

## A QUICK LOOK AT THIS WEEK'S INITIAL UNEMPLOYMENT CLAIMS

For the week ending February 9, 2019.

Shown below is a table containing this week's unemployment data – initial claims filed **as compared to the same week last year.**

"Initial claims" initiate a determination of eligibility to begin a claimant's benefit year (new claims) or subsequent period of unemployment (additional claims) within the benefit year.

### Weekly Initial Unemployment Claims

State/ county	2019	2018	Number change	Percent change
<b>State</b>	<b>1,182</b>	<b>1,346</b>	<b>-164</b>	<b>-12.2%</b>
<b>Oahu</b>	<b>760</b>	<b>936</b>	<b>-176</b>	<b>-18.8%</b>
<b>Hawaii</b>	<b>181</b>	<b>145</b>	<b>36</b>	<b>24.8%</b>
<b>Maui</b>	<b>147</b>	<b>183</b>	<b>-36</b>	<b>-19.7%</b>
<b>Kauai</b>	<b>65</b>	<b>60</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>8.3%</b>
<i>Agent*</i>	29	22	7	31.8%

\*Agent claims are filed in Hawaii against another state.

Statewide initial unemployment claims decreased by 12.2%, with this week's total filings of 1,182 and filings during the same week in 2018 of 1,346.

Comparing 2019 to 2018 for the counties:

- Oahu had 176 fewer claims filed
- Hawaii had 36 more claims filed
- Maui had 36 fewer claims filed
- Kauai had 5 more claims filed
- *Agent had 7 more claims filed*

In percentage changes, comparing the current week to the same week a year ago:

- Oahu had an 18.8% decrease
- Hawaii had a 24.8% increase
- Maui had a 19.7% decrease
- Kauai had an 8.3% increase
- *Agent had a 31.8% increase*

Source: Hi State Dept. of Labor and Industrial Relations; calculations by the HI State Dept. of Business, Economic Development & Tourism.