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Unemployment Initial Weekly Claims Decrease

PIERRE, S.D. – During the week of May 31 through June 6, a total of 817 initial weekly claims for state unemployment benefits were processed by the Department of Labor and Regulation. This is a decrease of 681 claims from the prior week’s total of 1,498.

A total of \$4.9 million was paid out in state benefits, in addition to \$13.1 million paid out in Federal Pandemic Unemployment Compensation (FPUC), \$894,000 in Pandemic Unemployment Assistance (PUA) and \$46,000 in Pandemic Emergency Unemployment Compensation (PEUC) benefits. The Unemployment Insurance Trust Fund balance June 7 was \$98.8 million.

The latest number of continued claims is 19,629 for the week ending May 23. This indicates the number of unemployed workers eligible for and receiving benefits after their initial claim.

“Over 19,000 job openings are currently listed in our SDWORKS jobs database, back to pre-pandemic levels,” said state Labor and Regulation Secretary Marcia Hultman. “If you’re unsure if you’ll be recalled back to work, now is the perfect opportunity to consider a new career. We have many education and training opportunities to get you started.”

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NOTE: DLR will send out weekly news release updates on new unemployment claims every Thursday after the U.S. Department of Labor publishes the official release at 8:30 a.m. EDT. View at https://oui.doleta.gov/unemploy/claims_arch.asp.