



## Rhode Island Department of Labor and Training

# Initial Claims Statistics March 2007

Rhode Island workers filed a total of 5,873 initial claims for Unemployment Insurance benefits in March 2007, an increase of 830 (16.5%) from the 5,043 initial claims filed in March 2006.

Employees with an attachment to the Manufacturing (868) sector filed the greatest number of claims this month due in part to a temporary layoff at a local manufacturing plant. The Construction (813) sector filed the second largest number of claims as a result of wintry conditions this month. In comparison, the Construction sector has seen significant declines in claims filed going back to February 2007's figure of 1,363 and January 2007's figure of 1,844, and will continue to see these declines in April as the weather changes to more favorable conditions. There were also a significant number of initial claims filed by individuals with an attachment to the Accommodation & Food Services (646), Health Care & Social Assistance (442) and Retail Trade (406) sectors.

At the major occupational level, 905 workers in Production occupations, 789 workers in Office & Administrative Support and 530 workers in Food Preparation & Serving Related occupations filed initial claims during March. Although there were significant initial claims for Rhode Island workers in Construction and Extraction (435) during the month, the number of initial claimants in these occupations decreased significantly from the February 2007 figure of 828.

### Initial Claims by Occupation

	Claims	Percent
Total	5,873	100.0%
Management	424	7.2%
Business & Financial Operations	153	2.6%
Computer & Mathematical	41	0.7%
Architecture & Engineering	49	0.8%
Life, Physical & Social Science	19	0.3%
Community & Social Services	31	0.5%
Legal	17	0.3%
Education, Training & Library	56	1.0%
Arts, Design, Ent., Sports & Media	82	1.4%
Healthcare Practitioner & Technical	85	1.4%
Healthcare Support	150	2.6%
Protective Service	128	2.2%
Food Preparation & Serving Related	530	9.0%
Building & Grounds Cleaning & Maintenance	103	1.8%
Personal Care & Service	67	1.1%
Sales & Related	308	5.2%
Office & Administrative Support	789	13.4%
Farming, Fishing & Forestry	5	0.1%
Construction & Extraction	435	7.4%
Installation, Maintenance & Repair	180	3.1%
Production	905	15.4%
Transportation & Material Moving	436	7.4%
Military Specific	10	0.2%
Information Not Available	870	14.8%

Data may not add up due to rounding variations.

### Initial Claims by Industry Sector

	Claims	Percent
Total	5,873	100.0%
Agriculture/Forestry	5	0.1%
Mining	12	0.2%
Utilities	5	0.1%
Construction	813	13.8%
Manufacturing	868	14.8%
Wholesale Trade	158	2.7%
Retail Trade	406	6.9%
Transportation & Warehousing	147	2.5%
Information	56	1.0%
Finance & Insurance	200	3.4%
Real Estate	59	1.0%
Professional & Tech. Services	161	2.7%
Management of Companies	107	1.8%
Administrative & Waste Services	393	6.7%
Educational Services	53	0.9%
Health Care & Social Assistance	442	7.5%
Arts, Entertainment & Recreation	61	1.0%
Accommodation & Food Services	646	11.0%
Other Services	132	2.2%
Public Administration	86	1.5%
Information Not Available	1,063	18.1%

Men filed fifty-five percent of the March claims, whereas women filed forty-five percent. Helpers for Production Workers, Heavy Truck Drivers, and Carpenters are the occupations most cited by these newly unemployed men. Food Preparation Workers, Assemblers & Fabricators, and Hand Packers are the occupations most cited by the newly unemployed women.

Forty-three percent of the claimants filing initial claims in March 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 twelve 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

