

**MEDIA CONTACT**  
Rosa Mendez  
[detrmedia@detr.nv.gov](mailto:detrmedia@detr.nv.gov)

**PRESS RELEASE**



**ONE NEVADA - Growing a Skilled, Diverse Workforce**

**STEVE SISOLAK**  
Governor

**HEATHER  
KORBULIC**  
Director

**DAVID SCHMIDT**  
Chief Economist

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

**For Immediate Release  
May 15, 2020**

## **Initial Claims Decline for Second Straight Week; Continued Claims Rise to 324,000**

**CARSON CITY, NV** - Finalized data from the Nevada Department of Employment, Training and Rehabilitation (DETR) show initial claims for unemployment insurance totaled 21,635 for the week ending May 9, down 6,915 claims, or 24.2 percent compared to last week's total of 28,550. Through the week ending May 9, there have been 462,396 initial claims filed in 2020, 440,744 of which have come in the last nine weeks.

Continued claims, which represent the current number of insured unemployed workers filing weekly for unemployment insurance benefits, rose to 324,444. This is an increase from the previous week of 20,871 claims, or 6.9 percent. Continued claims, which lag initial claims, are expected to rise as Nevada sees elevated levels of initial claims. 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 23.5 percent in the week, the highest insured unemployment rate in state history. It should be noted that the calculation of the insured unemployment rate is different from that of the state's total unemployment rate.

Nationally, the advance figure for seasonally adjusted initial claims was 2,981,000 a decline of 195,000 claims from the previous week's revised level of 3,169,000. The national insured unemployment rate for the week ending May 2 was 15.7 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 9 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. 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.

Beginning **Saturday May 16<sup>th</sup>**, Nevada's Pandemic Unemployment Assistance program (PUA) will be available to Nevada workers who are self-employed, 1099 contract workers, and gig workers. For further information regarding the PUA program visit [detr.nv.gov/pua](http://detr.nv.gov/pua). Individuals will be able to file online at [www.employnv.gov](http://www.employnv.gov) or call the PUA Call Center at (800) 603-9681.

Claimants are encouraged to visit [ui.nv.gov](http://ui.nv.gov) and at [detr.nv.gov/coronavirus](http://detr.nv.gov/coronavirus) 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.

###

Visit us <http://www.nevadaworkforce.com> and Follow us on Twitter: <http://www.twitter.com/NVlabormarket>

#### 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).