

A QUICK LOOK AT THIS WEEK'S INITIAL UNEMPLOYMENT CLAIMS

For the week ending October 5, 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
State	1,283	1,352	-69	-5.1%
Oahu	848	711	137	19.3%
Hawaii	179	391	-212	-54.2%
Maui	165	149	16	10.7%
Kauai	63	80	-17	-21.3%
<i>Agent*</i>	28	21	7	33.3%

*Agent claims are filed in Hawaii against another state.

Statewide initial unemployment claims decreased by 5.1%, with this week's total filings of 1,283 and filings during the same week in 2018 of 1,352.

Comparing 2019 to 2018 for the counties:

- Oahu had 137 more claims filed
- Hawaii had 212 fewer claims filed
- Maui had 16 more claims filed
- Kauai had 17 fewer claims filed
- *Agent had 7 more claims filed*

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

- Oahu had a 19.3% increase
- Hawaii had a 54.2% decrease
- Maui had a 10.7% increase
- Kauai had a 21.3% decrease
- *Agent had a 33.3% increase*

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