



# News Release

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8:30 A.M. (Eastern) Thursday, October 24, 2019

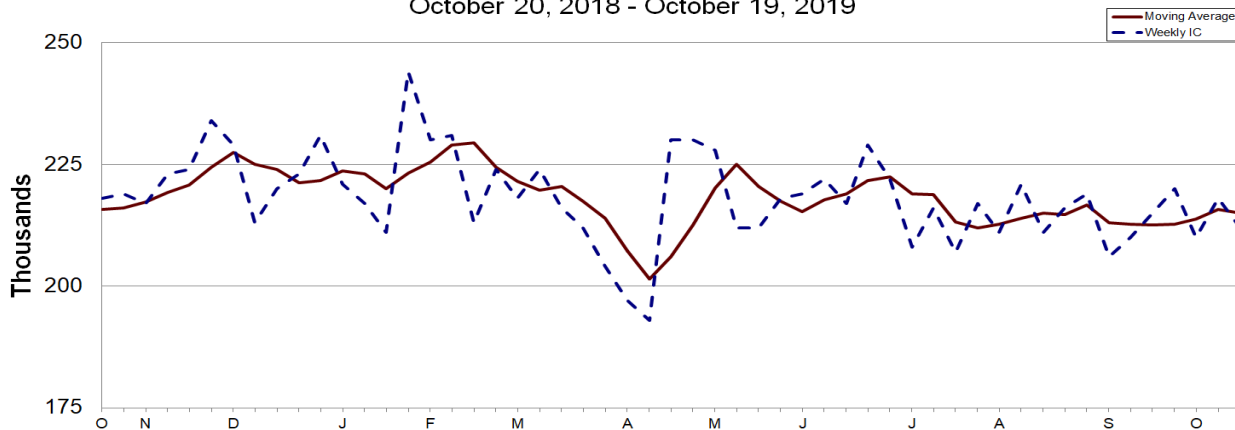
## UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE WEEKLY CLAIMS

### SEASONALLY ADJUSTED DATA

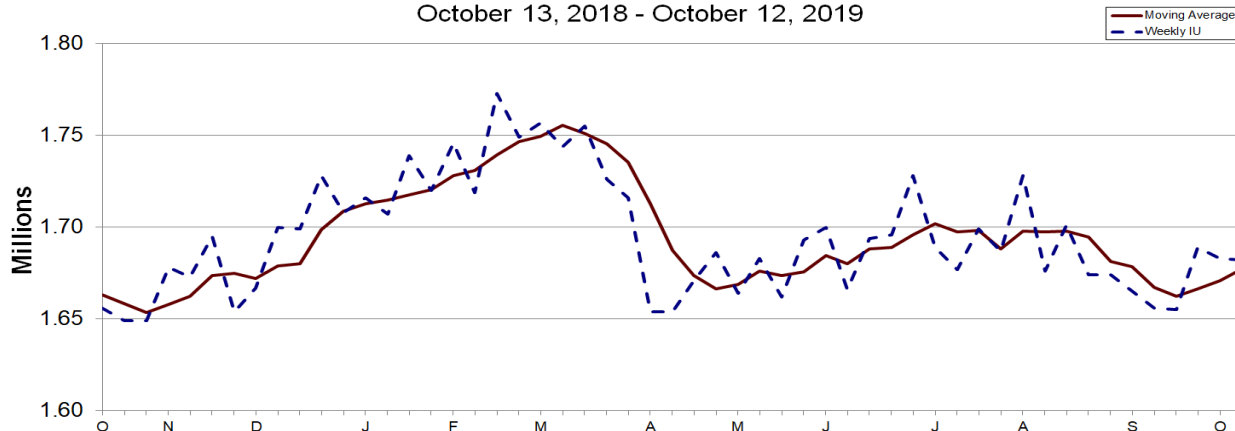
In the week ending October 19, the advance figure for seasonally adjusted **initial claims** was 212,000, a decrease of 6,000 from the previous week's revised level. The previous week's level was revised up by 4,000 from 214,000 to 218,000. The 4-week moving average was 215,000, a decrease of 750 from the previous week's revised average. The previous week's average was revised up by 1,000 from 214,750 to 215,750.

