



## Rhode Island Department of Labor and Training

### Initial Claims Statistics

January 2009

In January 2009, Rhode Island workers filed 11,703 initial claims for Unemployment Insurance benefits, an increase of 228 (2.0%) from the 11,475 initial claims filed in January 2008.

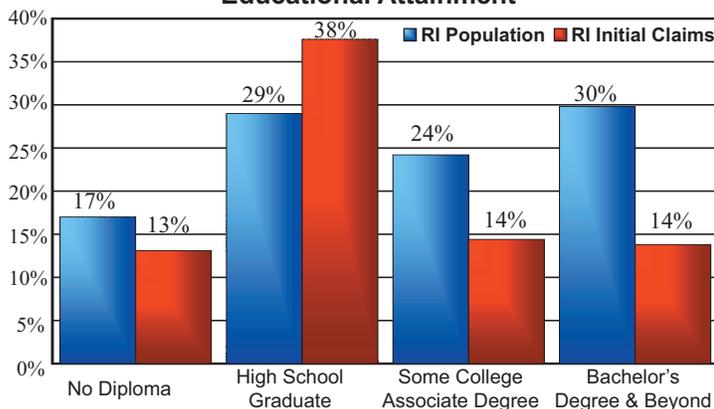
Employees with an attachment to the Manufacturing (3,482) sector filed the greatest number of initial claims, accounting for 30 percent of the total initial claims this month. This represents a 78 percent over-the-month increase from the 1,960 initial claims filed in December and a 55 percent increase from the January 2008 figure (1,566). The Construction sector followed with the second highest number of initial claims (1,480) filed against it this month. Claims linked to this sector declined 22 percent from last year's figure (1,901). In addition, a significant number of claims was filed by individuals with an attachment to the Administrative & Waste Services (872) and Accommodation & Food Services (847) sectors.

At the major occupational level, workers classified in Production (3,070) occupations filed the largest number of initial claims, followed by Office & Administrative Support (1,179) and Construction & Extraction (942) occupations. These three sectors accounted for 44 percent of the monthly total.

Thirty-eight percent of the claimants filing initial claims in January reported a high school diploma as their highest level of educational attainment, 14 percent reported having some college education (including associate degree), 14 percent reported having a bachelor's degree or beyond, while 13 percent reported that they did not have a high school diploma. In comparison, 29 percent of the state's population (25 & over) reported a high school diploma as their highest level of educational attainment, 24 percent reported having some college education (including associate degree), 30 percent reported having a bachelor's degree or beyond, while 17 percent reported that they did not have a high school diploma, indicating that unemployment is more prevalent among groups with less education.

Layoffs of 10 or more individuals during the month occurred in 80 companies, a decrease of 34 from last month's figure (114). Industry sectors showing the largest number of companies with layoffs included Manufacturing, Professional & Business Services and Leisure & Hospitality. Men filed 61 percent of the claims this month, while women filed 39 percent. Production Workers, (All Other) was the occupation most cited by both the newly unemployed men and women.

**Educational Attainment**



#### Initial Claims by Industry Sector

	Jan 2009	Jan 2008
Total	11,703	11,475
Agriculture/Forestry	56	79
Mining	19	53
Utilities	-	11
Construction	1,480	1,901
Manufacturing	3,482	1,566
Wholesale Trade	273	312
Retail Trade	536	828
Transportation & Warehousing	375	369
Information	76	64
Finance & Insurance	278	260
Real Estate	93	109
Professional & Tech. Services	256	216
Management of Companies	96	119
Administrative & Waste Services	872	958
Educational Services	66	71
Health Care & Social Assistance	306	470
Arts, Entertainment & Recreation	316	345
Accommodation & Food Services	847	1,142
Other Services	184	248
Public Administration	60	113
Information Not Available	2,034	2,242

#### Initial Claims by Occupation

	Jan 2009	Jan 2008
Total	11,703	11,475
Management	664	673
Business & Financial Operations	173	207
Computer & Mathematical	129	52
Architecture & Engineering	169	78
Life, Physical & Social Science	44	41
Community & Social Services	47	50
Legal	15	18
Education, Training & Library	103	98
Arts, Design, Ent., Sports & Media	98	134
Healthcare Practitioner & Technical	82	103
Healthcare Support	94	200
Protective Service	101	128
Food Preparation & Serving Related	851	1,133
Building & Cleaning & Maintenance	385	550
Personal Care & Service	154	194
Sales & Related	401	608
Office & Administrative Support	1,179	1,363
Farming, Fishing & Forestry	35	60
Construction & Extraction	942	1,362
Installation, Maintenance & Repair	259	385
Production	3,070	1,678
Transportation & Material Moving	885	940
Military Specific	16	10
Information Not Available	1,805	1,410