



# News Release

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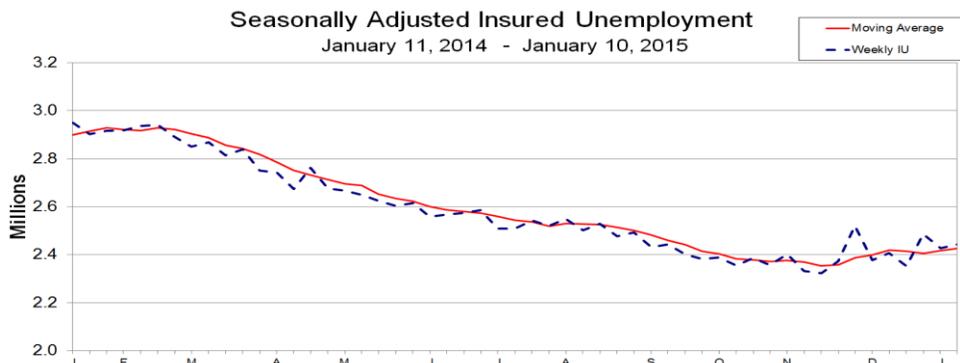
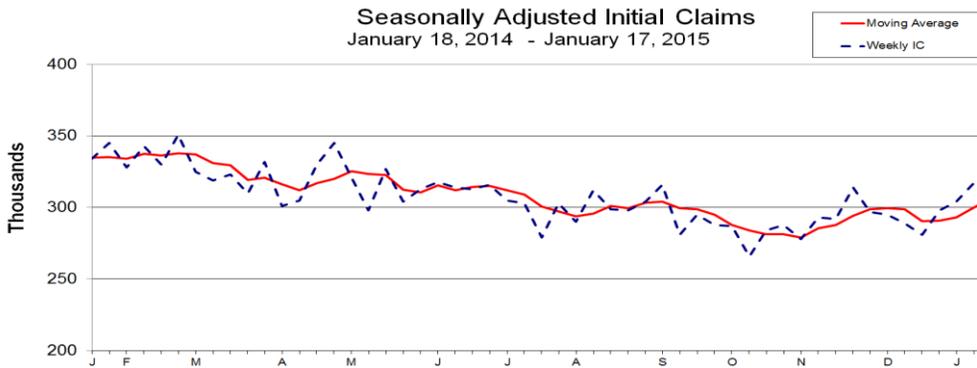
## UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE WEEKLY CLAIMS

### SEASONALLY ADJUSTED DATA

In the week ending January 17, the advance figure for seasonally adjusted **initial claims** was 307,000, a decrease of 10,000 from the previous week's revised level. The previous week's level was revised up by 1,000 from 316,000 to 317,000. The 4-week moving average was 306,500, an increase of 6,500 from the previous week's revised average. The previous week's average was revised up by 2,000 from 298,000 to 300,000.