The advance seasonally adjusted **insured unemployment rate** was 1.2 percent for the week ending October 12, unchanged from the previous week's unrevised rate. The advance number for seasonally adjusted **insured unemployment** during the week ending October 12 was 1,682,000, a decrease of 1,000 from the previous week's revised level. The previous week's level was revised up 4,000 from 1,679,000 to 1,683,000. The 4-week moving average was 1,677,250, an increase of 6,500 from the previous week's revised average. The previous week's average was revised up by 1,000 from 1,669,750 to 1,670,750.

Seasonally Adjusted Initial Claims  
October 20, 2018 - October 19, 2019



Seasonally Adjusted Insured Unemployment  
October 13, 2018 - October 12, 2019



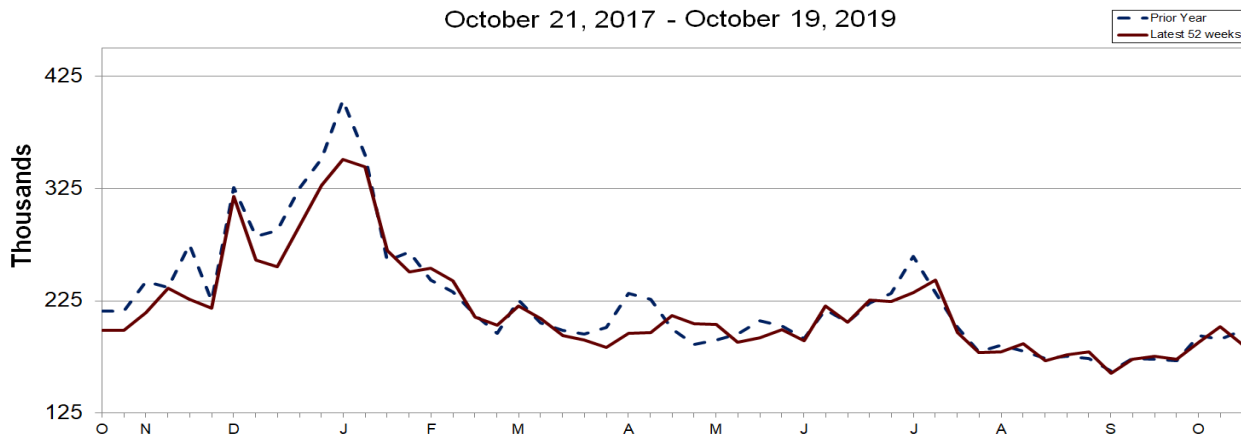
**UNADJUSTED DATA**

The advance number of actual initial claims under state programs, unadjusted, totaled 186,286 in the week ending October 19, a decrease of 15,377 (or -7.6 percent) from the previous week. The seasonal factors had expected a decrease of 9,832 (or -4.9 percent) from the previous week. There were 198,733 initial claims in the comparable week in 2018.

The advance unadjusted insured unemployment rate was 1.0 percent during the week ending October 12, an increase of 0.1 percentage point from the prior week. The advance unadjusted number for persons claiming UI benefits in state programs totaled 1,385,631, an increase of 15,776 (or 1.2 percent) from the preceding week. The seasonal factors had expected an increase of 16,829 (or 1.2 percent) from the previous week. A year earlier the rate was 1.0 percent and the volume was 1,370,783.

