



# News Release

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**8:30 A.M. (Eastern) Thursday, September 25, 2014**

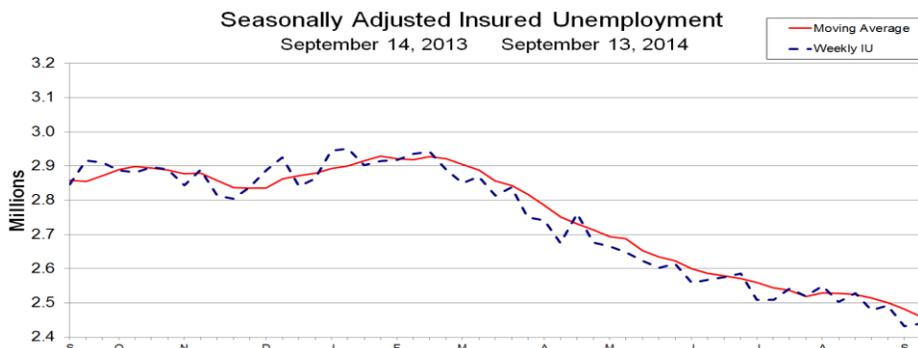
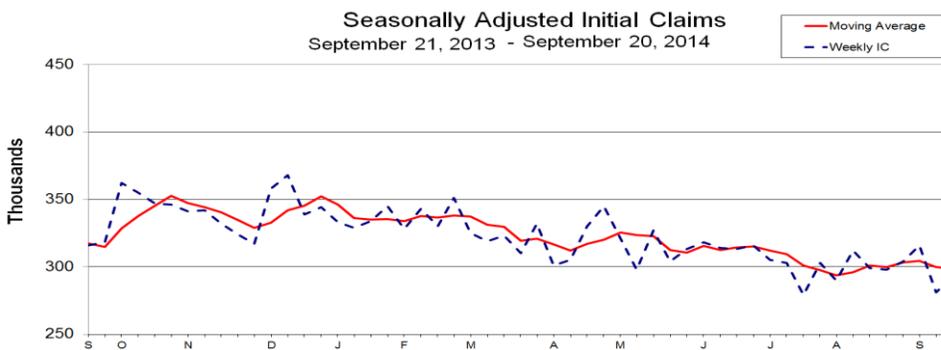
## UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE WEEKLY CLAIMS

### SEASONALLY ADJUSTED DATA

In the week ending September 20, the advance figure for seasonally adjusted **initial claims** was 293,000, an increase of 12,000 from the previous week's revised level. The previous week's level was revised up by 1,000 from 280,000 to 281,000. The 4-week moving average was 298,500, a decrease of 1,250 from the previous week's revised average. The previous week's average was revised up by 250 from 299,500 to 299,750.

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

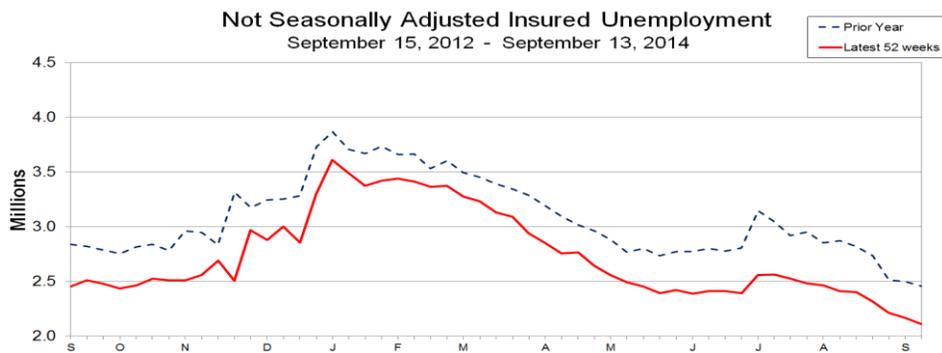
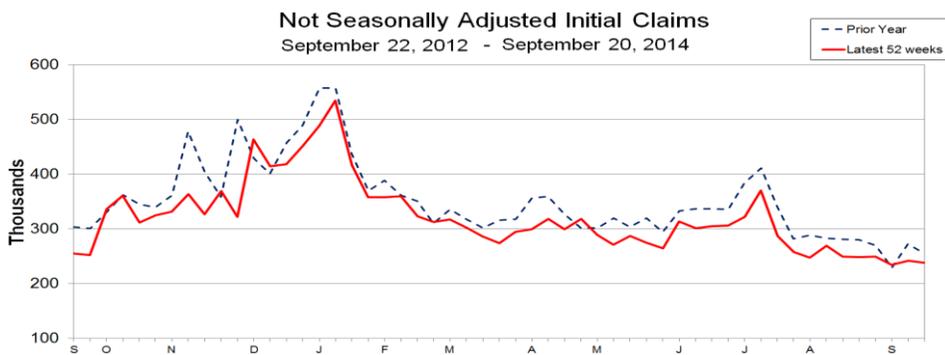
The advance seasonally adjusted **insured unemployment rate** was 1.8 percent for the week ending September 13, unchanged from the previous week's unrevised rate. The advance number for seasonally adjusted **insured unemployment** during the week ending September 13 was 2,439,000, an increase of 7,000 from the previous week's revised level. The previous week's level was revised up 3,000 from 2,429,000 to 2,432,000. The 4-week moving average was 2,460,250, a decrease of 22,250 from the previous week's revised average. This is the lowest level for this average since June 9, 2007 when it was 2,458,250. The previous week's average was revised up by 750 from 2,481,750 to 2,482,500.



