



# News Release

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**8:30 A.M. (Eastern) Thursday, August 7, 2014**

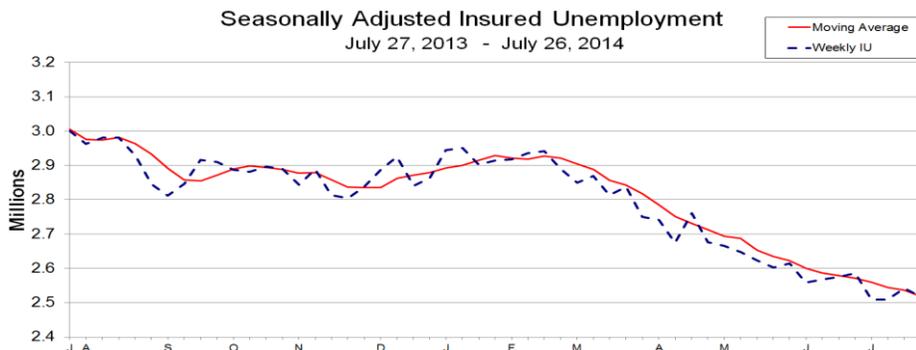
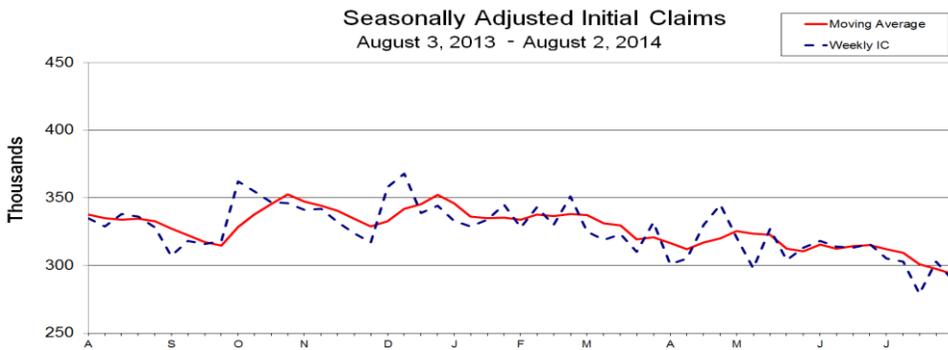
## UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE WEEKLY CLAIMS

### SEASONALLY ADJUSTED DATA

In the week ending August 2, the advance figure for seasonally adjusted **initial claims** was 289,000, a decrease of 14,000 from the previous week's revised level. The previous week's level was revised up by 1,000 from 302,000 to 303,000. The 4-week moving average was 293,500, a decrease of 4,000 from the previous week's revised average. This is the lowest level for this average since February 25, 2006 when it was 290,750. The previous week's average was revised up by 250 from 297,250 to 297,500.

