



News Release

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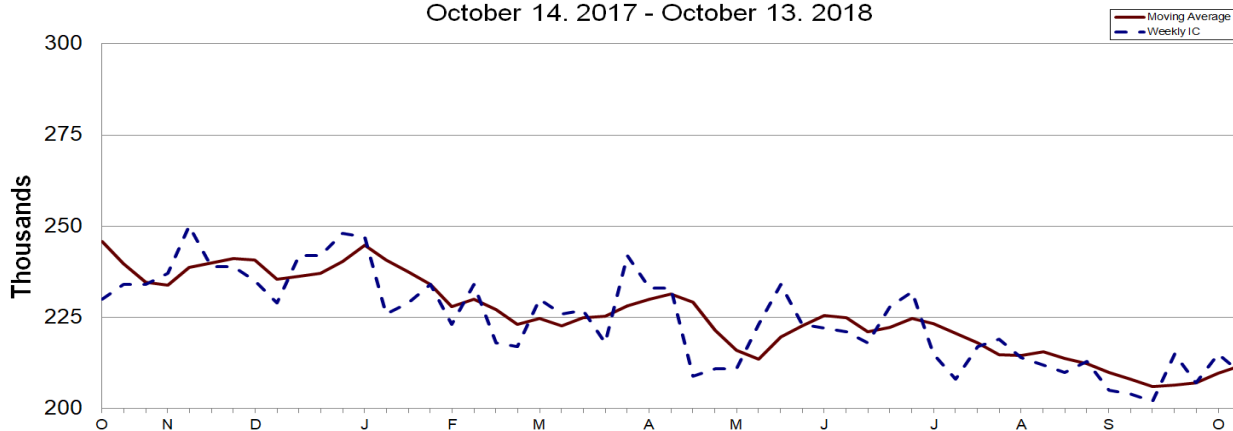
UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE WEEKLY CLAIMS

SEASONALLY ADJUSTED DATA

In the week ending October 13, the advance figure for seasonally adjusted **initial claims** was 210,000, a decrease of 5,000 from the previous week's revised level. The previous week's level was revised up by 1,000 from 214,000 to 215,000. The 4-week moving average was 211,750, an increase of 2,000 from the previous week's revised average. The previous week's average was revised up by 250 from 209,500 to 209,750.

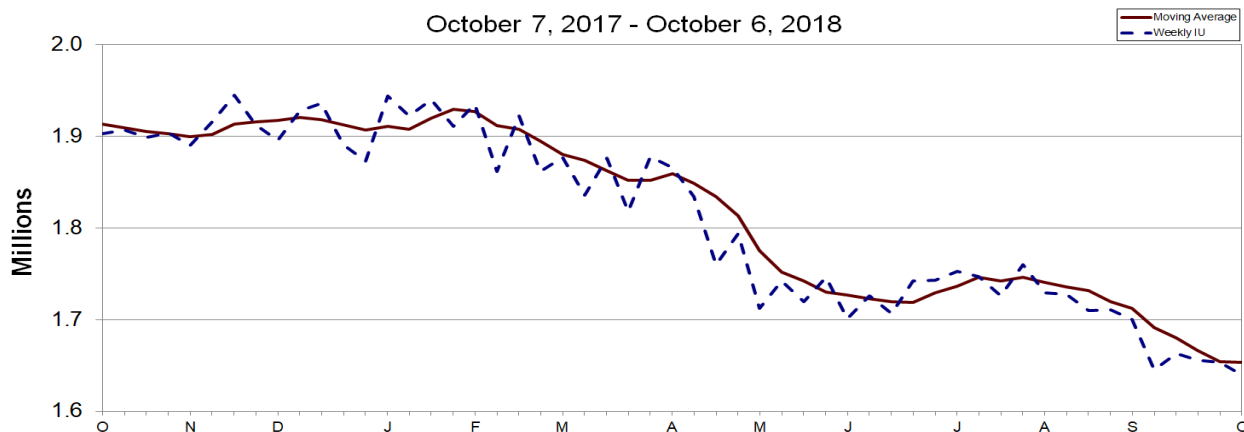
The advance seasonally adjusted **insured unemployment rate** was 1.2 percent for the week ending October 6, unchanged from the previous week's unrevised rate. The advance number for seasonally adjusted **insured unemployment** during the week ending October 6 was 1,640,000, a decrease of 13,000 from the previous week's revised level. This is the lowest level for insured unemployment since August 4, 1973 when it was 1,633,000. The previous week's level was revised down by 7,000 from 1,660,000 to 1,653,000. The 4-week moving average was 1,653,000, a decrease of 1,250 from the previous week's revised average. This is the lowest level for this average since August 18, 1973 when it was 1,646,750. The previous week's average was revised down by 1,750 from 1,656,000 to 1,654,250.

