



Rhode Island Department of Labor and Training

Initial Claims Statistics February 2007

Rhode Island workers filed a total of 7,535 initial claims for Unemployment Insurance benefits in February 2007, an increase of 268 (3.7%) from the 7,267 initial claims filed in February 2006.

Employees with an attachment to the Construction (1,363) sector filed the greatest number of claims during the month largely due to winter weather. The February school vacation period contributed to the high number of claims associated with the Transportation & Warehousing (1,093) sector and the Accommodation & Food Services (895) sector. These two sectors, reflecting temporary layoffs in school lunch programs and school bus transportation, accounted for more than a quarter of total layoffs for the month. There were also a significant number of initial claims filed by individuals with an attachment to the Manufacturing (693) sector.

At the major occupational level, 1,359 workers in Transportation & Material Moving occupations and 799 workers in Food Preparation & Serving occupations filed initial claims during February. This is typical during February and is related to the school vacation period. Although there were significant initial claims for Rhode Island workers in Construction and Extraction (828) during the month, the number of initial claimants in these occupations decreased from the January 2007 figure of 1,389.

Initial Claims by Industry Sector

	Claims	Percent
Total	7,535	100.0%
Agriculture/Forestry	18	0.2%
Mining	31	0.4%
Utilities	1	0.0%
Construction	1,363	18.1%
Manufacturing	693	9.2%
Wholesale Trade	147	2.0%
Retail Trade	410	5.4%
Transportation & Warehousing	1,093	14.5%
Information	44	0.6%
Finance & Insurance	180	2.4%
Real Estate	65	0.9%
Professional & Tech. Services	186	2.5%
Management of Companies	71	0.9%
Administrative & Waste Services	471	6.3%
Educational Services	56	0.7%
Health Care & Social Assistance	364	4.8%
Arts, Entertainment & Recreation	91	1.2%
Accommodation & Food Services	895	11.9%
Other Services	126	1.7%
Public Administration	73	1.0%
Information Not Available	1,157	15.4%

Initial Claims by Occupation

	Claims	Percent
Total	7,535	100.0%
Management	504	6.7%
Business & Financial Operations	102	1.4%
Computer & Mathematical	50	0.7%
Architecture & Engineering	54	0.7%
Life, Physical & Social Science	22	0.3%
Community & Social Services	38	0.5%
Legal	22	0.3%
Education, Training & Library	67	0.9%
Arts, Design, Ent., Sports & Media	72	1.0%
Healthcare Practitioner & Technical	90	1.2%
Healthcare Support	122	1.6%
Protective Service	111	1.5%
Food Preparation & Serving Related	799	10.6%
Building & Grounds Cleaning & Maint.	169	2.2%
Personal Care & Service	105	1.4%
Sales & Related	317	4.2%
Office & Administrative Support	719	9.5%
Farming, Fishing & Forestry	11	0.1%
Construction & Extraction	828	11.0%
Installation, Maintenance & Repair	197	2.6%
Production	721	9.6%
Transportation & Material Moving	1,359	18.0%
Military Specific	12	0.2%
Information Not Available	1,044	13.9%

Data may not add up due to rounding variations.

Men filed fifty-two percent of the February claims, whereas women filed forty-eight percent. Construction Laborers, Carpenters and School Bus Drivers are the occupations most cited by these newly unemployed men. School Bus Drivers, Food Preparation Workers and Cashiers are the occupations most cited by the newly unemployed women.

Forty-nine percent of the claimants filing initial claims in February reported a high school diploma as their highest level of educational attainment. Twenty-four percent of the claimants reported having education beyond high school, with ten percent possessing a Bachelor's degree or beyond. Fifteen percent of the claimants filing initial claims did not have a high school diploma or GED.

Initial Claims by Educational Attainment