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

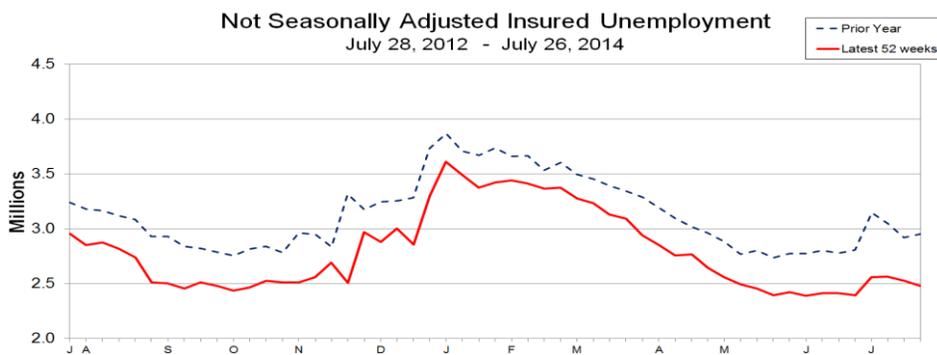
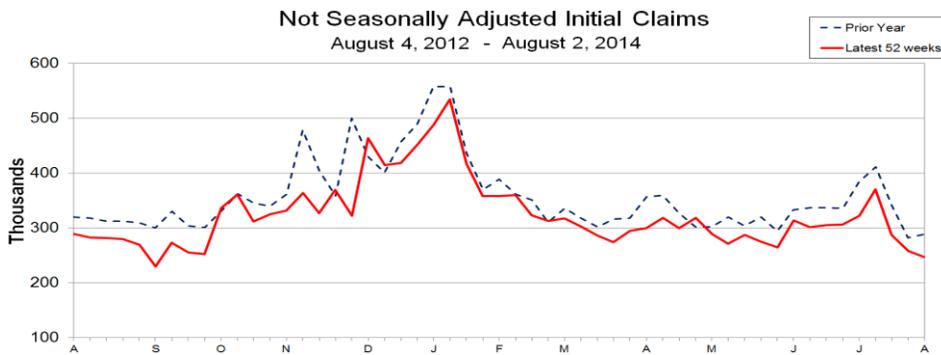
The advance seasonally adjusted **insured unemployment rate** was 1.9 percent for the week ending July 26, unchanged from the previous week's unrevised rate. The advance number for seasonally adjusted **insured unemployment** during the week ending July 26 was 2,518,000, a decrease of 24,000 from the previous week's revised level. The previous week's level was revised up 3,000 from 2,539,000 to 2,542,000. The 4-week moving average was 2,519,000, a decrease of 17,000 from the previous week's revised average. This is the lowest level for this average since July 7, 2007 when it was 2,509,250. The previous week's average was revised up by 750 from 2,535,250 to 2,536,000.



**UNADJUSTED DATA**

The advance number of actual initial claims under state programs, unadjusted, totaled 247,133 in the week ending August 2, a decrease of 10,492 (or -4.1 percent) from the previous week. The seasonal factors had expected an increase of 1,514 (or 0.6 percent) from the previous week. There were 288,861 initial claims in the comparable week in 2013.

The advance unadjusted insured unemployment rate was 1.9 percent during the week ending July 26, unchanged from the prior week. The advance unadjusted number for persons claiming UI benefits in state programs totaled 2,480,488, a decrease of 43,518 (or -1.7 percent) from the preceding week. The seasonal factors had expected a decrease of 20,334 (or -0.8 percent) from the previous week. A year earlier the rate was 2.3 percent and the volume was 2,952,831.



The total number of people claiming benefits in all programs for the week ending July 19 was 2,576,492, a decrease of 41,623 from the previous week. There were 4,514,382 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 July 19.

Initial claims for UI benefits filed by former Federal civilian employees totaled 1,126 in the week ending July 26, a decrease of 303 from the prior week. There were 1,811 initial claims filed by newly discharged veterans, a decrease of 44 from the preceding week.

There were 14,431 former Federal civilian employees claiming UI benefits for the week ending July 19, a decrease of 148 from the previous week. Newly discharged veterans claiming benefits totaled 23,864, a decrease of 222 from the prior week.

The highest insured unemployment rates in the week ending July 19 were in Puerto Rico (4.2), New Jersey (3.4), Alaska (3.2), Connecticut (3.1), Pennsylvania (3.0), California (2.8), Massachusetts (2.6), Nevada (2.6), Rhode Island (2.6), Illinois (2.3), Virgin Islands (2.3), and Maryland (2.2).

The largest increases in initial claims for the week ending July 26 were in Washington (+426), New Jersey (+346), Maryland (+119), Rhode Island (+96), and Oregon (+82), while the largest decreases were in Michigan (-3,773), Ohio (-2,701), New York (-2,375), South Carolina (-2,263), and Pennsylvania (-2,224).

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UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE DATA FOR REGULAR STATE PROGRAMS