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

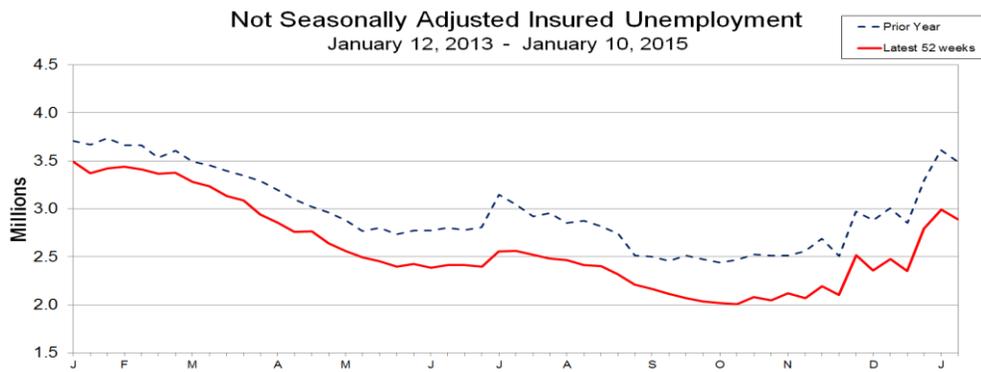
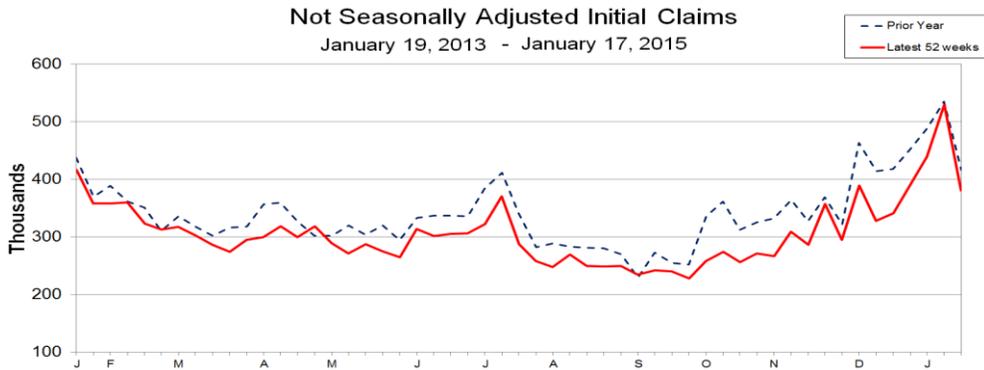
The advance seasonally adjusted **insured unemployment rate** was 1.8 percent for the week ending January 10, unchanged from the previous week's unrevised rate. The advance number for seasonally adjusted **insured unemployment** during the week ending January 10 was 2,443,000, an increase of 15,000 from the previous week's revised level. The previous week's level was revised up 4,000 from 2,424,000 to 2,428,000. The 4-week moving average was 2,427,000, an increase of 9,000 from the previous week's revised average. The previous week's average was revised up by 3,500 from 2,414,500 to 2,418,000.



**UNADJUSTED DATA**

The advance number of actual initial claims under state programs, unadjusted, totaled 380,934 in the week ending January 17, a decrease of 148,530 (or -28.1 percent) from the previous week. The seasonal factors had expected a decrease of 135,931 (or -25.7 percent) from the previous week. There were 416,116 initial claims in the comparable week in 2014.

The advance unadjusted insured unemployment rate was 2.2 percent during the week ending January 10, unchanged from the prior week. The advance unadjusted number for persons claiming UI benefits in state programs totaled 2,887,741, a decrease of 101,503 (or -3.4 percent) from the preceding week. The seasonal factors had expected a decrease of 118,987 (or -4.0 percent) from the previous week. A year earlier the rate was 2.7 percent and the volume was 3,487,905.



The total number of people claiming benefits in all programs for the week ending January 3 was 3,049,661, an increase of 196,315 from the previous week. There were 3,688,285 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 January 3.

Initial claims for UI benefits filed by former Federal civilian employees totaled 1,969 in the week ending January 10, an increase of 695 from the prior week. There were 2,034 initial claims filed by newly discharged veterans, an increase of 659 from the preceding week.

There were 17,656 former Federal civilian employees claiming UI benefits for the week ending January 3, a decrease of 1,052 from the previous week. Newly discharged veterans claiming benefits totaled 24,464, a decrease of 609 from the prior week.

The highest insured unemployment rates in the week ending January 3 were in Alaska (4.5), New Jersey (4.0), Connecticut (3.8), Pennsylvania (3.7), Rhode Island (3.6), Wisconsin (3.4), Massachusetts (3.3), Montana (3.3), and Puerto Rico (3.0).

The largest increases in initial claims for the week ending January 10 were in California (+26,122), Texas (+12,312), Indiana (+6,158), Missouri (+6,151), and Illinois (+5,769), while the largest decreases were in New York (-2,433), Pennsylvania (-1,625), Oregon (-1,314), New Jersey (-841), and South Carolina (-802).

