



# News Release

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U.S. Department of Labor  
Employment and Training Administration  
Washington, D.C.  
Release Number: USDL 14-1624-NAT

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**8:30 A.M. (Eastern) Thursday, August 28, 2014**

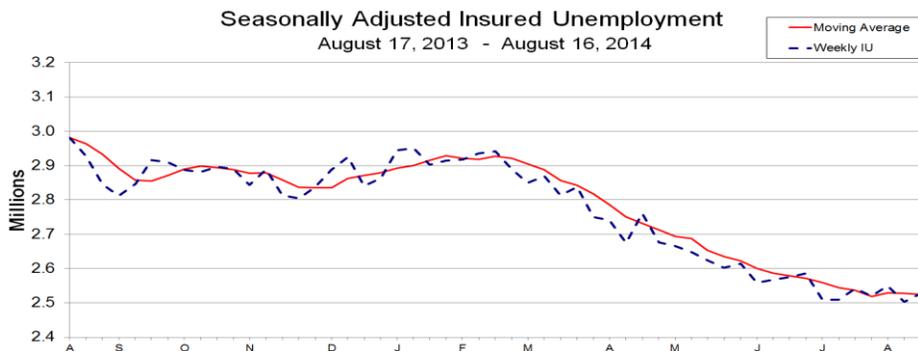
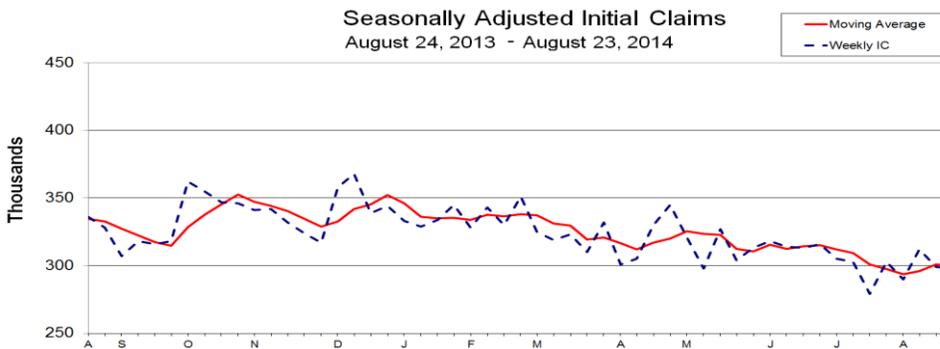
## UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE WEEKLY CLAIMS

### SEASONALLY ADJUSTED DATA

In the week ending August 23, the advance figure for seasonally adjusted **initial claims** was 298,000, a decrease of 1,000 from the previous week's revised level. The previous week's level was revised up by 1,000 from 298,000 to 299,000. The 4-week moving average was 299,750, a decrease of 1,250 from the previous week's revised average. The previous week's average was revised up by 250 from 300,750 to 301,000.

