

Weekly Analysis

May 16, 2026

Ohio Law initial claims, representing newly unemployed persons, totaled 5,654 last week, an increase of 19.9 percent from the prior week's figure of 4,717 and a 3.0 percent decrease from the May 2025 weekly average of 5,826. Initial claims under Title 5 of the U.S. Code (UCFE & UCX) totaled 12. Pandemic Unemployment Compensation (PUA) initial claims totaled zero.

Ohio Law continued claims, representing persons unemployed one week or more, totaled 39,840 last week, a decrease of 1.9 percent from the prior week's figure of 40,632 and a 8.6 percent decrease from the May 2025 weekly average of 43,597. Continued claims under Title 5 totaled 132. Pandemic Emergency Unemployment Compensation (PEUC) continued claims totaled 1 while PUA continued claims totaled zero. Extended Benefits (EB) continued claims totaled zero.

Category	Weekly Average May 2025	Week Ending May 02	Week Ending May 09	Week Ending May 16	Percent Change	
					Previous Week	Average of Last Year
All Claims	49,590	46,133	45,489	45,638	0.3	-8.0
Initial Claims ^a	5,844	4,385	4,723	5,666	20.0	-3.0
Regular Ohio Law	5,826	4,376	4,717	5,654	19.9	-3.0
UCFE	10	6	2	4
UCX	8	3	4	8
Continued Claims ^a	43,746	41,748	40,766	39,972	-1.9	-8.6
Regular Ohio Law	43,597	41,591	40,632	39,840	-1.9	-8.6
UCFE	88	87	77	78	1.3	-11.3
UCX	62	70	57	54	-5.3	-12.3

Financial Summary ^b	Number	Percent Change ^c
Collections, March 2026	\$1,877,911	...
Gross Benefits Paid, April 2026	\$79,696,328	-12.4
Average Weekly Benefit, April 2026	\$524.36	5.8
Trust Fund Balance as of March 31, 2026	\$1,697,444,475	...

^aIncludes agent-state claims, excludes transitionals.

^bRegular Ohio Law. ^cFrom corresponding period, preceding year.

**INITIAL AND CONTINUED CLAIMS
UNDER REGULAR OHIO UNEMPLOYMENT COMPENSATION LAW
BY COUNTY OF RESIDENCE
WEEK ENDING May 16, 2026**

County	Initial* Claims	Continued Claims	County	Initial* Claims	Continued Claims
Total.....	5,654	39,840			
Adams.....	7	84	Lorain.....	132	1,128
Allen.....	37	299	Lucas.....	1,038	1,708
Ashland.....	10	114	Madison.....	5	77
Ashtabula.....	25	325	Mahoning.....	65	1,327
Athens.....	15	129	Marion.....	11	139
Auglaize.....	8	78	Medina.....	54	541
Belmont.....	11	126	Meigs.....	9	50
Brown.....	29	135	Mercer.....	7	48
Butler.....	133	1,114	Miami.....	26	262
Carroll.....	6	75	Monroe.....	5	31
Champaign.....	12	72	Montgomery.....	221	1,854
Clark.....	46	381	Morgan.....	5	35
Clermont.....	65	651	Morrow.....	6	90
Clinton.....	15	89	Muskingum.....	27	251
Columbiana.....	31	283	Noble.....	5	17
Coshocton.....	12	98	Ottawa.....	36	137
Crawford.....	16	128	Paulding.....	2	29
Cuyahoga.....	532	4,850	Perry.....	9	113
Darke.....	29	199	Pickaway.....	19	165
Defiance.....	11	80	Pike.....	7	88
Delaware.....	56	565	Portage.....	53	500
Erie.....	31	270	Preble.....	7	104
Fairfield.....	55	444	Putnam.....	6	76
Fayette.....	6	85	Richland.....	38	359
Franklin.....	504	4,513	Ross.....	24	216
Fulton.....	34	129	Sandusky.....	34	204
Gallia.....	13	51	Scioto.....	44	234
Geauga.....	11	234	Seneca.....	16	123
Greene.....	58	393	Shelby.....	5	102
Guernsey.....	13	86	Stark.....	130	1,225
Hamilton.....	372	2,780	Summit.....	203	1,946
Hancock.....	28	165	Trumbull.....	65	1,218
Hardin.....	8	71	Tuscarawas.....	25	210
Harrison.....	5	33	Union.....	12	148
Henry.....	8	61	Van Wert.....	5	50
Highland.....	21	164	Vinton.....	5	36
Hocking.....	12	106	Warren.....	52	704
Holmes.....	2	19	Washington.....	23	127
Huron.....	17	202	Wayne.....	23	193
Jackson.....	14	73	Williams.....	9	91
Jefferson.....	49	157	Wood.....	140	360
Knox.....	16	122	Wyandot.....	10	50
Lake.....	72	713	Out of State	361	1,198
Lawrence.....	24	102	Interstate Agent	131	810
Licking.....	59	519			
Logan.....	6	99	Interstate Liable.....	185	1,658

*Transitional claims are excluded from the count of initial claims.

Note: Interstate Liable counts not included in totals.
Source: Weekly Claims file.

Ohio Department of Job and Family Services
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