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For Immediate Release

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Initial Unemployment Insurance Claims Decline for Week Ending May 16

BATON ROUGE, LA – Initial unemployment insurance claims in Louisiana decreased to 1,394 for the week ending May 16, 2026, down from 1,490 the previous week. Initial claims remained below the comparable week last year, when 1,996 claims were filed.

The four-week moving average of initial claims increased to 1,398 from the previous week's average of 1,374.

The unemployment insurance continued weeks claimed for the week ending May 16, 2026, decreased to 5,987 from the week ending May 9, 2026, totaling 6,007. The continued weeks claimed were below the comparable figure of 10,086 for the week ending May 17, 2025.

The four-week moving average of continued weeks decreased to 6,001 from the previous week's average of 6,014.

Louisiana Works offers countless tools, both in person and online, to help claimants file and process their claims. These resources include those at the agency's [American Job Centers](#), job fairs, training programs, apprenticeship opportunities, and numerous other Louisiana Works services.

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Resources and Tools:

[Unemployment Insurance Claims Data for Prior Weeks](#)
[Unemployment Insurance Weekly Claims Dashboard](#)