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

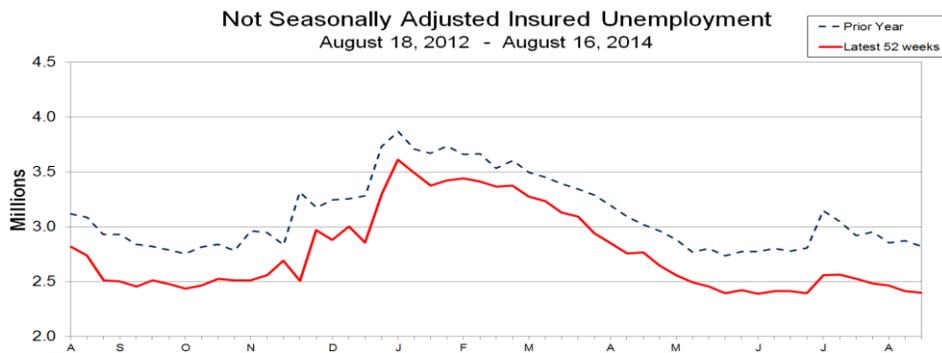
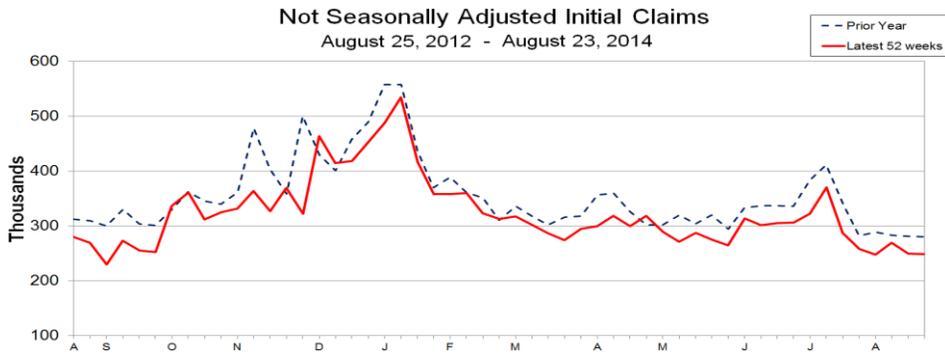
The advance seasonally adjusted **insured unemployment rate** was 1.9 percent for the week ending August 16, unchanged from the previous week's unrevised rate. The advance number for seasonally adjusted **insured unemployment** during the week ending August 16 was 2,527,000, an increase of 25,000 from the previous week's revised level. The previous week's level was revised up 2,000 from 2,500,000 to 2,502,000. The 4-week moving average was 2,524,250, a decrease of 3,750 from the previous week's revised average. The previous week's average was revised up by 500 from 2,527,500 to 2,528,000.



## UNADJUSTED DATA

The advance number of actual initial claims under state programs, unadjusted, totaled 248,622 in the week ending August 23, a decrease of 841 (or -0.3 percent) from the previous week. The seasonal factors had expected no change from the previous week. There were 279,803 initial claims in the comparable week in 2013.

The advance unadjusted insured unemployment rate was 1.8 percent during the week ending August 16, unchanged from the prior week. The advance unadjusted number for persons claiming UI benefits in state programs totaled 2,400,252, a decrease of 12,142 (or -0.5 percent) from the preceding week. The seasonal factors had expected a decrease of 35,035 (or -1.5 percent) from the previous week. A year earlier the rate was 2.2 percent and the volume was 2,819,994.



The total number of people claiming benefits in all programs for the week ending August 9 was 2,466,791, a decrease of 50,674 from the previous week. There were 4,460,830 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 August 9.

Initial claims for UI benefits filed by former Federal civilian employees totaled 1,013 in the week ending August 16, a decrease of 35 from the prior week. There were 1,984 initial claims filed by newly discharged veterans, a decrease of 241 from the preceding week.

There were 15,415 former Federal civilian employees claiming UI benefits for the week ending August 9, an increase of 772 from the previous week. Newly discharged veterans claiming benefits totaled 24,530, an increase of 725 from the prior week.

The highest insured unemployment rates in the week ending August 9 were in Puerto Rico (4.2), New Jersey (3.3), Connecticut (3.1), Alaska (3.0), Pennsylvania (2.7), California (2.6), Rhode Island (2.6), Massachusetts (2.5), Nevada (2.5), Illinois (2.3).

The largest increases in initial claims for the week ending August 16 were in Georgia (+874), Alabama (+575), Connecticut (+467), Hawaii (+387), and Iowa (+131), while the largest decreases were in California (-8,771), Florida (-1,462), Illinois (-1,442), Michigan (-1,401), and Texas (-1,050).