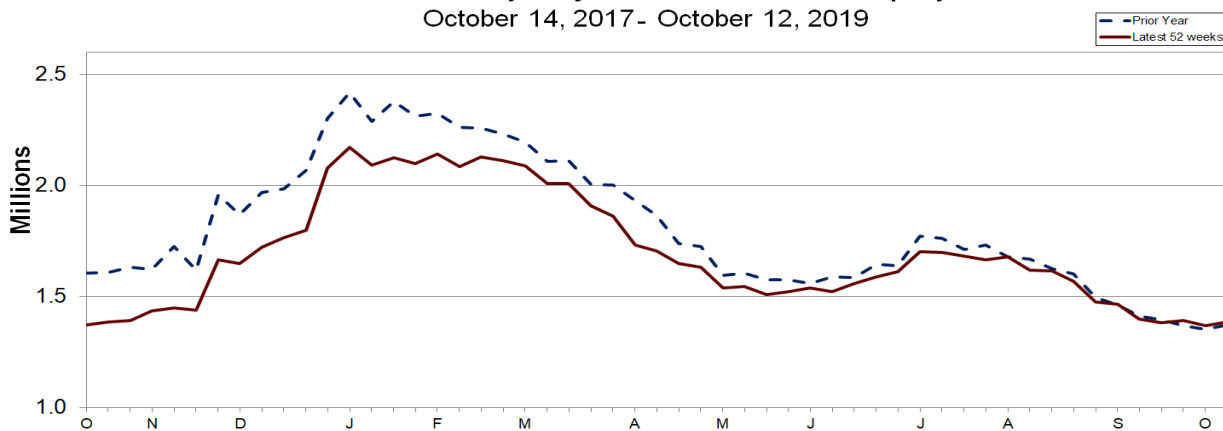
**Not Seasonally Adjusted Initial Claims**

October 21, 2017 - October 19, 2019



**Not Seasonally Adjusted Insured Unemployment**

October 14, 2017 - October 12, 2019



The total number of people claiming benefits in all programs for the week ending October 5 was 1,393,955, a decrease of 21,584 from the previous week. There were 1,374,407 persons claiming benefits in all programs in the comparable week in 2018.

No state was triggered "on" the Extended Benefits program during the week ending October 5.

Initial claims for UI benefits filed by former Federal civilian employees totaled 833 in the week ending October 12, a decrease of 93 from the prior week. There were 558 initial claims filed by newly discharged veterans, a decrease of 113 from the preceding week.

There were 6,577 former Federal civilian employees claiming UI benefits for the week ending October 5, a decrease of 57 from the previous week. Newly discharged veterans claiming benefits totaled 5,509, a decrease of 338 from the prior week.

The highest insured unemployment rates in the week ending October 5 were in Puerto Rico (2.0), New Jersey (1.8), Alaska (1.7), California (1.5), Connecticut (1.5), Pennsylvania (1.4), the Virgin Islands (1.3), and West Virginia (1.3).

The largest increases in initial claims for the week ending October 12 were in California (+6,856), New York (+3,147), Oklahoma (+982), Pennsylvania (+596), and Michigan (+464), while the largest decreases were in Illinois (-922), North Carolina (-544), Arkansas (-385), Ohio (-255), and South Carolina (-202).

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UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE DATA FOR REGULAR STATE PROGRAMS

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<b>WEEK ENDING</b>	<b>October 19</b>	<b>October 12</b>	<b>Change</b>	<b>October 5</b>	<b>Prior Year<sup>1</sup></b>
Initial Claims (SA)	212,000	218,000	-6,000	210,000	218,000
Initial Claims (NSA)	186,286	201,663	-15,377	188,092	198,733
4-Wk Moving Average (SA)	215,000	215,750	-750	213,750	215,750
<b>WEEK ENDING</b>	<b>October 12</b>	<b>October 5</b>	<b>Change</b>	<b>September 28</b>	<b>Prior Year<sup>1</sup></b>
Insured Unemployment (SA)	1,682,000	1,683,000	-1,000	1,689,000	1,656,000
Insured Unemployment (NSA)	1,385,631	1,369,855	+15,776	1,392,094	1,370,783
4-Wk Moving Average (SA)	1,677,250	1,670,750	+6,500	1,666,250	1,663,250
Insured Unemployment Rate (SA) <sup>2</sup>	1.2%	1.2%	0.0	1.2%	1.2%
Insured Unemployment Rate (NSA) <sup>2</sup>	1.0%	0.9%	+0.1	1.0%	1.0%

