



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

May 21, 2020

[www.iowaworkforcedevelopment.gov](http://www.iowaworkforcedevelopment.gov)

**Media Contact -**

[communications@iwd.iowa.gov](mailto:communications@iwd.iowa.gov)

**Unemployment Insurance Customer Service**

1-866-239-0843

- [uiclaimshelp@iwd.iowa.gov](mailto:uiclaimshelp@iwd.iowa.gov)

### **Iowa Workforce Development reports initial unemployment insurance claims filed for week of May 10 - May 16, 2020**

DES MOINES - The number of initial claims in Iowa, filed between Sunday, May 10, and Saturday, May 16, was 13,040. There were 12,011 initial claims by individuals who work and live in Iowa, and 1,029 claims by individuals who work in Iowa and live in another state.

The number of continuing weekly unemployment claims was 187,375.

Unemployment insurance benefit payments totaled \$50,962,509.01 for the same week.

The following industries had the most claims:

- Manufacturing (4,679)
- Industry Not Available - Self-employed, Independent Contractors, etc. (1,251)
- Health Care & Social Assistance (1,216)
- Retail Trade (827)
- Accommodation & Food Services (785)

A total of \$106,809,600 in Federal Pandemic Unemployment Compensation (FPUC) benefits was paid during the week of May 10-16, 2020. Since April 4,

2020, a total of \$651,345,000 in benefits has been paid.

A total of \$7,589,384.85 was paid in Pandemic Unemployment Assistance (PUA) benefits during the week of May 3-9, 2020.

Employees and employers who have questions regarding returning to work should review the Frequently Asked Questions for each group on our website. We have recently updated these questions regarding the various scenarios as businesses reopen and employees are recalled. Employer questions can be found

here: <https://www.iowaworkforcedevelopment.gov/sites/search.iowaworkforcedevelopment.gov/files/content-files/FAQs%20Employers%2005.0520.pdf>

Questions 11-16 specifically relate to return to work questions. Employees can find assistance here and should review questions 10-29. Employee questions can be found

here: [https://www.iowaworkforcedevelopment.gov/sites/search.iowaworkforcedevelopment.gov/files/content-](https://www.iowaworkforcedevelopment.gov/sites/search.iowaworkforcedevelopment.gov/files/content-files/FAQs%20Workers%2005.18.20.pdf)

[files/FAQs%20Workers%2005.18.20.pdf](https://www.iowaworkforcedevelopment.gov/sites/search.iowaworkforcedevelopment.gov/files/content-files/FAQs%20Workers%2005.18.20.pdf) Additionally, these questions have been translated into 9 different languages that are available on the link. We continue to urge employers and employees to communicate with each other regarding any concerns the employees may have and educating employees about the safety precautions employers are taking to safeguard them while at work.

For more information on the total data for this week's unemployment claims, please visit <https://www.iowalmi.gov/unemployment-insurance-statistics>

###

### **An Equal Opportunity Employer/Program**

Auxiliary aids and services are available upon request for individuals with disabilities.

[www.iowaworkforcedevelopment.gov](http://www.iowaworkforcedevelopment.gov)