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<b>WEEK ENDING</b>	<b>August 2</b>	<b>July 26</b>	<b>Change</b>	<b>July 19</b>	<b><u>Prior Year</u><sup>1</sup></b>
Initial Claims (SA)	289,000	303,000	-14,000	279,000	335,000
Initial Claims (NSA)	247,133	257,625	-10,492	287,049	288,861
4-Wk Moving Average (SA)	293,500	297,500	-4,000	300,750	337,500
<b>WEEK ENDING</b>	<b>July 26</b>	<b>July 19</b>	<b>Change</b>	<b>July 12</b>	<b><u>Prior Year</u><sup>1</sup></b>
Insured Unemployment (SA)	2,518,000	2,542,000	-24,000	2,508,000	3,001,000
Insured Unemployment (NSA)	2,480,488	2,524,006	-43,518	2,563,164	2,952,831
4-Wk Moving Average (SA)	2,519,000	2,536,000	-17,000	2,544,250	3,005,250
<u>Insured Unemployment Rate (SA)</u> <sup>2</sup>	1.9%	1.9%	0.0	1.9%	2.3%
<u>Insured Unemployment Rate (NSA)</u> <sup>2</sup>	1.9%	1.9%	0.0	1.9%	2.3%

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INITIAL CLAIMS FILED IN FEDERAL PROGRAMS (UNADJUSTED)

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<b>WEEK ENDING</b>	<b>July 26</b>	<b>July 19</b>	<b>Change</b>	<b><u>Prior Year</u><sup>1</sup></b>
Federal Employees (UCFE)	1,126	1,429	-303	2,143
Newly Discharged Veterans (UCX)	1,811	1,855	-44	2,206

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PERSONS CLAIMING UI BENEFITS IN ALL PROGRAMS (UNADJUSTED)

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<b>WEEK ENDING</b>	<b>July 19</b>	<b>July 12</b>	<b>Change</b>	<b><u>Prior Year</u><sup>1</sup></b>
Regular State	2,520,675	2,558,986	-38,311	2,914,883
Federal Employees	14,431	14,579	-148	20,511
Newly Discharged Veterans	23,864	24,086	-222	34,237
<u>Extended Benefits</u> <sup>3</sup>	246	108	+138	220
<u>State Additional Benefits</u> <sup>4</sup>	5,394	5,713	-319	4,112
<u>STC / Workshare</u> <sup>5</sup>	11,882	14,643	-2,761	24,144
<u>TOTAL</u> <sup>6</sup>	2,576,492	2,618,115	-41,623	4,514,382

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 JULY 26, 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	-3,773	Fewer layoffs in the wholesale trade industry.
OH	-2,701	Fewer layoffs in the manufacturing and transportation industries.
NY	-2,375	Fewer layoffs in the transportation and warehousing, educational service, and health care and social assistance industries.
SC	-2,263	Fewer layoffs in the manufacturing industry.
PA	-2,224	Fewer layoffs in the administrative and support service, food service, and construction industries.
GA	-1,982	Fewer layoffs in the manufacturing industry.
TX	-1,754	No comment.
CA	-1,749	No comment.
KS	-1,739	No comment.
IL	-1,181	No comment.

**STATES WITH AN INCREASE 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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## 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		
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	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	2518	-24	2519.00	1.9	
August 2, 2014	289	-14	293.50					