Seasonally Adjusted Initial Claims
October 14, 2017 - October 13, 2018



Seasonally Adjusted Insured Unemployment

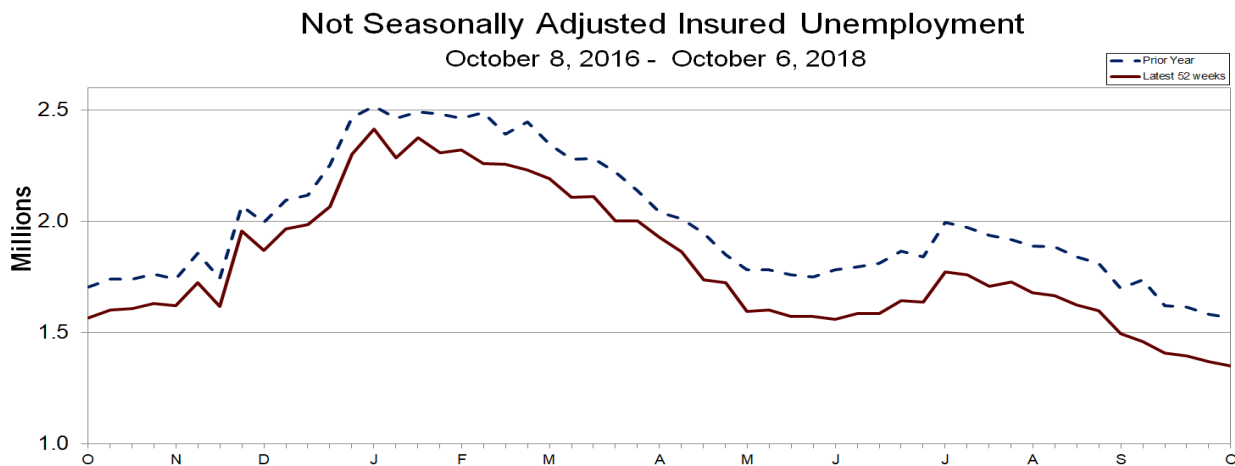
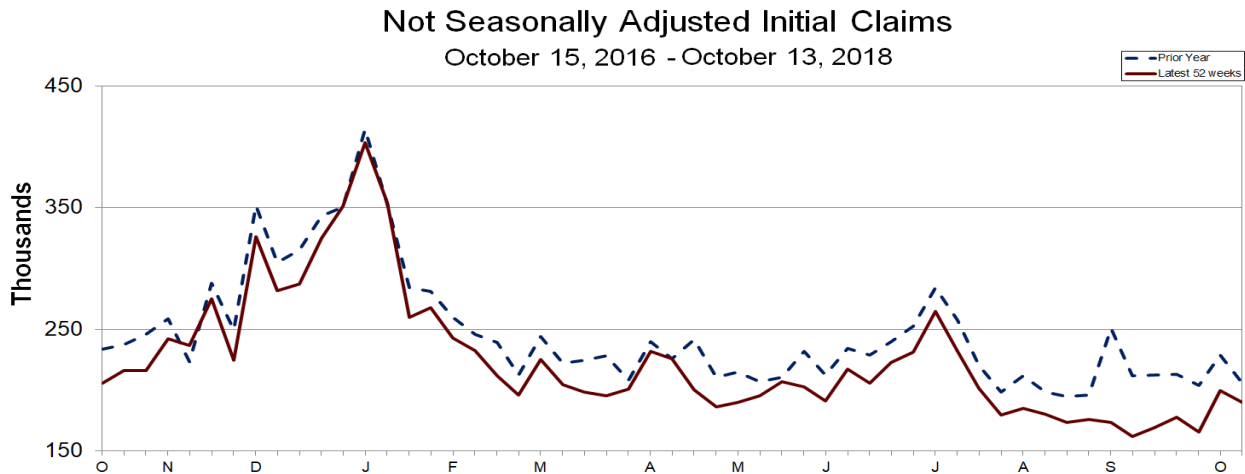
October 7, 2017 - October 6, 2018