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INITIAL CLAIMS FILED IN FEDERAL PROGRAMS (UNADJUSTED)

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<b>WEEK ENDING</b>	<b>October 12</b>	<b>October 5</b>	<b>Change</b>	<b>Prior Year<sup>1</sup></b>
Federal Employees (UCFE)	833	926	-93	890
Newly Discharged Veterans (UCX)	558	671	-113	620

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PERSONS CLAIMING UI BENEFITS IN ALL PROGRAMS (UNADJUSTED)

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<b>WEEK ENDING</b>	<b>October 5</b>	<b>September 28</b>	<b>Change</b>	<b>Prior Year<sup>1</sup></b>
Regular State	1,366,978	1,390,079	-23,101	1,349,411
Federal Employees	6,577	6,634	-57	7,033
Newly Discharged Veterans	5,509	5,847	-338	6,985
Extended Benefits <sup>3</sup>	0	0	0	0
State Additional Benefits <sup>4</sup>	5,327	5,190	+137	5,510
STC / Workshare <sup>5</sup>	9,564	7,789	+1,775	5,468
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>1,393,955</b>	<b>1,415,539</b>	<b>-21,584</b>	<b>1,374,407</b>

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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 144,758,990 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 benefits, and when applicable, extended benefits. Information on states that participate, and the extent of benefits paid, can be found starting on page 4-4 of this link: [Extensions and Special Programs PDF](#)
5. Information on STC/Worksharing can be found starting on page 4-8 of the following link: [Extensions and Special Programs PDF](#)

## Advance State Claims - Not Seasonally Adjusted

STATE	Initial Claims Filed During Week Ended October 19			Insured Unemployment For Week Ended October 12		
	Advance	Prior Wk	Change	Advance	Prior Wk	Change
Alabama	1,577	2,161	-584	13,825	14,430	-605
Alaska	1,255	1,184	71	5,516	5,094	422
Arizona	3,286	3,916	-630	19,369	22,290	-2,921
Arkansas	1,254	1,499	-245	9,091	9,712	-621
California	39,675	40,182	-507	264,917	260,397	4,520
Colorado	1,910	2,002	-92	16,104	14,966	1,138
Connecticut	2,225	2,531	-306	26,108	25,169	939
Delaware	514	550	-36	4,023	3,724	299
District of Columbia	452	480	-28	6,061	6,246	-185
Florida	5,213	5,982	-769	33,622	36,883	-3,261
Georgia	4,249	5,100	-851	23,214	23,752	-538
Hawaii	1,333	1,150	183	6,594	5,892	702
Idaho	792	826	-34	3,240	3,540	-300
Illinois	7,614	7,543	71	75,764	73,458	2,306
Indiana	2,214	2,749	-535	13,696	13,394	302
Iowa	2,539	2,117	422	12,546	12,665	-119
Kansas	1,142	1,245	-103	7,250	7,198	52
Kentucky	2,250	2,636	-386	14,925	15,643	-718
Louisiana	1,550	2,069	-519	11,830	13,420	-1,590
Maine	422	480	-58	2,979	3,022	-43
Maryland	2,386	2,859	-473	20,411	21,058	-647
Massachusetts	4,225	4,560	-335	43,311	44,168	-857
Michigan	6,005	7,267	-1,262	45,142	40,454	4,688
Minnesota	3,004	2,953	51	23,742	22,904	838
Mississippi	916	1,100	-184	6,054	6,868	-814
Missouri	2,455	3,240	-785	17,038	17,275	-237
Montana	935	1,236	-301	4,412	3,990	422
Nebraska	525	626	-101	2,707	1,689	1,018
Nevada	2,243	2,450	-207	15,760	16,280	-520
New Hampshire	327	391	-64	2,428	2,706	-278
New Jersey	7,373	7,706	-333	72,467	71,529	938
New Mexico	834	825	9	7,371	7,606	-235
New York	12,214	15,041	-2,827	106,340	106,343	-3
North Carolina	3,279	3,222	57	17,416	18,495	-1,079
North Dakota	405	268	137	1,611	1,317	294
Ohio	6,297	5,904	393	39,161	39,426	-265
Oklahoma	1,631	2,674	-1,043	14,786	14,579	207
Oregon	3,961	3,555	406	22,367	22,325	42
Pennsylvania	10,906	11,157	-251	83,977	83,549	428
Puerto Rico	812	1,474	-662	16,417	16,838	-421
Rhode Island	661	890	-229	5,355	5,098	257
South Carolina	1,908	2,157	-249	13,049	13,037	12
South Dakota	149	156	-7	779	785	-6
Tennessee	2,970	3,186	-216	17,769	17,866	-97
Texas	13,132	14,342	-1,210	115,510	107,905	7,605
Utah	920	984	-64	5,718	5,779	-61
Vermont	382	308	74	1,959	1,830	129
Virgin Islands	11	29	-18	498	436	62
Virginia	2,341	2,455	-114	17,116	16,866	250
Washington	6,505	6,400	105	43,266	41,027	2,239
West Virginia	1,073	1,482	-409	10,280	8,486	1,794
Wisconsin	3,546	3,888	-342	19,003	19,041	-38
Wyoming	489	476	13	1,737	1,405	332
US Total	186,286	201,663	-15,377	1,385,631	1,369,855	15,776

