



Rhode Island Department of Labor and Training

Initial Claims Statistics January 2008

In January 2008, Rhode Island workers filed a total of 11,475 initial claims for Unemployment Insurance benefits, an increase of 1,270 (12.4%) from the 10,205 initial claims filed in January 2007.

Employees with an attachment to the Construction (1,901) and Manufacturing (1,566) sectors filed the greatest number of claims this month. These two sectors represented 30 percent of the month's claims, slightly less than the 34 percent reported in January 2007. The majority of construction layoffs are attributed to seasonal layoffs typical for this time of year. Manufacturing claims are attributed to both seasonal layoffs and temporary closings in this sector. Workers classified in the Accommodation & Food Services and Administrative & Waste Services sectors accounted for an additional eighteen percent of claims filed in January.

At the major occupational level, workers classified in Production occupations (1,678) filed the largest number of initial claims for the month, representing an increase of 300 claims from last year's total (1,386). The majority of these claims were associated with the Miscellaneous Manufacturing industry with additional claims linked to the temporary help services. Individuals working in Office and Administrative Support Occupations (1,363) and Construction (1,362) occupations reported nearly identical claims for the month showing a year over year increase for Office and Administrative occupation of 294 claims with virtually no change from 2007 for Construction claims.

Initial Claims by Industry Sector

	Claims	Percent
Total	11,475	100.0%
Agriculture/Forestry	79	0.7%
Mining	53	0.5%
Utilities	11	0.1%
Construction	1,901	16.6%
Manufacturing	1,566	13.6%
Wholesale Trade	312	2.7%
Retail Trade	828	7.2%
Transportation & Warehousing	369	3.2%
Information	64	0.6%
Finance & Insurance	260	2.3%
Real Estate	109	1.0%
Professional & Tech. Services	216	1.9%
Management of Companies	119	1.0%
Administrative & Waste Services	958	8.3%
Educational Services	71	0.6%
Health Care & Social Assistance	470	4.1%
Arts, Entertainment & Recreation	345	3.0%
Accommodation & Food Services	1,142	10.0%
Other Services	248	2.2%
Public Administration	113	1.0%
Information Not Available	2,242	19.5%

Initial Claims by Occupation

	Claims	Percent
Total	11,475	100.0%
Management	673	5.9%
Business & Financial Operations	207	1.8%
Computer & Mathematical	52	0.5%
Architecture & Engineering	78	0.7%
Life, Physical & Social Science	41	0.4%
Community & Social Services	50	0.4%
Legal	18	0.2%
Education, Training & Library	98	0.9%
Arts, Design, Ent., Sports & Media	134	1.2%
Healthcare Practitioner & Technical	103	0.9%
Healthcare Support	200	1.7%
Protective Service	128	1.1%
Food Preparation & Serving Related	1,133	9.9%
Building & Grounds Cleaning & Maint.	550	4.8%
Personal Care & Service	194	1.7%
Sales & Related	608	5.3%
Office & Administrative Support	1,363	11.9%
Farming, Fishing & Forestry	60	0.5%
Construction & Extraction	1,362	11.9%
Installation, Maintenance & Repair	385	3.4%
Production	1,678	14.6%
Transportation & Material Moving	940	8.2%
Military Specific	10	0.1%
Information Not Available	1,410	12.3%

Men filed 60 percent of the claims this month, whereas women filed 40 percent. Landscaping and Groundskeeping Workers; Construction Laborers, and Carpenters are the occupations most cited by these newly unemployed men. Production Workers (All Other), Waitresses and General Office Clerks are the occupations most cited by the newly unemployed women.

Forty-three percent of the claimants filing initial claims in January reported a high school diploma as their highest level of educational attainment. Twenty-seven percent of the claimants reported having education beyond high school, with 12 percent possessing a Bachelor's degree or beyond. Fourteen percent of the claimants filing initial claims did not have a high school diploma or GED.

Initial Claims by Educational Attainment

