

Jobless Claims Rise After a Streak of Declines

U.S. jobless claims bounced back up last week, after six consecutive weeks of declines.

The number of people who filed for unemployment benefits was 197,000 in the week through July 25, 9,000 higher than the upwardly revised 188,000 a week earlier, the Labor Department said Thursday. Economists surveyed by The Wall Street Journal had expected the figure to rise to 200,000.

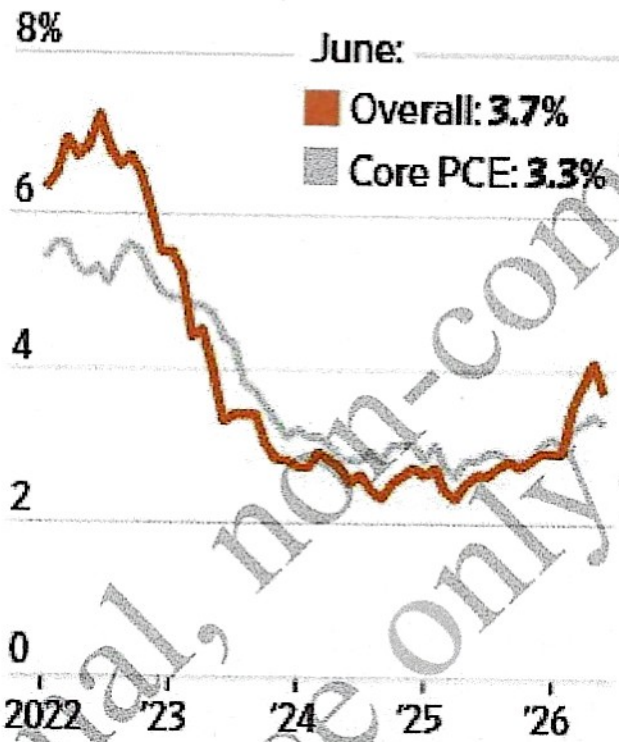
Continuing claims, which scale with the total size of the unemployed population, totaled 1.78 million in the week through July 18, falling by 7,000 from the downwardly revised total of a week earlier. The data on continuing claims lag the initial-claims data by a week.

Analysts had expected the rebound. The labor market has been holding steady with low unemployment despite a slow hiring pace.

—Dean Seal

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PCE price index, change from a year earlier



Note: Seasonally adjusted. Core prices exclude food and energy.
Source: Commerce Department via St. Louis Fed

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