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 claims 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	Initial Claims	Change from		Insured Unemployment	Change from		IUR
		Prior Week	4-Week Average		Prior Week	4-Week Average	
October 13, 2018	215	3	214.25	1,656	-4	1,663.25	1.2
October 20, 2018	218	3	215.75	1,649	-7	1,658.25	1.2
October 27, 2018	219	1	216.00	1,649	0	1,653.50	1.2
November 3, 2018	217	-2	217.25	1,678	29	1,658.00	1.2
November 10, 2018	223	6	219.25	1,673	-5	1,662.25	1.2
November 17, 2018	224	1	220.75	1,695	22	1,673.75	1.2
November 24, 2018	234	10	224.50	1,654	-41	1,675.00	1.2
December 1, 2018	229	-5	227.50	1,667	13	1,672.25	1.2
December 8, 2018	213	-16	225.00	1,700	33	1,679.00	1.2
December 15, 2018	220	7	224.00	1,699	-1	1,680.00	1.2
December 22, 2018	223	3	221.25	1,728	29	1,698.50	1.2
December 29, 2018	231	8	221.75	1,708	-20	1,708.75	1.2
January 5, 2019	221	-10	223.75	1,716	8	1,712.75	1.2
January 12, 2019	217	-4	223.00	1,707	-9	1,714.75	1.2
January 19, 2019	211	-6	220.00	1,739	32	1,717.50	1.2
January 26, 2019	244	33	223.25	1,720	-19	1,720.50	1.2
February 2, 2019	230	-14	225.50	1,746	26	1,728.00	1.2
February 9, 2019	231	1	229.00	1,719	-27	1,731.00	1.2
February 16, 2019	213	-18	229.50	1,773	54	1,739.50	1.2
February 23, 2019	224	11	224.50	1,749	-24	1,746.75	1.2
March 2, 2019	218	-6	221.50	1,757	8	1,749.50	1.2
March 9, 2019	224	6	219.75	1,744	-13	1,755.75	1.2
March 16, 2019	216	-8	220.50	1,755	11	1,751.25	1.2
March 23, 2019	212	-4	217.50	1,726	-29	1,745.50	1.2
March 30, 2019	204	-8	214.00	1,716	-10	1,735.25	1.2
April 6, 2019	197	-7	207.25	1,654	-62	1,712.75	1.2
April 13, 2019	193	-4	201.50	1,654	0	1,687.50	1.2
April 20, 2019	230	37	206.00	1,671	17	1,673.75	1.2
April 27, 2019	230	0	212.50	1,686	15	1,666.25	1.2
May 4, 2019	228	-2	220.25	1,664	-22	1,668.75	1.2
May 11, 2019	212	-16	225.00	1,683	19	1,676.00	1.2
May 18, 2019	212	0	220.50	1,662	-21	1,673.75	1.2
May 25, 2019	218	6	217.50	1,693	31	1,675.50	1.2
June 1, 2019	219	1	215.25	1,700	7	1,684.50	1.2
June 8, 2019	222	3	217.75	1,666	-34	1,680.25	1.2
June 15, 2019	217	-5	219.00	1,694	28	1,688.25	1.2
June 22, 2019	229	12	221.75	1,696	2	1,689.00	1.2
June 29, 2019	222	-7	222.50	1,728	32	1,696.00	1.2
July 6, 2019	208	-14	219.00	1,689	-39	1,701.75	1.2
July 13, 2019	216	8	218.75	1,677	-12	1,697.50	1.2
July 20, 2019	207	-9	213.25	1,699	22	1,698.25	1.2
July 27, 2019	217	10	212.00	1,687	-12	1,688.00	1.2
August 3, 2019	211	-6	212.75	1,728	41	1,697.75	1.2
August 10, 2019	221	10	214.00	1,676	-52	1,697.50	1.2
August 17, 2019	211	-10	215.00	1,701	25	1,698.00	1.2
August 24, 2019	216	5	214.75	1,674	-27	1,694.75	1.2
August 31, 2019	219	3	216.75	1,674	0	1,681.25	1.2
September 7, 2019	206	-13	213.00	1,665	-9	1,678.50	1.2
September 14, 2019	210	4	212.75	1,656	-9	1,667.25	1.1
September 21, 2019	215	5	212.50	1,655	-1	1,662.50	1.1
September 28, 2019	220	5	212.75	1,689	34	1,666.25	1.2
October 5, 2019	210	-10	213.75	1,683	-6	1,670.75	1.2
October 12, 2019	218	8	215.75	1,682	-1	1,677.25	1.2
October 19, 2019	212	-6	215.00				

