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For Immediate Release

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Initial unemployment insurance claims drop for the week ending January 17

BATON ROUGE, LA – The initial unemployment insurance claims for the week ending January 17, 2026, dropped to 1,638 from the week ending January 10, 2026, totaling 1,927. For a comparison, during the week ending January 18, 2025, 1,876 initial claims were filed.

The four-week moving average of initial claims increased to 1,357 from the previous week's average of 1,320.

The unemployment insurance continued weeks claimed for the week ending January 17, 2026, increased to 8,393 from the week ending January 10, 2026, totaling 8,076. The continued weeks claimed were below the comparable figure of 13,025 for the week ending January 18, 2025.

The four-week moving average of continued weeks decreased to 8,144 from the previous week's average of 8,191.

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](#)