UNADJUSTED DATA

The advance number of actual initial claims under state programs, unadjusted, totaled 190,017 in the week ending October 13, a decrease of 9,847 (or -4.9 percent) from the previous week. The seasonal factors had expected a decrease of 4,943 (or -2.5 percent) from the previous week. There were 205,592 initial claims in the comparable week in 2017.

The advance unadjusted insured unemployment rate was 0.9 percent during the week ending October 6, a decrease of 0.1 percentage point from the prior week. The advance unadjusted number for persons claiming UI benefits in state programs totaled 1,349,655, a decrease of 20,825 (or -1.5 percent) from the preceding week. The seasonal factors had expected a decrease of 9,919 (or -0.7 percent) from the previous week. A year earlier the rate was 1.1 percent and the volume was 1,566,253.



The total number of people claiming benefits in all programs for the week ending September 29 was 1,395,087, a decrease of 26,574 from the previous week. There were 1,612,076 persons claiming benefits in all programs in the comparable week in 2017.

No state was triggered "on" the Extended Benefits program during the week ending September 29.

Initial claims for UI benefits filed by former Federal civilian employees totaled 987 in the week ending October 6, an increase of 354 from the prior week. There were 759 initial claims filed by newly discharged veterans, an increase of 193 from the preceding week.

There were 6,896 former Federal civilian employees claiming UI benefits for the week ending September 29, a decrease of 34 from the previous week. Newly discharged veterans claiming benefits totaled 7,249, an increase of 61 from the prior week.

The highest insured unemployment rates in the week ending September 29 were in New Jersey (1.9), Alaska (1.8), California (1.6), Connecticut (1.6), Puerto Rico (1.6), Pennsylvania (1.4), the District of Columbia (1.3), and Nevada (1.3).

The largest increases in initial claims for the week ending October 6 were in Kentucky (+6,260), California (+4,612), North Carolina (+3,992), Michigan (+2,329), and New York (+1,726), while the largest decreases were in South Carolina (-1,714), New Hampshire (-65), West Virginia (-37), Mississippi (-36), and Maryland (-19).

UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE DATA FOR REGULAR STATE PROGRAMS

WEEK ENDING	October 13	October 6	Change	September 29	<u>Prior Year</u>¹
Initial Claims (SA)	210,000	215,000	-5,000	207,000	230,000
Initial Claims (NSA)	190,017	199,864	-9,847	165,553	205,592
4-Wk Moving Average (SA)	211,750	209,750	+2,000	207,000	245,750
WEEK ENDING	October 6	September 29	Change	September 22	<u>Prior Year</u>¹
Insured Unemployment (SA)	1,640,000	1,653,000	-13,000	1,656,000	1,903,000
Insured Unemployment (NSA)	1,349,655	1,370,480	-20,825	1,397,590	1,566,253
4-Wk Moving Average (SA)	1,653,000	1,654,250	-1,250	1,666,000	1,913,250
<u>Insured Unemployment Rate (SA)</u> ²	1.2%	1.2%	0.0	1.2%	1.4%
<u>Insured Unemployment Rate (NSA)</u> ²	0.9%	1.0%	-0.1	1.0%	1.1%

INITIAL CLAIMS FILED IN FEDERAL PROGRAMS (UNADJUSTED)

