



Rhode Island Department of Labor and Training

Initial Claims Statistics

March 2010

In March 2010, Rhode Island workers filed 7,467 initial claims for Unemployment Insurance benefits, a decrease of 8,024 (-51.8%) from the 15,491 initial claims filed in March 2009.

Employees with an attachment to the Manufacturing (1,061) and Construction (1,032) sectors filed the greatest number of initial claims, together accounting for 28 percent of the total initial claims this month. Claims against the Manufacturing sector decreased 67 percent from the 3,252 initial claims filed in March 2009, whereas claims against the Construction sector decreased 37 percent from the 1,638 initial claims filed during this same period.

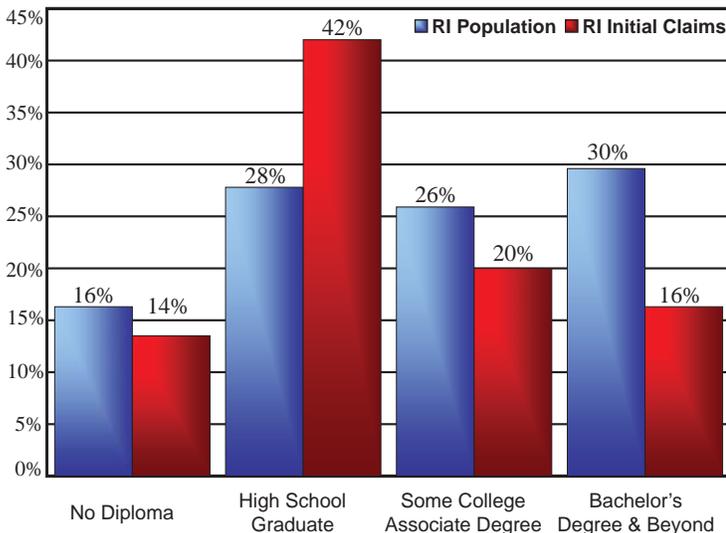
At the major occupational level, workers classified in Production (969) occupations filed the largest number of initial claims, followed by Office & Administrative Support (956) occupations. These two sectors accounted for 26 percent of the total monthly claims in our state.

Men filed 59 percent of the claims this month, while women filed 41 percent. Carpenter was the occupation most cited by the newly unemployed men. Cashier was the occupation most cited by the newly unemployed women.

Layoffs of 10 or more individuals during the month occurred in 46 companies, a decrease of 6 from the previous month and an decrease of 21 from the March 2009 figure (67). Industry sectors showing the largest number of companies with layoffs included Manufacturing, Trade, Transportation & Utilities, and Professional & Business Services.

Forty-two percent of the claimants filing initial claims in March reported a high school diploma as their highest level of educational attainment, 20 percent reported having some college education (including associate degree), 16 percent reported having a bachelor's degree or beyond, while 14 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 16 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

	Mar 2010	Mar 2009
Total	7,467	15,491
Agriculture/Forestry	12	24
Mining	8	23
Utilities	5	4
Construction	1,032	1,638
Manufacturing	1,061	3,252
Wholesale Trade	224	606
Retail Trade	672	1,085
Transportation & Warehousing	189	407
Information	59	281
Finance & Insurance	173	659
Real Estate	85	201
Professional & Tech. Services	247	578
Management of Companies	36	250
Administrative & Waste Services	536	1,000
Educational Services	84	135
Health Care & Social Assistance	530	895
Arts, Entertainment & Recreation	99	156
Accommodation & Food Services	586	972
Other Services	186	287
Public Administration	44	86
Information Not Available	1,598	2,952

Initial Claims by Occupation

	Mar 2010	Mar 2009
Total	7,467	15,491
Management	459	1,053
Business & Financial Operations	152	402
Computer & Mathematical	57	212
Architecture & Engineering	88	392
Life, Physical & Social Science	26	81
Community & Social Services	57	118
Legal	14	39
Education, Training & Library	77	143
Arts, Design, Ent., Sports & Media	107	225
Healthcare Practitioner & Technical	125	240
Healthcare Support	189	255
Protective Service	67	131
Food Preparation & Serving Related	521	886
Building & Cleaning & Maintenance	165	296
Personal Care & Service	165	201
Sales & Related	447	867
Office & Administrative Support	956	2,055
Farming, Fishing & Forestry	10	17
Construction & Extraction	485	1,000
Installation, Maintenance & Repair	259	484
Production	969	2,385
Transportation & Material Moving	503	1,385
Military Specific	19	24
Information Not Available	1,549	2,599

Data may not add due to rounding variations.