219	16527
Oregon	4498	-740	-485	28	27	40405	2.5	-2165	-8781	559	367	41331
Pennsylvania	19056	-2738	581	66	81	170501	3.1	-4373	-9524	654	1192	172347
Puerto Rico	1952	-632	-486	4	6	29568	3.2	416	-9405	117	310	29995
Rhode Island	1226	182	-1313	4	1	12589	2.8	-1216	-546	74	73	12736
South Carolina	2869	-466	-1366	7	22	17700	1.0	-427	-11750	62	172	17934
South Dakota	213	-47	-121	1	1	2545	0.6	-450	-780	31	7	2583
Tennessee	3357	-484	-1346	6	16	30731	1.2	-1050	-9500	147	299	31177
Texas	14813	-3118	-2428	53	185	149189	1.4	-683	-6447	744	3247	153187
Utah	1760	16	-647	9	7	13356	1.1	-660	-3203	174	109	13639
Vermont	1106	202	-105	2	3	7109	2.4	-87	-508	19	21	7149
Virgin Islands	22	-31	-23	0	0	792	2.1	-126	-288	10	4	806
Virginia	3810	-355	-1202	18	32	37816	1.1	-956	-6260	346	876	39038
Washington	8078	-977	-1472	30	101	62968	2.2	-5442	-8146	526	1330	64824
West Virginia	1185	-175	-426	0	9	15405	2.3	-1797	-1579	84	108	15597
Wisconsin	9538	-146	-2875	8	10	71357	2.7	-5030	-23096	163	195	71716
Wyoming	447	-315	-362	1	3	4666	1.7	152	-1551	108	37	4811
Totals	299182	-19611	-27082	949	1489	2757378	2.1	-95901	-338947	15115	26058	2798691

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](#)

U.S. Department of Labor news materials are accessible at <http://www.dol.gov>. The Department's [Reasonable Accommodation Resource Center](#) converts Departmental information and documents into alternative formats, which include Braille and large print. For alternative format requests, please contact the Department at (202) 693-7828 (voice) or (800) 877-8339 (federal relay).