STATE NAME	INITIAL CLAIMS FILED DURING WEEK ENDED OCTOBER 12					INSURED UNEMPLOYMENT FOR WEEK ENDED OCTOBER 5					ALL PROGRAMS EXCLUDING RAILROAD RETIREMENT	
	STATE	CHANGE FROM				STATE (%) <sup>2</sup>	CHANGE FROM					
		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	2161	104	-109	8	10	14430	0.8	-177	-40	83	55	14568
Alaska	1184	328	48	7	1	5094	1.7	-109	-524	81	16	5191
Arizona	3916	141	263	12	5	22290	0.8	-994	-1477	94	48	22432
Arkansas	1499	-385	-111	2	1	9712	0.8	114	839	40	30	9782
California	40182	6856	-430	150	99	260397	1.5	-16233	-7807	1329	1181	262907
Colorado	2002	35	-204	19	20	14966	0.6	-460	-1318	81	155	15202
Connecticut	2531	223	293	5	5	25169	1.5	-218	-143	34	53	25256
Delaware	550	90	22	2	2	3724	0.8	-267	109	17	13	3754
District of Columbia	480	0	-25	13	0	6246	1.1	-77	-914	256	7	6509
Florida	5982	-90	-703	18	33	36883	0.4	-972	282	163	95	37141
Georgia	5100	257	622	31	34	23752	0.5	-583	411	184	184	24120
Hawaii	1150	-118	-198	2	8	5892	0.9	-126	-500	43	61	5996
Idaho	826	114	-144	26	6	3540	0.5	122	-112	10	11	3561
Illinois	7543	-922	562	9	6	73458	1.2	968	3004	311	179	73948
Indiana	2749	77	615	11	2	13394	0.4	-242	1235	30	26	13450
Iowa	2117	-111	27	5	3	12665	0.8	126	1119	34	12	12711
Kansas	1245	-73	-617	3	1	7198	0.5	-219	129	29	18	7245
Kentucky	2636	215	883	1	2	15643	0.8	-320	558	176	90	15909
Louisiana	2069	108	176	9	4	13420	0.7	-733	-1392	55	12	13487
Maine	480	66	49	1	0	3022	0.5	62	-244	10	16	3048
Maryland	2859	195	-132	21	9	21058	0.8	55	-2545	164	62	21284
Massachusetts	4560	182	404	11	8	44168	1.2	-905	3149	97	102	44367
Michigan	7267	464	2541	24	11	40454	0.9	-798	5909	56	53	40563
Minnesota	2953	158	-191	8	2	22904	0.8	884	560	51	57	23012
Mississippi	1100	144	74	6	3	6868	0.6	-272	561	56	30	6954
Missouri	3240	-187	227	6	3	17275	0.6	-679	325	111	35	17421
Montana	1236	158	173	53	4	3990	0.9	322	211	54	13	4057
Nebraska	626	243	-130	0	0	1689	0.2	-593	-1889	5	4	1698
Nevada	2450	99	147	6	1	16280	1.2	417	173	43	51	16374
New Hampshire	391	-25	34	2	0	2706	0.4	66	-230	7	3	2716
New Jersey	7706	-15	461	17	18	71529	1.8	-131	-437	153	190	71872
New Mexico	825	-123	106	33	3	7606	1.0	208	-48	128	40	7774