## UNADJUSTED DATA

The advance number of actual initial claims under state programs, unadjusted, totaled 238,539 in the week ending September 20, a decrease of 3,533 (or -1.5 percent) from the previous week. The seasonal factors had expected a decrease of 13,214 (or -5.5 percent) from the previous week. There were 255,087 initial claims in the comparable week in 2013.

The advance unadjusted insured unemployment rate was 1.6 percent during the week ending September 13, unchanged from the prior week. The advance unadjusted number for persons claiming UI benefits in state programs totaled 2,112,457, a decrease of 54,732 (or -2.5 percent) from the preceding week. The seasonal factors had expected a decrease of 60,808 (or -2.8 percent) from the previous week. A year earlier the rate was 1.9 percent and the volume was 2,456,548.



The total number of people claiming benefits in all programs for the week ending September 6 was 2,222,189, a decrease of 42,035 from the previous week. There were 3,914,683 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 September 6.

Initial claims for UI benefits filed by former Federal civilian employees totaled 1,154 in the week ending September 13, a decrease of 385 from the prior week. There were 1,967 initial claims filed by newly discharged veterans, a decrease of 33 from the preceding week.

There were 15,743 former Federal civilian employees claiming UI benefits for the week ending September 6, an increase of 1,428 from the previous week. Newly discharged veterans claiming benefits totaled 24,224, an increase of 539 from the prior week.

The highest insured unemployment rates in the week ending September 6 were in Puerto Rico (3.6), New Jersey (3.0), Alaska (2.9), Connecticut (2.5), California (2.4), Nevada (2.4), Pennsylvania (2.3), Virgin Islands (2.3), Massachusetts (2.2), District of Columbia (2.0), Illinois (2.0), and New York (2.0).

The largest increases in initial claims for the week ending September 13 were in California (+5,269), Missouri (+1,810), Oregon (+1,691), New York (+810), and Florida (+777), while the largest decreases were in Michigan (-2,473), New Jersey (-1,573), Nebraska (-916), Kansas (-657), and Illinois (-638).

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UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE DATA FOR REGULAR STATE PROGRAMS

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<b>WEEK ENDING</b>	<b>September 20</b>	<b>September 13</b>	<b>Change</b>	<b>September 6</b>	<b><u>Prior Year</u><sup>1</sup></b>
Initial Claims (SA)	293,000	281,000	+12,000	316,000	316,000
Initial Claims (NSA)	238,539	242,072	-3,533	234,716	255,087
4-Wk Moving Average (SA)	298,500	299,750	-1,250	304,250	317,250
<b>WEEK ENDING</b>	<b>September 13</b>	<b>September 6</b>	<b>Change</b>	<b>August 30</b>	<b><u>Prior Year</u><sup>1</sup></b>
Insured Unemployment (SA)	2,439,000	2,432,000	+7,000	2,492,000	2,847,000
Insured Unemployment (NSA)	2,112,457	2,167,189	-54,732	2,212,738	2,456,548
4-Wk Moving Average (SA)	2,460,250	2,482,500	-22,250	2,500,000	2,858,000
<u>Insured Unemployment Rate (SA)</u> <sup>2</sup>	1.8%	1.8%	0.0	1.9%	2.2%
<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>September 13</b>	<b>September 6</b>	<b>Change</b>	<b><u>Prior Year</u><sup>1</sup></b>
Federal Employees (UCFE)	1,154	1,539	-385	1,139
Newly Discharged Veterans (UCX)	1,967	2,000	-33	2,154

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PERSONS CLAIMING UI BENEFITS IN ALL PROGRAMS (UNADJUSTED)