WEEK ENDING	October 6	September 29	Change	<u>Prior Year</u>¹
Federal Employees (UCFE)	987	633	+354	2,639
Newly Discharged Veterans (UCX)	759	566	+193	989

PERSONS CLAIMING UI BENEFITS IN ALL PROGRAMS (UNADJUSTED)

WEEK ENDING	September 29	September 22	Change	<u>Prior Year</u>¹
Regular State	1,368,708	1,396,027	-27,319	1,580,244
Federal Employees	6,896	6,930	-34	8,187
Newly Discharged Veterans	7,249	7,188	+61	9,015
<u>Extended Benefits</u> ³	2	1	+1	0
<u>State Additional Benefits</u> ⁴	5,468	5,463	+5	6,526
<u>STC / Workshare</u> ⁵	6,764	6,052	+712	8,104
<u>TOTAL</u>	1,395,087	1,421,661	-26,574	1,612,076

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 142,513,638 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 October 13			Insured Unemployment For Week Ended October 6		
	Advance	Prior Wk	Change	Advance	Prior Wk	Change
Alabama	2,136	2,236	-100	14,536	14,443	93
Alaska	1,475	922	553	5,521	5,650	-129
Arizona	3,434	3,784	-350	21,301	24,459	-3,158
Arkansas	1,480	1,764	-284	8,190	8,874	-684
California	41,159	38,015	3,144	274,873	274,676	197
Colorado	2,194	1,944	250	16,615	16,474	141
Connecticut	2,227	2,157	70	26,068	26,031	37
Delaware	506	513	-7	3,810	3,656	154
District of Columbia	564	560	4	6,903	7,093	-190
Florida ^M	6,417	7,066	-649	32,899	37,586	-4,687
Georgia	4,242	5,328	-1,086	22,213	24,101	-1,888
Hawaii	1,372	1,343	29	6,658	6,253	405
Idaho	961	891	70	3,417	3,505	-88
Illinois	7,049	8,059	-1,010	71,206	72,220	-1,014
Indiana	2,234	1,922	312	12,693	12,571	122
Iowa	2,293	1,920	373	11,777	11,351	426
Kansas	1,881	1,273	608	6,978	7,105	-127
Kentucky	1,742	7,999	-6,257	14,923	15,636	-713
Louisiana	1,746	1,964	-218	13,645	15,070	-1,425
Maine	397	457	-60	3,017	3,266	-249
Maryland	2,877	2,877	0	21,900	24,373	-2,473
Massachusetts	4,086	4,403	-317	40,434	41,947	-1,513
Michigan	4,611	6,850	-2,239	33,529	37,948	-4,419
Minnesota	3,329	2,711	618	23,035	22,343	692
Mississippi	880	821	59	5,717	6,431	-714
Missouri	2,867	2,841	26	16,943	17,503	-560
Montana	1,108	905	203	3,872	3,599	273
Nebraska	751	1,166	-415	3,658	3,069	589
Nevada	2,428	2,074	354	15,067	16,639	-1,572
New Hampshire	324	372	-48	2,640	2,967	-327
New Jersey	7,143	7,904	-761	72,909	74,067	-1,158
New Mexico	723	892	-169	7,476	7,513	-37
New York	12,118	12,700	-582	104,998	104,293	705
North Carolina ^F	6,380	9,280	-2,900	21,491	21,366	125
North Dakota	403	232	171	1,380	1,219	161
Ohio	4,740	4,941	-201	37,078	37,209	-131
Oklahoma	1,298	1,247	51	11,151	11,600	-449
Oregon	3,163	3,701	-538	21,150	20,766	384
Pennsylvania	10,304	9,925	379	82,452	81,508	944
Puerto Rico	1,551	1,463	88	13,871	13,394	477
Rhode Island	809	694	115	5,786	5,584	202
South Carolina ^F	2,377	3,169	-792	14,146	15,214	-1,068
South Dakota	205	159	46	773	772	1
Tennessee	2,897	2,296	601	14,447	15,609	-1,162
Texas	11,648	11,980	-332	102,374	102,275	99
Utah	1,043	1,049	-6	6,212	6,470	-258
Vermont	363	330	33	2,186	2,103	83
Virgin Islands	19	50	-31	546	444	102
Virginia	2,367	2,581	-214	18,112	18,046	66
Washington	6,370	5,943	427	39,928	38,196	1,732
West Virginia	890	602	288	6,934	6,635	299
Wisconsin	3,926	3,299	627	18,803	18,133	670
Wyoming	510	290	220	1,414	1,225	189
US Total	190,017	199,864	-9,847	1,349,655	1,370,480	-20,825

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.