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UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE DATA FOR REGULAR STATE PROGRAMS

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<b>WEEK ENDING</b>	<b>January 17</b>	<b>January 10</b>	<b>Change</b>	<b>January 3</b>	<b><u>Prior Year</u><sup>1</sup></b>
Initial Claims (SA)	307,000	317,000	-10,000	304,000	334,000
Initial Claims (NSA)	380,934	529,464	-148,530	439,348	416,116
4-Wk Moving Average (SA)	306,500	300,000	+6,500	293,000	335,000
<b>WEEK ENDING</b>	<b>January 10</b>	<b>January 3</b>	<b>Change</b>	<b>December 27</b>	<b><u>Prior Year</u><sup>1</sup></b>
Insured Unemployment (SA)	2,443,000	2,428,000	+15,000	2,485,000	2,951,000
Insured Unemployment (NSA)	2,887,741	2,989,244	-101,503	2,795,469	3,487,905
4-Wk Moving Average (SA)	2,427,000	2,418,000	+9,000	2,405,500	2,899,750
<u>Insured Unemployment Rate (SA)</u> <sup>2</sup>	1.8%	1.8%	0.0	1.9%	2.3%
<u>Insured Unemployment Rate (NSA)</u> <sup>2</sup>	2.2%	2.2%	0.0	2.1%	2.7%

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INITIAL CLAIMS FILED IN FEDERAL PROGRAMS (UNADJUSTED)

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<b>WEEK ENDING</b>	<b>January 10</b>	<b>January 3</b>	<b>Change</b>	<b><u>Prior Year</u><sup>1</sup></b>
Federal Employees (UCFE)	1,969	1,274	+695	2,240
Newly Discharged Veterans (UCX)	2,034	1,375	+659	2,463

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PERSONS CLAIMING UI BENEFITS IN ALL PROGRAMS (UNADJUSTED)

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<b>WEEK ENDING</b>	<b>January 3</b>	<b>December 27</b>	<b>Change</b>	<b><u>Prior Year</u><sup>1</sup></b>
Regular State	2,984,615	2,792,080	+192,535	3,604,530
Federal Employees	17,656	18,708	-1,052	23,275
Newly Discharged Veterans	24,464	25,073	-609	31,049
<u>Extended Benefits</u> <sup>3</sup>	8	2	+6	113
<u>State Additional Benefits</u> <sup>4</sup>	6,255	5,780	+475	5,615
<u>STC / Workshare</u> <sup>5</sup>	16,663	11,703	+4,960	23,703
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>3,049,661</b>	<b>2,853,346</b>	<b>+196,315</b>	<b>3,688,285</b>

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 133,397,155 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](#)

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**UNADJUSTED INITIAL CLAIMS FOR WEEK ENDED JANUARY 10, 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>
CA	+26,122	Layoffs in the service and agriculture, forestry, fishing, and hunting industries.
TX	+12,312	Layoffs in the manufacturing, administrative and support and waste management and remediation service, and retail trade industries.
IN	+6,158	Layoffs in the manufacturing and retail trade industries.
MO	+6,151	Layoffs in the manufacturing, construction, and administrative and support and waste management and remediation service industries.
IL	+5,769	Layoffs in the construction, administrative and support and waste management and remediation service, and manufacturing industries.
OH	+2,770	Layoffs in the manufacturing industry.
VA	+2,753	Layoffs in the construction industry.
MD	+2,394	No comment.
MA	+2,250	Layoffs in the construction, trade, administrative and support and waste management and remediation service, and professional, scientific, and technical service industries.
AZ	+2,165	No comment.
IA	+2,146	Layoffs in the manufacturing and construction industries.
PR	+2,036	No comment.
KS	+1,819	No comment.
LA	+1,787	No comment.
NC	+1,725	Layoffs in the accommodation and food service, retail, and construction industries.
FL	+1,404	Layoffs in the agriculture, forestry, fishing, and hunting, construction, manufacturing, wholesale trade, retail trade, and service industries.
CO	+1,382	Layoffs in the mining and construction industries.
WV	+1,380	Layoffs in the mining, construction, manufacturing, wholesale trade, retail trade, transportation and warehousing, administrative and support and waste management and remediation service, health care and social assistance, accommodation and food service, and public administration industries.
AL	+1,354	Layoffs in the manufacturing, retail trade, administrative and support and waste management and remediation service, and construction industries.
TN	+1,349	Layoffs in the administrative and support and waste management and remediation service, transportation and warehousing, and construction industries.
CT	+1,161	Layoffs in the transportation and warehousing, manufacturing, agriculture, forestry, fishing, and hunting, retail, and construction industries.
ND	+1,066	No comment.
RI	+1,061	Layoffs in the manufacturing and administrative and support and waste management and remediation service industries.
AK	+1,004	No comment.