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<b>WEEK ENDING</b>	<b>September 6</b>	<b>August 30</b>	<b>Change</b>	<b><u>Prior Year</u><sup>1</sup></b>
Regular State	2,163,411	2,209,095	-45,684	2,494,374
Federal Employees	15,743	14,315	+1,428	18,915
Newly Discharged Veterans	24,224	23,685	+539	31,207
<u>Extended Benefits</u> <sup>3</sup>	6	37	-31	297
<u>State Additional Benefits</u> <sup>4</sup>	5,105	4,380	+725	4,142
<u>STC / Workshare</u> <sup>5</sup>	13,700	12,712	+988	17,222
<u>TOTAL</u> <sup>6</sup>	2,222,189	2,264,224	-42,035	3,914,683

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 132,140,947 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.

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**UNADJUSTED INITIAL CLAIMS FOR WEEK ENDED SEPTEMBER 13, 2014**

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**STATES WITH A DECREASE OF MORE THAN 1,000**

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<b>State</b>	<b>Change</b>	<b>State Supplied Comment</b>
MI	-2,473	Fewer layoffs in the wholesale trade industry.
NJ	-1,573	Fewer layoffs in the accommodation and food services and construction industries.

**STATES WITH AN INCREASE OF MORE THAN 1,000**

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<b>State</b>	<b>Change</b>	<b>State Supplied Comment</b>
CA	+5,269	No comment.
MO	+1,810	Layoffs in the manufacturing, administrative services, retail trade, and automotive manufacturing industries.
OR	+1,691	No comment.

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## 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 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	2761	87	2731.50	2.1
April 26, 2014	345	15	320.25	2676	-85	2713.00	2.0
May 3, 2014	321	-24	325.25	2666	-10	2694.25	2.0
May 10, 2014	298	-23	323.50	2648	-18	2687.75	2.0
May 17, 2014	327	29	322.75	2623	-25	2653.25	2.0
May 24, 2014	304	-23	312.50	2603	-20	2635.00	2.0
May 31, 2014	313	9	310.50	2615	12	2622.25	2.0
June 7, 2014	318	5	315.50	2559	-56	2600.00	1.9
June 14, 2014	314	-4	312.25	2568	9	2586.25	2.0
June 21, 2014	313	-1	314.50	2575	7	2579.25	2.0
June 28, 2014	316	3	315.25	2586	11	2572.00	2.0
July 5, 2014	305	-11	312.00	2508	-78	2559.25	1.9
July 12, 2014	303	-2	309.25	2508	0	2544.25	1.9
July 19, 2014	279	-24	300.75	2542	34	2536.00	1.9
July 26, 2014	303	24	297.50	2519	-23	2519.25	1.9
August 2, 2014	290	-13	293.75	2549	30	2529.50	1.9
August 9, 2014	312	22	296.00	2502	-47	2528.00	1.9
August 16, 2014	299	-13	301.00	2528	26	2524.50	1.9
August 23, 2014	298	-1	299.75	2478	-50	2514.25	1.9
August 30, 2014	304	6	303.25	2492	14	2500.00	1.9
September 6, 2014	316	12	304.25	2432	-60	2482.50	1.8
September 13, 2014	281	-35	299.75	2439	7	2460.25	1.8
September 20, 2014	293	12	298.50				

