

Rhode Island Department of Labor and Training
Initial Claims Statistics
February 2011



In February 2011, Rhode Island workers filed 9,185 initial claims for Unemployment Insurance benefits, a decrease of 24 (-0.3%) from the 9,209 initial claims filed in February 2010.

Employees with an attachment to the Transportation & Warehousing (1,329) sector filed the greatest number of initial claims this month, followed by the Accommodation & Food Services (1,273) sector, accounting for 28 percent of the total initial claims this month. Over the year, claims against the Transportation & Warehousing sector increased 7 percent from the 1,237 initial claims filed in February 2010, while claims against the Accommodation & Food Services sector decreased 29 (2.2%) from the 1,302 initial claims filed during this same period.

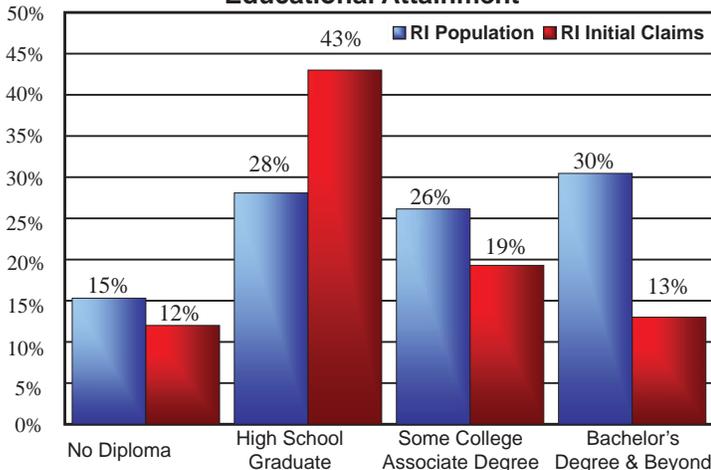
At the major occupational level, workers classified in Transportation & Material Moving (1,695) occupations filed the largest number of initial claims, followed by Food Preparation & Serving Related (1,320) occupations. These two sectors accounted for 33 percent of the total monthly claims in our state.

Men filed 48 percent of the claims this month, while women filed 52 percent. School Bus Driver was the occupation most cited by the newly unemployed men and the newly unemployed women.

Layoffs of 10 or more individuals during the month occurred in 53 companies, a decrease of 22 from last month's figure (75), and an increase of 1 from the February 2010 figure (52). Industry sectors showing the largest number of companies with layoffs included Trade, Transportation, & Utilities, Professional & Business Services and Construction.

Forty three percent of the claimants filing initial claims this month reported a high school diploma as their highest level of educational attainment, 19 percent reported having some college education (including associate degree), 13 percent reported having a bachelor's degree or beyond, while 12 percent reported that they did not have a high school diploma. In comparison, 28 percent of the state's population (25 & over) reported a high school diploma as their highest level of educational attainment, 26 percent reported having some college education (including associate degree), 30 percent reported having a bachelor's degree or beyond, while 15 percent reported that they did not have a high school diploma, indicating that unemployment is more prevalent among groups with less education.

Educational Attainment



Initial Claims by Industry Sector

	Feb 2011	Feb 2010
Total	9,185	9,209
Agriculture/Forestry	8	17
Mining	11	24
Utilities	4	0
Construction	1,052	1,206
Manufacturing	624	947
Wholesale Trade	155	198
Retail Trade	638	511
Transportation & Warehousing	1,329	1,237
Information	25	33
Finance & Insurance	151	139
Real Estate	72	109
Professional & Tech. Services	266	181
Management of Companies	26	28
Administrative & Waste Services	648	543
Educational Services	133	107
Health Care & Social Assistance	545	488
Arts, Entertainment & Recreation	132	143
Accommodation & Food Services	1,273	1,302
Other Services	147	194
Public Administration	78	109
Information Not Available	1,869	1,694

Initial Claims by Occupation

	Feb 2011	Feb 2010
Total	9,185	9,209
Management	463	390
Business & Financial Operations	125	91
Computer & Mathematical	75	74
Architecture & Engineering	73	75
Life, Physical & Social Science	28	29
Community & Social Services	58	31
Legal	19	15
Education, Training & Library	161	138
Arts, Design, Ent., Sports & Media	93	96
Healthcare Practitioner & Technical	115	93
Healthcare Support	184	167
Protective Service	125	130
Food Preparation & Serving Related	1,320	1,217
Building & Cleaning & Maintenance	187	184
Personal Care & Service	173	146
Sales & Related	471	339
Office & Administrative Support	882	769
Farming, Fishing & Forestry	18	15
Construction & Extraction	571	627
Installation, Maintenance & Repair	220	206
Production	805	788
Transportation & Material Moving	1,695	1,640
Military Specific	21	4
Information Not Available	1,302	1,944

Data may not add due to rounding variations.