^FAffected by Hurricane Florence.

^MAffected by Hurricane Michael.

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 7, 2017	241	-13	252.00	1,903	-11	1,913.25	1.4
October 14, 2017	230	-11	245.75	1,907	4	1,909.25	1.4
October 21, 2017	234	4	239.75	1,899	-8	1,905.75	1.4
October 28, 2017	234	0	234.75	1,904	5	1,903.25	1.4
November 4, 2017	237	3	233.75	1,890	-14	1,900.00	1.3
November 11, 2017	250	13	238.75	1,916	26	1,902.25	1.4
November 18, 2017	239	-11	240.00	1,945	29	1,913.75	1.4
November 25, 2017	239	0	241.25	1,913	-32	1,916.00	1.4
December 2, 2017	235	-4	240.75	1,896	-17	1,917.50	1.3
December 9, 2017	229	-6	235.50	1,928	32	1,920.50	1.4
December 16, 2017	242	13	236.25	1,936	8	1,918.25	1.4
December 23, 2017	242	0	237.00	1,891	-45	1,912.75	1.3
December 30, 2017	248	6	240.25	1,873	-18	1,907.00	1.3
January 6, 2018	247	-1	244.75	1,944	71	1,911.00	1.4
January 13, 2018	226	-21	240.75	1,922	-22	1,907.50	1.4
January 20, 2018	229	3	237.50	1,940	18	1,919.75	1.4
January 27, 2018	234	5	234.00	1,911	-29	1,929.25	1.4
February 3, 2018	223	-11	228.00	1,935	24	1,927.00	1.4
February 10, 2018	234	11	230.00	1,862	-73	1,912.00	1.3
February 17, 2018	218	-16	227.25	1,922	60	1,907.50	1.4
February 24, 2018	217	-1	223.00	1,862	-60	1,895.25	1.3
March 3, 2018	230	13	224.75	1,877	15	1,880.75	1.3
March 10, 2018	226	-4	222.75	1,836	-41	1,874.25	1.3
March 17, 2018	227	1	225.00	1,876	40	1,862.75	1.3
March 24, 2018	218	-9	225.25	1,818	-58	1,851.75	1.3
March 31, 2018	242	24	228.25	1,878	60	1,852.00	1.3
April 7, 2018	233	-9	230.00	1,866	-12	1,859.50	1.3
April 14, 2018	233	0	231.50	1,834	-32	1,849.00	1.3
April 21, 2018	209	-24	229.25	1,760	-74	1,834.50	1.2
April 28, 2018	211	2	221.50	1,794	34	1,813.50	1.3
May 5, 2018	211	0	216.00	1,712	-82	1,775.00	1.2
May 12, 2018	223	12	213.50	1,742	30	1,752.00	1.2
May 19, 2018	234	11	219.75	1,720	-22	1,742.00	1.2
May 26, 2018	223	-11	222.75	1,746	26	1,730.00	1.2
June 2, 2018	222	-1	225.50	1,701	-45	1,727.25	1.2
June 9, 2018	221	-1	225.00	1,726	25	1,723.25	1.2
June 16, 2018	218	-3	221.00	1,707	-19	1,720.00	1.2
June 23, 2018	228	10	222.25	1,742	35	1,719.00	1.2
June 30, 2018	232	4	224.75	1,743	1	1,729.50	1.2
July 7, 2018	215	-17	223.25	1,753	10	1,736.25	1.2
July 14, 2018	208	-7	220.75	1,747	-6	1,746.25	1.2
July 21, 2018	217	9	218.00	1,726	-21	1,742.25	1.2
July 28, 2018	219	2	214.75	1,760	34	1,746.50	1.2
August 4, 2018	214	-5	214.50	1,729	-31	1,740.50	1.2
August 11, 2018	212	-2	215.50	1,728	-1	1,735.75	1.2
August 18, 2018	210	-2	213.75	1,710	-18	1,731.75	1.2
August 25, 2018	213	3	212.25	1,711	1	1,719.50	1.2
September 1, 2018	205	-8	210.00	1,700	-11	1,712.25	1.2
September 8, 2018	204	-1	208.00	1,645	-55	1,691.50	1.2
September 15, 2018	202	-2	206.00	1,663	18	1,679.75	1.2
September 22, 2018	215	13	206.50	1,656	-7	1,666.00	1.2
September 29, 2018	207	-8	207.00	1,653	-3	1,654.25	1.2
October 6, 2018	215	8	209.75	1,640	-13	1,653.00	1.2
October 13, 2018	210	-5	211.75				