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

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<b>State</b>	<b>Change</b>	<b>State Supplied Comment</b>
NY	-2,433	Fewer layoffs in the transportation and warehousing, accommodation and food service, and construction industries.
PA	-1,625	Fewer layoffs in the transportation and warehousing, accommodation and food service, and manufacturing industries.
OR	-1,314	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		
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	2,323	-10	2,353.75	1.8	
November 22, 2014	314	22	294.25	2,372	49	2,357.75	1.8	
November 29, 2014	297	-17	299.00	2,520	148	2,387.00	1.9	
December 6, 2014	295	-2	299.50	2,378	-142	2,398.25	1.8	
December 13, 2014	289	-6	298.75	2,407	29	2,419.25	1.8	
December 20, 2014	281	-8	290.50	2,352	-55	2,414.25	1.8	
December 27, 2014	298	17	290.75	2,485	133	2,405.50	1.9	
January 3, 2015	304	6	293.00	2,428	-57	2,418.00	1.8	
January 10, 2015	317	13	300.00	2,443	15	2,427.00	1.8	
January 17, 2015	307	-10	306.50					

Initial Claims Filed During Week Ended January 10 INITIAL CLAIMS								Insured Unemployment For Week Ended January 3 INSURED UNEMPLOYMENT					ALL PROGRAMS EXCLUDING RAILROAD RETIREMENT
STATE	STATE	LAST WEEK	YEAR AGO	UCFE 1	UCX 1	STATE	(%) 2	LAST WEEK	YEAR AGO	UCFE 1	UCX 1		
Alabama	9139	1354	135	24	41	35246	2.0	5052	-4881	121	300	35667	
Alaska	2244	1004	-249	8	4	14231	4.5	-1573	-4009	223	64	14518	
Arizona	5537	2165	-822	20	4	30101	1.2	232	-5411	332	258	30691	
Arkansas	5329	798	601	15	10	29823	2.6	1016	-4490	135	300	30258	
California	66906	26122	3716	442	256	423923	2.8	3769	-102242	2974	4496	431393	
Colorado	5071	1382	-117	71	66	33293	1.4	8	-13171	388	979	34660	
Connecticut	9235	1161	-2024	11	23	62236	3.8	8142	-8634	84	256	62576	
Delaware	1718	174	-253	3	6	9713	2.4	-178	-1997	31	72	9816	
District of Columbia	565	194	65	33	1	9669	1.8	5	-2838	370	28	10067	
Florida	15003	1404	-7230	39	143	72580	1.0	-26898	-33762	322	656	73558	
Georgia	22604	963	2363	29	100	73374	1.9	12515	-7021	389	808	74571	
Hawaii	2123	105	-435	6	18	10325	1.8	562	-1829	94	245	10664	
Idaho	3198	-50	66	38	2	15915	2.5	1248	-3658	130	22	16067	
Illinois	21674	5769	-428	8	42	161873	2.9	8037	-35927	408	662	162943	
Indiana	13722	6158	-946	22	29	38738	1.4	2800	-19765	187	198	39123	
Iowa	8932	2146	2698	11	10	40800	2.7	5046	-1196	62	135	40997	
Kansas	5983	1819	1151	2	10	22213	1.7	1767	-6690	102	205	22520	
Kentucky	7175	-705	-1239	26	23	34152	1.9	5259	-6050	423	528	35104	