Initial Claims Filed During Week Ended September 13  
INITIAL CLAIMS

Insured Unemployment For Week Ended September 6  
INSURED UNEMPLOYMENT

STATE	CHANGE FROM						CHANGE FROM				ALL PROGRAMS EXCLUDING RAILROAD RETIREMENT	
	STATE	LAST WEEK	YEAR AGO	UCFE <sup>1</sup>	UCX <sup>1</sup>	STATE	LAST WEEK	YEAR AGO	UCFE <sup>1</sup>	UCX <sup>1</sup>		
Alabama	3414	417	-991	15	23	25365	1.4	-20	-7097	110	247	25722
Alaska	1201	239	-206	3	4	9033	2.9	-266	-1094	120	102	9255
Arizona	4183	442	-82	7	10	38061	1.6	-892	-3229	143	301	38505
Arkansas	2687	402	-51	11	9	20541	1.8	107	-5476	96	237	20874
California	43003	5269	2346	131	278	365470	2.4	16953	58707	2595	4508	372575
Colorado	2301	210	-602	11	55	27377	1.2	-264	-6937	293	922	28592
Connecticut	2996	389	-315	5	18	39947	2.5	-3621	-6067	77	225	40249
Delaware	647	53	-187	1	6	6114	1.5	-276	-1119	33	66	6214
District of Columbia	335	-1	-63	12	1	10190	2.0	-100	-1674	359	14	10563
Florida	13323	777	-280	31	116	90806	1.2	-39	-20906	511	748	92065
Georgia	7421	696	-2907	46	81	43816	1.1	-463	-14052	661	879	45356
Hawaii	1418	117	-362	5	25	9035	1.5	306	-1868	89	256	9380
Idaho	865	179	-225	0	10	6805	1.1	-739	-1997	26	59	6890
Illinois	9118	-638	-2793	10	31	112273	2.0	-1231	-27178	405	695	113373
Indiana	3613	-177	-1633	12	26	24004	0.9	-161	-16148	205	221	24430
Iowa	1905	124	-530	4	5	15976	1.1	-264	-2608	60	124	16160
Kansas	2103	-657	13	4	5	15530	1.2	980	-5008	112	202	15844
Kentucky	2417	-25	-981	45	11	21995	1.3	-1146	-8651	279	482	22756
Louisiana	2071	110	-592	9	9	20486	1.1	-253	-3571	79	96	20661
Maine	829	-34	-109	1	1	6633	1.2	-229	-1557	32	55	6720
Maryland	3774	-179	-734	35	34	45670	1.9	-849	-3939	523	401	46594
Massachusetts	5460	81	791	38	43	70316	2.2	-4474	3534	532	476	71324
Michigan	6107	-2473	-1278	16	55	64448	1.6	1086	-4579	157	460	65065
Minnesota	3250	103	-144	6	19	30645	1.2	-945	-5298	85	226	30956
Mississippi	1648	231	-647	14	12	16901	1.6	-673	-5329	115	176	17192
Missouri	6255	1810	681	103	22	33274	1.3	-7	-7207	1136	249	34659
Montana	787	0	-132	7	5	5337	1.3	-101	-1559	60	79	5476
Nebraska	929	-916	-175	3	1	7051	0.8	807	-767	28	37	7116
Nevada	3139	100	-784	8	19	27372	2.4	2862	-1092	98	239	27709
New Hampshire	666	42	-56	1	5	5530	0.9	-697	-1130	17	27	5574
New Jersey	8991	-1573	349	24	50	113588	3.0	-8964	-13383	283	567	114438
New Mexico	945	-61	-137	10	7	12928	1.7	-23	-2428	125	127	13180
New York	18969	810	-2011	145	97	173595	2.0	-11481	-48132	1115	1156	175866
North Carolina	4816	325	-1480	21	70	46892	1.2	-612	-28442	208	742	47842
North Dakota	187	-39	-12	0	4	1383	0.3	-92	-258	25	11	1419
Ohio	6381	-181	-1779	14	52	55276	1.1	-1140	-13078	244	682	56202
Oklahoma	1532	-193	-360	7	26	15563	1.0	266	-3716	71	189	15823
Oregon	5422	1691	677	24	50	30698	1.9	-717	-6553	191	381	31270
Pennsylvania	14004	-197	-3339	82	95	128071	2.3	-11416	-27237	1104	938	130114
Puerto Rico	1998	116	-614	4	8	32836	3.6	-2657	-6370	176	330	33342
Rhode Island	1083	180	-62	4	5	8690	1.9	-702	-1409	38	71	8799
South Carolina	3020	241	-2121	10	32	18023	1.0	-557	-9959	57	244	18324
South Dakota	201	-8	-33	0	4	1152	0.3	64	-223	22	9	1183
Tennessee	3952	-14	-218	36	29	29657	1.1	1037	-7085	374	301	30332
Texas	13473	-325	-2581	84	242	134400	1.2	-7262	-25189	1431	3006	138839
Utah	1207	114	-395	25	18	9572	0.8	-253	-2607	271	91	9934
Vermont	358	-55	-85	1	2	3194	1.1	-84	-519	13	18	3225
Virgin Islands	55	13	-27	0	0	876	2.3	94	-370	2	20	898
Virginia	3972	160	-474	20	52	32234	0.9	469	-6217	387	946	33567
Washington	6550	-62	-1079	35	156	45891	1.6	-2445	-8658	349	1287	47527
West Virginia	946	-9	-217	3	10	11754	1.7	-23	-1802	71	91	11916
Wisconsin	5764	-387	-1829	8	15	42707	1.6	-4082	-12829	126	177	43010
Wyoming	381	119	-19	3	4	2208	0.8	-360	-1306	24	31	2263
Totals	242072	7356	-30874	1154	1967	2167189	1.6	-45549	-332666	15743	24224	2207162

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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