Initial Claims Filed During Week Ended July 26							Insured Unemployment For Week Ended July 19					
INITIAL CLAIMS							INSURED UNEMPLOYMENT					
STATE	STATE	CHANGE FROM				STATE	LAST YEAR (%)	CHANGE FROM				ALL PROGRAMS EXCLUDING RAILROAD RETIREMENT
		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	3587	-741	-480	19	28	29864	1.7	-1052	-5084	121	254	30239
Alaska	985	5	-631	3	3	9925	3.2	173	-1011	118	86	10129
Arizona	4992	-403	23	21	12	45728	1.9	233	-2306	378	301	46407
Arkansas	2714	66	-440	4	12	23721	2.1	-803	-5078	87	216	24024
California	54180	-1749	8667	265	283	416442	2.8	-4889	-24680	2338	4472	423254
Colorado	2313	-41	-487	9	52	30934	1.4	-951	-6552	215	888	32037
Connecticut	3200	-465	-943	10	19	50215	3.1	-749	-5278	73	216	50504
Delaware	602	-167	-107	1	2	7803	1.9	-224	-1084	27	53	7884
District of Columbia	384	-41	-43	5	3	11072	2.1	112	-1124	333	9	11414
Florida	14077	-61	-8	35	130	97885	1.3	3907	-21258	527	807	99219
Georgia	7611	-1982	-1239	31	93	50521	1.3	-1869	-12559	388	885	51794
Hawaii	1414	28	-191	4	29	9833	1.7	-427	-1678	115	232	10180
Idaho	958	-223	-608	0	12	8768	1.4	10	-1235	35	71	8874
Illinois	9516	-1181	-3455	22	31	131098	2.3	-6410	-21607	444	658	132200
Indiana	3954	-496	-797	19	22	28145	1.0	-2348	-14273	231	230	28606
Iowa	2019	-15	-402	7	8	18209	1.2	-967	-3132	64	120	18393
Kansas	1938	-1739	-650	7	0	19269	1.5	790	-3779	158	216	19643
Kentucky	3126	-375	-758	6	14	26421	1.5	-1087	-5716	212	477	27110
Louisiana	2312	-231	-315	9	16	23406	1.3	20	-3668	80	97	23583
Maine	900	-261	-282	2	5	8293	1.4	-323	-1442	25	46	8364
Maryland	4191	119	-355	37	30	53442	2.2	1075	631	660	394	54496
Massachusetts	5607	-177	742	18	37	83091	2.6	1358	799	376	495	83962
Michigan	6702	-3773	-2122	11	36	74147	1.9	-16334	-11586	163	405	74715
Minnesota	2942	-235	-321	7	12	35019	1.3	-1039	-5929	113	221	35353
Mississippi	1801	-354	-548	20	8	23374	2.2	-649	-4148	117	139	23630
Missouri	4757	-845	-601	61	3	42048	1.6	261	-9647	706	222	42976
Montana	659	-118	-164	4	9	6541	1.5	19	-2461	71	68	6680
Nebraska	970	-95	-252	4	6	7859	0.9	-1125	-1775	23	36	7918
Nevada	3058	-566	-144	11	25	30006	2.6	-555	-1787	115	254	30376
New Hampshire	761	13	-33	1	3	7038	1.2	-169	-1088	15	24	7077
New Jersey	9163	346	-172	23	29	129016	3.4	-1965	-6962	261	542	130059
New Mexico	997	-128	-158	4	8	15549	2.0	-200	-1468	139	150	15838
New York	17208	-2375	-1357	61	84	189245	2.2	-4150	-44899	859	1119	191223
North Carolina	4756	-804	-2136	10	64	52430	1.3	50	-46566	192	711	53333
North Dakota	231	0	-36	6	1	1968	0.5	-139	-658	162	14	2144
Ohio	7003	-2701	-2226	13	57	67949	1.4	-1794	-11727	267	640	68856
Oklahoma	1425	-89	-361	9	18	17178	1.1	-342	-3562	57	165	17400
Oregon	4632	82	-1347	21	33	34799	2.1	-1076	-8829	278	340	35417
Pennsylvania	14750	-2224	-2775	72	78	165001	3.0	5825	-17656	701	928	166630
Puerto Rico	2093	-966	-174	6	11	37972	4.2	-1269	-7001	219	295	38486
Rhode Island	1123	96	-66	6	4	11621	2.6	-322	-673	29	73	11723
South Carolina	2687	-2263	-897	9	24	21042	1.2	-1333	-10069	75	190	21307
South Dakota	216	13	-122	15	5	1368	0.3	-76	-358	288	14	1670
Tennessee	4657	-660	-383	27	35	35264	1.3	-1210	-8693	208	286	35758
Texas	14457	-1754	-1732	99	246	163268	1.5	7620	-11086	1102	3247	167619
Utah	1065	-210	-237	21	7	11132	0.9	-164	-2255	300	107	11539
Vermont	430	24	-39	0	2	4432	1.5	-133	-695	10	18	4460
Virgin Islands	60	22	8	0	0	850	2.3	64	-240	2	0	852
Virginia	3824	-69	-699	22	41	35797	1.0	-467	-7225	381	849	37027
Washington	6820	426	-620	29	98	49120	1.7	-906	-9074	351	1263	50734
West Virginia	1096	-88	-308	4	7	13794	2.0	-1132	-2100	71	92	13957
Wisconsin	6442	26	-1171	14	14	52041	1.9	-2191	-14495	126	189	52356
Wyoming	260	-25	-115	2	2	3053	1.1	164	-939	25	40	3118
Totals	257625	-29424	-24067	1126	1811	2524006	1.9	-39158	-396765	14431	23864	2562547

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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