New York	15041	3147	3043	15	19	106343	1.1	3274	1794	267	294	106904
North Carolina	3222	-544	-3114	13	13	18495	0.4	-134	-2820	107	107	18709
North Dakota	268	-44	-68	2	0	1317	0.3	68	140	11	5	1333
Ohio	5904	-255	1218	13	15	39426	0.7	826	2247	96	112	39634
Oklahoma	2674	982	1265	10	1	14579	0.9	34	3113	44	47	14670
Oregon	3555	63	386	44	9	22325	1.2	460	1138	171	71	22567
Pennsylvania	11157	596	904	75	45	83549	1.4	417	2071	429	194	84172
Puerto Rico	1474	26	-268	3	5	16838	2.0	26	2544	146	77	17061
Rhode Island	890	319	104	4	3	5098	1.1	-140	-515	11	14	5123
South Carolina	2157	-202	-333	5	10	13037	0.6	-240	-1433	34	59	13130
South Dakota	156	-29	-72	4	1	785	0.2	-19	-21	19	2	806
Tennessee	3186	306	201	7	10	17866	0.6	-254	2536	47	59	17972
Texas	14342	196	2540	50	84	107905	0.9	-5588	6727	695	913	109513
Utah	984	-38	-48	28	1	5779	0.4	-35	-771	58	13	5850
Vermont	308	29	-64	1	0	1830	0.6	-6	-201	4	0	1834
Virgin Islands	29	-23	-3	1	0	436	1.3	-50	-110	4	2	442
Virginia	2455	115	267	7	7	16866	0.5	26	-986	160	147	17173
Washington	6400	304	63	18	18	41027	1.2	185	2182	210	415	41652
West Virginia	1482	260	542	0	6	8486	1.3	167	2068	26	35	8547
Wisconsin	3888	115	-48	6	6	19041	0.7	533	266	46	36	19123
Wyoming	476	40	-86	6	1	1405	0.5	-25	98	7	5	1417
Totals	201663	13571	11162	833	558	1369855	0.9	-22239	19021	6577	5509	1381941

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 U.S. total covered employment is BLS.

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**UNADJUSTED INITIAL CLAIMS FOR WEEK ENDED OCTOBER 12, 2019**

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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	+6,856	Layoffs in the service and agriculture, forestry, fishing and hunting industries.
NY	+3,147	Layoffs in the transportation and warehousing, accommodation and food service, and public administration industries.

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

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<b>State</b>	<b>Change</b>	<b>State Supplied Comment</b>
None		

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## 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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