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UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE DATA FOR REGULAR STATE PROGRAMS

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<b>WEEK ENDING</b>	<b>August 23</b>	<b>August 16</b>	<b>Change</b>	<b>August 9</b>	<b><u>Prior Year</u><sup>1</sup></b>
Initial Claims (SA)	298,000	299,000	-1,000	312,000	336,000
Initial Claims (NSA)	248,622	249,463	-841	269,468	279,803
4-Wk Moving Average (SA)	299,750	301,000	-1,250	296,000	334,500
<b>WEEK ENDING</b>	<b>August 16</b>	<b>August 9</b>	<b>Change</b>	<b>August 2</b>	<b><u>Prior Year</u><sup>1</sup></b>
Insured Unemployment (SA)	2,527,000	2,502,000	+25,000	2,549,000	2,981,000
Insured Unemployment (NSA)	2,400,252	2,412,394	-12,142	2,462,156	2,819,994
4-Wk Moving Average (SA)	2,524,250	2,528,000	-3,750	2,529,500	2,981,500
<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>	1.8%	1.8%	0.0	1.9%	2.2%

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INITIAL CLAIMS FILED IN FEDERAL PROGRAMS (UNADJUSTED)

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<b>WEEK ENDING</b>	<b>August 16</b>	<b>August 9</b>	<b>Change</b>	<b><u>Prior Year</u><sup>1</sup></b>
Federal Employees (UCFE)	1,013	1,048	-35	1,113
Newly Discharged Veterans (UCX)	1,984	2,225	-241	2,174

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PERSONS CLAIMING UI BENEFITS IN ALL PROGRAMS (UNADJUSTED)

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<b>WEEK ENDING</b>	<b>August 9</b>	<b>August 2</b>	<b>Change</b>	<b><u>Prior Year</u><sup>1</sup></b>
Regular State	2,408,598	2,457,832	-49,234	2,867,011
Federal Employees	15,415	14,643	+772	21,001
Newly Discharged Veterans	24,530	23,805	+725	33,648
<u>Extended Benefits</u> <sup>3</sup>	2	280	-278	308
<u>State Additional Benefits</u> <sup>4</sup>	4,923	5,054	-131	4,005
<u>STC / Workshare</u> <sup>5</sup>	13,323	15,851	-2,528	23,238
<u>TOTAL</u> <sup>6</sup>	2,466,791	2,517,465	-50,674	4,460,830

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 AUGUST 16, 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>
CA	-8,771	No comment.
FL	-1,462	Fewer layoffs in the agriculture, manufacturing, wholesale trade, retail trade, and service industries.
IL	-1,442	No comment.
MI	-1,401	No comment.
TX	-1,050	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		
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	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	2527	25	2524.25	1.9	
August 23, 2014	298	-1	299.75					

