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PRESS RELEASE



ONE NEVADA - Growing a Skilled, Diverse Workforce

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**RESEARCH AND ANALYSIS BUREAU
UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE CLAIMS PRESS RELEASE**

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Regular Initial Claims Below 18,000 While Pandemic Unemployment Assistance Claims Total 27,399; Continued Claims Climb Above 369,000

CARSON CITY, NV - Finalized data from the Nevada Department of Employment, Training and Rehabilitation (DETR) show initial claims for unemployment insurance totaled 17,837 for the week ending May 16, down 3,798 claims, or 17.6 percent compared to last week's total of 21,635. This is the first week since the COVID-19 related business closures where the total number of regular initial claims has fallen below 20,000. Through the week ending May 16, there have been 480,233 initial claims filed in 2020, 458,581 of which have come in the last ten weeks.

Continued claims, which represent the current number of insured unemployed workers filing weekly for unemployment insurance benefits, rose to 369,041. This is an increase from the previous week of 44,597 claims, or 13.7 percent. The state's insured unemployment rate, which is the ratio of continued claims in a week to the total number of jobs covered by the unemployment insurance system (also known as covered employment), was 26.8 percent in the week, the highest insured unemployment rate in state history and the second highest rate in the nation behind only Washington (30.6%). It should be noted that the calculation of the insured unemployment rate is different from that of the state's total unemployment rate.

On May 16th, the State of Nevada's Pandemic Unemployment Assistance (PUA) program began accepting claims from Nevada's workers who are self-employed, 1099 contract workers, and gig workers. Initial claims filed for the week ending May 16, which were all filed on May 16, totaled 27,399. There are no continued claims to report for the PUA program for the week ending May 16. Nevada also began taking Pandemic Emergency Unemployment Compensation (PEUC) claims during the week, with a total of 518 claims. The PEUC program provides up to 13 weeks of benefits to individuals who have exhausted their regular unemployment benefits.

Nationally, the advance figure for seasonally adjusted regular initial claims was 2,438,000 a decline of 249,000 claims from the previous week's revised level of 2,981,000. The national insured unemployment rate for the week ending May 9 was 17.2 percent, the highest rate in the history of the series. The national rate is reported with a one-week lag.

State level data from the U.S. Department of Labor can be found here [[DOL Weekly Claims Report](#)]. Please note that state data from the U.S. Department of Labor tends to be released more slowly than national data. View the state level unemployment insurance claims report for the week ending May 16 here [[Weekly Report](#)].

A dashboard for Nevada weekly claims can be viewed here [[Weekly Dashboard](#)]. A monthly claims dashboard with claims activity for April can be found here [[Monthly Dashboard](#)]. View weekly county claims trends here [[Weekly by County](#)]. Dashboards are interactive reports that allow you to dig deeper into the 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 and Saturday between 8 a.m. and noon. Northern UI Call Center: (775) 684-0350; Southern UI Call Center: (702) 486-0350; Rural areas and 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 and reserves the phone lines for individuals who are not able or do not have the necessary resources to file online. Online filing during non-peak hours, such as early mornings, at night or weekends is also highly recommended. To continue to receive benefits, claimants must file weekly.

Online filers are encouraged to participate in the online claim filing system announced last month. The system, now operational, is organized by last names and is aimed at providing quicker results for Nevadans seeking to gain access to unemployment benefits: Claimants with last names starting with A-K are asked to file on Sundays. Last names L-R are asked to file on Mondays. Last names S-Z are asked to file on Tuesday. Wednesday through Saturday are open for all to initiate or renew claims online.

For Nevada workers who are self-employed, 1099 contract workers, and gig workers, Nevada's Pandemic Unemployment Assistance program (PUA) is now available. For further information regarding the PUA program visit detr.nv.gov/pua#. Individuals will be able to file online at www.employnv.gov or call the PUA Call Center at (800) 603-9681 between 8 a.m. and 8 p.m., Monday through Friday, and Saturday between 8 a.m. and noon.

Claimants are encouraged to visit <http://ui.nv.gov/css.html> and at [https://detr.nv.gov/Page/COVID-19_\(Coronavirus\)_Information_for_Claimants_and_Employers](https://detr.nv.gov/Page/COVID-19_(Coronavirus)_Information_for_Claimants_and_Employers) to view important announcements and access essential resources. Online tutorial videos are also available in both English and Spanish and can be viewed on the [Nevada Unemployment Insurance](#) YouTube page.

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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).