Louisiana	3601	1787	271	15	16	22151	1.2	674	-2115	64	126	22341	
Maine	3128	876	-621	5	3	14955	2.6	1582	-2359	48	62	15065	
Maryland	8273	2394	2	33	41	57945	2.4	2200	-328	536	441	58922	
Massachusetts	12996	2250	387	21	40	108477	3.3	7941	-4715	366	566	109409	
Michigan	20281	528	446	51	40	116730	2.9	21711	-33448	303	445	117478	
Minnesota	8674	385	330	16	18	74617	2.8	1685	-8457	220	298	75135	
Mississippi	3286	754	202	33	10	18313	1.7	1898	-10207	127	155	18595	
Missouri	16066	6151	504	25	12	54612	2.1	5119	-13891	712	240	55564	
Montana	2421	218	15	134	13	13995	3.3	1208	-2071	504	55	14554	
Nebraska	2195	233	-197	3	3	12567	1.4	905	-2005	44	33	12644	
Nevada	4100	949	-394	17	10	27466	2.4	-2119	-3981	183	239	27888	
New Hampshire	1329	-106	-329	3	5	9131	1.5	798	-1703	11	22	9164	
New Jersey	17000	-841	-1005	25	18	149721	4.0	21237	-14369	318	589	150628	
New Mexico	1835	717	-470	19	11	14330	1.9	-69	-2847	354	168	14852	
New York	39056	-2433	4979	77	121	243377	2.8	21037	-36005	968	1340	245685	
North Carolina	8410	1725	-2246	35	54	44320	1.1	2594	-32198	179	575	45074	
North Dakota	1933	1066	161	4	4	6427	1.5	328	-353	23	11	6461	
Ohio	17663	2770	826	21	65	98942	2.0	8297	-35080	248	624	99814	
Oklahoma	2317	-671	-188	4	21	17903	1.2	1643	-3063	61	215	18179	
Oregon	7910	-1314	-863	136	31	48426	2.9	2574	-8518	829	396	49651	
Pennsylvania	40373	-1625	-2227	111	142	204851	3.7	33833	-43604	1078	959	206889	
Puerto Rico	2290	2036	-1019	1	14	27308	3.0	3355	-17685	131	240	27679	
Rhode Island	3039	1061	553	5	5	15995	3.6	2617	81	38	81	16114	
South Carolina	9699	-802	-562	12	45	28775	1.6	3860	-9404	52	244	29071	
South Dakota	723	215	53	6	4	3706	0.9	341	-290	55	8	3769	
Tennessee	11905	1349	323	27	39	37767	1.4	5657	-6123	252	292	38311	
Texas	25783	12312	-2965	79	258	140712	1.3	-4111	-21539	997	3118	144830	
Utah	2872	726	-310	92	12	15154	1.2	894	-4589	587	85	15826	
Vermont	1022	44	32	5	3	8187	2.8	541	-689	21	17	8225	
Virgin Islands	14	-6	-34	0	0	698	1.9	-86	-248	2	8	708	
Virginia	9212	2753	39	30	58	41264	1.2	3146	-8657	398	940	42602	
Washington	11264	632	-1436	78	108	77176	2.6	4729	-11018	744	1353	79273	
West Virginia	2767	1380	-214	5	3	19294	2.8	2036	-3359	92	111	19497	
Wisconsin	18888	387	3374	21	13	91288	3.4	9159	-11622	189	170	91650	
Wyoming	981	253	29	12	6	4459	1.6	-248	-1819	147	26	4632	
Totals	529464	90116	-5502	1969	2034	2989244	2.2	193775	-621849	17656	24464	3031372	

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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