STATE NAME	INITIAL CLAIMS FILED DURING WEEK ENDED OCTOBER 6					INSURED UNEMPLOYMENT FOR WEEK ENDED SEPTEMBER 29					ALL PROGRAMS EXCLUDING RAILROAD RETIREMENT	
	STATE	CHANGE FROM				STATE	CHANGE FROM					
		LAST WEEK	YEAR AGO	UCFE ¹	UCX ¹		(%) ²	LAST WEEK	YEAR AGO	UCFE ¹		UCX ¹
Alabama	2236	172	-477	10	10	14443	0.8	-33	-1395	50	73	14566
Alaska	922	21	-500	14	1	5650	1.8	68	-1146	59	14	5723
Arizona	3784	493	-627	21	3	24459	0.9	-753	-2770	89	57	24605
Arkansas	1764	646	-467	2	3	8874	0.8	-201	-2307	41	51	8966
California	38015	4612	-3873	198	132	274676	1.6	-7883	-25524	1478	1596	277750
Colorado	1944	430	-347	14	20	16474	0.6	-143	-2166	82	245	16801
Connecticut	2157	171	-745	7	11	26031	1.6	-479	-3645	30	67	26128
Delaware	513	98	-90	4	2	3656	0.8	-537	-527	14	11	3681
District of Columbia	560	159	167	14	0	7093	1.3	-139	-1047	265	9	7367
Florida	7066	1359	-6795	30	30	37586	0.4	-1974	-13125	123	123	37832
Georgia	5328	1001	-1975	27	39	24101	0.6	939	-3715	143	215	24459
Hawaii	1343	228	45	1	8	6253	1.0	-174	-858	67	68	6388
Idaho	891	158	-200	10	1	3505	0.5	-101	-482	15	13	3533
Illinois	8059	1465	-1384	11	8	72220	1.2	-85	-12497	319	185	72724
Indiana	1922	132	-791	6	4	12571	0.4	116	-801	34	38	12643
Iowa	1920	344	-268	4	5	11351	0.7	-183	-1653	39	27	11417
Kansas	1273	133	-535	1	0	7105	0.5	-304	-4448	42	29	7176
Kentucky	7999	6260	5539	0	2	15636	0.9	-2313	404	91	112	15839
Louisiana	1964	162	-445	3	9	15070	0.8	-746	-3537	54	15	15139
Maine	457	115	-57	5	0	3266	0.5	-307	-231	21	15	3302
Maryland	2877	-19	-954	14	13	24373	1.0	94	-5429	276	106	24755
Massachusetts	4403	503	-594	14	13	41947	1.2	-1795	-9957	79	121	42147
Michigan	6850	2329	-1286	35	8	37948	0.9	3754	-2985	53	107	38108
Minnesota	2711	216	-464	7	3	22343	0.8	43	-3036	34	76	22453
Mississippi	821	-36	-534	4	1	6431	0.6	-398	-2280	48	23	6502
Missouri	2841	459	-1381	37	5	17503	0.6	-649	-7008	240	42	17785
Montana	905	230	-353	36	6	3599	0.8	143	-827	33	23	3655
Nebraska	1166	615	389	5	2	3069	0.3	59	-723	22	8	3099
Nevada	2074	345	-593	7	8	16639	1.3	-978	-1723	50	51	16740
New Hampshire	372	-65	-120	2	1	2967	0.5	37	-487	4	2	2973
New Jersey	7904	997	-579	26	25	74067	1.9	-66	-4848	212	253	74532
New Mexico	892	279	-117	38	1	7513	1.0	-231	-1535	126	45	7684
New York	12700	1726	-1672	27	33	104293	1.1	-775	-15384	319	346	104958
North Carolina	9280	3992	6150	17	38	21366	0.5	3050	1627	71	115	21552
North Dakota	232	38	-135	3	2	1219	0.3	-68	-504	15	1	1235
Ohio	4941	260	-2392	20	22	37209	0.7	-295	-9249	121	166	37496
Oklahoma	1247	129	-341	5	4	11600	0.8	508	-2366	57	92	11749
Oregon	3701	793	-388	57	9	20766	1.1	-209	-1859	89	84	20939
Pennsylvania	9925	602	-2668	89	37	81508	1.4	-4489	-8974	439	277	82224
Puerto Rico	1463	571	1213	0	1	13394	1.6	-702	-6033	46	65	13505
Rhode Island	694	79	-85	2	6	5584	1.2	-242	-595	27	16	5627
South Carolina	3169	-1714	442	6	13	15214	0.8	387	915	45	97	15356
South Dakota	159	15	-58	8	0	772	0.2	0	-112	22	3	797
Tennessee	2296	381	-543	11	12	15609	0.5	-523	-1463	64	62	15735
Texas	11980	1533	-4676	72	147	102275	0.9	-7429	-31628	785	1313	104373
Utah	1049	127	-372	33	5	6470	0.5	-1	-284	84	20	6574
Vermont	330	66	-6	1	2	2103	0.7	-4	-104	7	6	2116
Virgin Islands	50	-19	-1100	1	0	444	1.2	-28	30	16	2	464
Virginia	2581	383	-432	4	20	18046	0.5	-246	-4573	181	211	18438
Washington	5943	1031	-411	17	24	38196	1.2	-247	-4434	166	501	38863
West Virginia	602	-37	-451	0	2	6635	1.0	88	-1033	40	28	6703
Wisconsin	3299	325	-931	6	6	18133	0.6	-601	-3068	62	20	18215
Wyoming	290	18	-110	1	2	1225	0.5	-65	-927	7	4	1236
Totals	199864	34311	-29377	987	759	1370480	1.0	-27110	-212326	6896	7249	1384627

