

A QUICK LOOK AT THIS WEEK'S INITIAL UNEMPLOYMENT CLAIMS

For the week ending May 19, 2012.

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.

State/ county	2012	2011	Number change	Percent change
State	1,812	2,015	-203	-10.1%
Oahu	1,026	1,170	-144	-12.3%
Hawaii	365	345	20	5.8%
Maui	239	243	-4	-1.6%
Kauai	130	210	-80	-38.1%
<i>Agent*</i>	<i>52</i>	<i>47</i>	<i>5</i>	<i>10.6%</i>

* Agent claims are filed in Hawaii against another state.

Statewide initial unemployment claims decreased by 10.1%, with this week's total filings of 1,812 and filings during the same week in 2011 of 2,015.

Comparing 2012 to 2011 for the counties:

- Oahu had 144 fewer claims filed
- Hawaii had 20 more claims filed
- Maui had 4 fewer claims filed
- Kauai had 80 fewer claims filed
- *Agent had 5 more claims filed*

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

- Oahu had a 12.3% decrease
- Hawaii had a 5.8% increase
- Maui had a 1.6% decrease
- Kauai had a 38.1% decrease
- *Agent had a 10.6% increase*