

**For Immediate Release:** Thursday, May 27, 2021  
**Media Contact:** [Dawn Dovre](mailto:Dawn.Dovre@sd.gov) or 605-773-3101

## **Unemployment Claims Filed for Week Ending May 22**

PIERRE, S.D. – During the week of May 16-22, a total of 197 initial weekly claims for state unemployment benefits were processed by the Department of Labor and Regulation. This is a decrease of 212 claims from the prior week's total of 409.

The latest number of continued state claims is 2,447 for the week ending May 15, a decrease of 76 from the prior week's total of 2,523. This indicates the number of unemployed workers eligible for and receiving benefits after their initial claim.

For the week ending May 22, a total of \$356,000 was paid out in state benefits, in addition to \$701,000 in Federal Pandemic Unemployment Compensation (FPUC), \$50,000 in Pandemic Unemployment Assistance (PUA) and \$300,000 in Pandemic Emergency Unemployment Compensation (PEUC) benefits.

The Unemployment Insurance Trust Fund balance was \$161.9 million on May 23.

Benefits paid since March 16, 2020:

- Regular State = \$113.9 million
- FPUC = \$235.0 million
- PUA = \$20.5 million
- PEUC = \$9.9 million

**Total = Approximately \$379.3 million**

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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](https://oui.doleta.gov/unemploy/claims_arch.asp).