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.

UNADJUSTED INITIAL CLAIMS FOR WEEK ENDED OCTOBER 6, 2018

STATES WITH AN INCREASE OF MORE THAN 1,000

State	Change	State Supplied Comment
KY	+6,260	Layoffs in the manufacturing industry.
CA	+4,612	Layoffs in the agriculture, forestry, fishing and hunting and service industries.
NC	+3,992	Layoffs in the administrative and support and waste management and remediation service, accommodation and food service, and manufacturing industries.
MI	+2,329	Layoffs in the wholesale trade industry.
NY	+1,726	Layoffs in the construction, manufacturing, and accommodation and food service industries.
TX	+1,533	Layoffs in the administrative and support and waste management and remediation service, finance and insurance, and transportation and warehousing industries.
IL	+1,465	Layoffs in the construction, administrative and support and waste management and remediation service, wholesale trade, and retail trade industries.
FL	+1,359	Layoffs in the agriculture, forestry, fishing and hunting, wholesale trade, retail trade, and service industries.
WA	+1,031	Layoffs in the agriculture, forestry, fishing and hunting, manufacturing, healthcare and social assistance, and public administration industries.
GA	+1,001	Layoffs in the manufacturing and administrative and support and waste management and remediation service industries.

STATES WITH A DECREASE OF MORE THAN 1,000

State	Change	State Supplied Comment
SC	-1,714	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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Washington, D.C. 20210
Release Number: USDL 18-1687-NAT

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