Initial Claims Filed During Week Ended August 16  
INITIAL CLAIMS

Insured Unemployment For Week Ended August 9  
INSURED UNEMPLOYMENT

STATE	STATE	CHANGE FROM				STATE	STATE	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	3859	575	-85	23	31	28487	1.6	-310	-5836	116	248	28851
Alaska	1102	81	-315	2	9	9325	3.0	-376	-1216	125	116	9566
Arizona	4381	-406	-591	6	5	43494	1.8	-1055	-2821	192	309	43995
Arkansas	2322	-74	-795	7	9	22810	2.0	-1056	-5473	88	245	23143
California	46272	-8771	-4718	242	367	399371	2.6	-24257	-84698	2695	4511	406577
Colorado	2072	-428	-532	13	60	30226	1.3	67	-6306	301	929	31456
Connecticut	3559	467	293	9	23	50081	3.1	538	-5234	75	225	50381
Delaware	660	-40	-84	1	7	7868	1.9	217	-1081	37	73	7978
District of Columbia	382	-77	-71	4	1	11156	2.1	368	-1209	341	11	11508
Florida	13272	-1462	397	26	117	95836	1.3	-2703	-22862	648	758	97242
Georgia	8598	874	523	27	87	48593	1.3	201	-11289	409	866	49868
Hawaii	1578	387	179	5	26	9746	1.7	1065	-1234	96	248	10090
Idaho	1101	43	-454	2	15	8334	1.3	-244	-1677	27	56	8417
Illinois	8864	-1442	-2777	7	29	127215	2.3	3149	-23284	457	781	128453
Indiana	3855	-259	-919	14	24	26843	1.0	-426	-14401	210	208	27261
Iowa	2911	131	476	11	8	18828	1.3	333	-1587	59	121	19008
Kansas	1758	-315	-1510	1	9	16647	1.3	-472	-5249	150	200	16997
Kentucky	2643	-501	-1022	12	12	24761	1.4	-470	-7016	210	472	25443
Louisiana	2342	-22	-292	16	16	22393	1.2	-577	-3887	73	102	22568
Maine	869	109	-70	0	0	7836	1.4	105	-1191	31	44	7911
Maryland	3870	-461	-719	19	28	52235	2.2	-275	-2253	559	397	53191
Massachusetts	7034	93	1996	11	33	80562	2.5	-1159	2214	374	473	81409
Michigan	7506	-1401	-177	16	28	64565	1.6	2512	-12009	150	502	65217
Minnesota	2821	-252	-386	7	14	33685	1.3	-1316	-5747	83	224	33992
Mississippi	1804	-52	-688	8	16	21843	2.0	-743	-4530	113	156	22112
Missouri	4378	-605	-3103	84	25	39411	1.5	-1602	-7549	821	228	40460
Montana	692	-25	-60	6	6	6146	1.5	-71	-2019	65	80	6291
Nebraska	946	-24	-249	2	2	7321	0.8	-111	-1922	30	38	7389
Nevada	3000	-176	-20	9	27	29027	2.5	93	-2309	117	256	29400
New Hampshire	1401	44	571	1	1	7237	1.2	308	-731	13	27	7277
New Jersey	8476	-404	-560	12	35	125006	3.3	-583	-7938	286	566	125858
New Mexico	936	-118	-256	8	8	14557	1.9	-424	-2071	142	143	14842
New York	17156	-917	-1904	53	93	185414	2.2	-333	-42607	919	1163	187496
North Carolina	4632	-498	-1674	13	53	52067	1.3	-684	-30199	221	758	53046
North Dakota	201	-28	-52	0	0	1883	0.5	-105	-567	168	12	2063
Ohio	6864	-642	-1530	13	72	63374	1.3	34	-12566	249	630	64253
Oklahoma	1425	-94	-347	4	20	16312	1.1	-609	-3885	67	184	16563
Oregon	4435	-22	-874	16	43	33369	2.0	-255	-8874	266	362	33997
Pennsylvania	15730	-152	-1754	82	92	150058	2.7	-7556	-24674	1080	892	152032
Puerto Rico	2451	-382	-245	6	13	37960	4.2	-746	-5289	195	331	38486
Rhode Island	867	-339	-98	3	5	11449	2.6	-250	-745	30	58	11537
South Carolina	3513	69	-841	15	33	20891	1.2	72	-9406	63	228	21182
South Dakota	203	16	-22	2	0	1329	0.3	-49	-414	282	15	1626
Tennessee	3468	-421	-804	13	45	31775	1.2	-1861	-8313	251	304	32330
Texas	13858	-1050	-2368	115	239	147195	1.4	-6802	-23003	1284	3300	151779
Utah	1233	-134	-193	27	10	10803	0.9	-44	-2052	237	104	11144
Vermont	370	-62	-60	0	2	4102	1.4	-249	-601	12	19	4133
Virgin Islands	26	-24	-24	0	1	786	2.1	-72	-460	0	18	804
Virginia	4155	63	-319	11	42	35593	1.0	107	-7035	378	907	36878
Washington	6447	-592	-649	13	109	49545	1.7	-2025	-9509	375	1316	51236
West Virginia	1022	75	-120	2	9	13891	2.0	1167	-1070	82	96	14069
Wisconsin	5881	-354	-1703	10	23	50567	1.9	112	-13868	141	186	50894
Wyoming	262	-6	-102	4	2	2586	0.9	-340	-1399	22	34	2642
Totals	249463	-20005	-31701	1013	1984	2412394	1.8	-49762	-460951	15415	24530	2452341

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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