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RESEARCH AND ANALYSIS BUREAU UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE CLAIMS PRESS RELEASE

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Nevada Unemployment Insurance Claims Data

LAS VEGAS, NV - Each Thursday, the United States Department of Labor Employment & Training Administration (DETR) releases unemployment insurance weekly claims data for the prior week. Following this release, the Nevada Department of Employment, Training, and Rehabilitation may release claims data for the same period. Currently, data is available through March 14, 2020.

Claims are split into "initial claims," which correspond to recent layoffs, and "continued claims" which are the regular process of requesting benefits for a particular week. Claimants will typically have a single initial claim, followed by a period of weekly continued claims.

Weekly initial claims and continued claims filed since January 2020 to March 7, 2020 remained relatively steady, while claims in the week of March 14, 2020 showed an initial increase due to temporary closure of business functions beginning in some areas of the state.

For example, initial claims for the week ending January 4, 2020, are 2,264. Initial claims the week ending February 29, 2020, were 2,324, and the following week ending March 7, 2020, were 2,309. For the week of March 14, 2020 initial claims rose to 6,356, nearly triple the number of claims in the prior week, and the largest week-to-week increase dating back to at least 1987, when current records begin.

Continued claims move slightly behind initial claims, and do not yet show the same increase as initial claims. Data shows there were 20,801 continued claims filed for the filing week ending January 4, 2020. Continued claims for the week ending February 29, 2020, were 20,044. Continued claims for the filing week March 7, 2020, were 19,850, and continued claims for the week ending March 14, 2020 were 19,475.

The Department of Employment, Training & Rehabilitation (DETR) is the state's lead workforce development agency. It consists of divisions that offer workforce related services, job placement and training, services for people with disabilities, investigation of claims of discrimination, unemployment insurance benefits, labor market data and more. Many of these services are provided through Nevada JobConnect career centers and in cooperation with its community partners.

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Data from the U.S. Department of Labor can be found at: <https://oui.doleta.gov/unemploy/wkclaims/report.asp>. Please note that state data from the U.S. Department of Labor tends to be released more slowly than national data.

To file for unemployment in the State of Nevada, please use the online application available 24/7 at <http://ui.nv.gov/css.html>. People unable to file online may file via telephone by calling a UI Claims Call Center between 8 a.m. and 8 p.m., Monday through Friday. Northern UI Call Center: (775) 684-0350; Southern UI Call Center: (702) 486-0350; Rural areas & Out-of-State: (888) 890-8211. Claimants are highly encouraged to use the internet to file their UI claims, as it is the fastest and most convenient way to file.

Other resources for claimants include a NV Unemployment Insurance (UI) Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ's) document and other helpful information located at <http://ui.nv.gov/css.html>. Online tutorial videos are also available in both English and Spanish and can be viewed on the Nevada Unemployment Insurance YouTube page.

This week, Governor Steve Sisolak instructed the Nevada Department of Employment, Training and Rehabilitation (DETR), Employment Security Division to waive the work search requirement and the 7-day wait period for approved unemployment insurance benefits.

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ABOUT THE RESEARCH AND ANALYSIS BUREAU

The Research and Analysis Bureau is Nevada's premier source for labor market information. A part of DETR, the Bureau is responsible for creating, analyzing, and reporting Nevada's labor market information, in cooperation with the United States Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS).

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