

# Rhode Island Department of Labor and Training

## Initial Claims Statistics

### March 2012



In March 2012, Rhode Island workers filed 5,904 initial claims for Unemployment Insurance benefits, a decrease of 554 (-8.6%) from the 6,458 initial claims filed in March 2011.

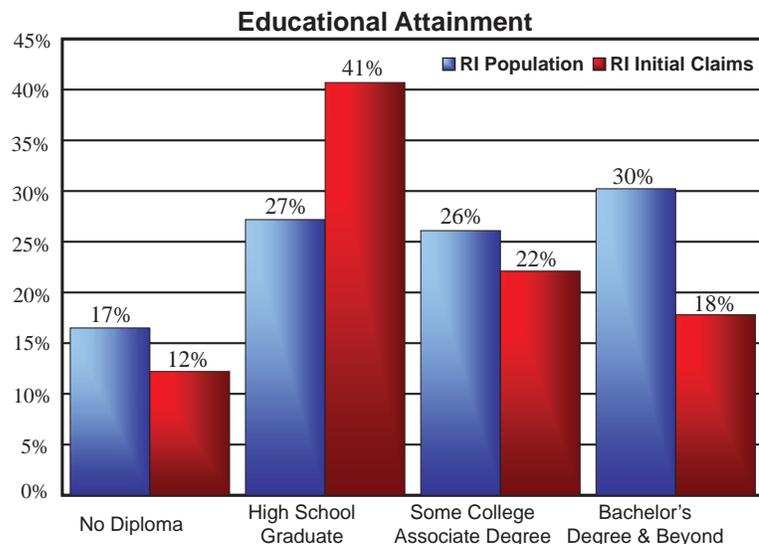
Employees with an attachment to the Construction (813) sector filed the greatest number of initial claims this month, followed by the Manufacturing (587) sector, accounting for 24 percent of the total initial claims this month. Over the year, claims against the Construction sector decreased by 58 (-6.7%) from the 871 initial claims filed in March 2011. The Manufacturing sector decreased 29 (-4.7%) from the 616 initial claims filed during this same period.

At the major occupational level, workers classified in Office & Administrative Support (814) occupations filed the largest number of initial claims, followed by Production (665) occupations. These two sectors accounted for 25 percent of the total monthly claims in our state.

Men filed 58 percent of the claims this month, while women filed 42 percent. Carpenter was the occupation most cited by the newly unemployed men. General Office Clerk was the occupation most cited by the newly unemployed woman.

Layoffs of 10 or more individuals during the month occurred in 30 companies, a decrease of 21 from last month's figure (51), and an increase of 1 from the March 2011 figure (29). Industry sectors showing the largest number of companies with layoffs included the Construction, Manufacturing, Trade, Transportation & Utilities and Professional & Business Services sectors.

Forty-one percent of the claimants filing initial claims this month reported a high school diploma as their highest level of educational attainment, 22 percent reported having some college education (including associate degree), 18 percent reported having a bachelor's degree or beyond, while 12 percent reported that they did not have a high school diploma. In comparison, 27 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 17 percent reported that they did not have a high school diploma, indicating that unemployment is more prevalent among groups with less education.



Initial Claims by Industry Sector		
	Mar 2012	Mar 2011
Total	5,904	6,458
Agriculture/Forestry	5	5
Mining	4	8
Utilities	4	5
Construction	813	871
Manufacturing	587	616
Wholesale Trade	166	149
Retail Trade	450	502
Transportation & Warehousing	149	217
Information	62	54
Finance & Insurance	152	160
Real Estate	82	72
Professional & Tech. Services	180	213
Management of Companies	7	79
Administrative & Waste Services	496	485
Educational Services	65	82
Health Care & Social Assistance	541	578
Arts, Entertainment & Recreation	105	102
Accommodation & Food Services	539	538
Other Services	174	168
Public Administration	32	50
Information Not Available	1,291	1,502

Initial Claims by Occupation		
	Mar 2012	Mar 2011
Total	5,904	6,458
Management	385	426
Business & Financial Operations	122	163
Computer & Mathematical	79	96
Architecture & Engineering	65	56
Life, Physical & Social Science	40	43
Community & Social Services	68	65
Legal	13	25
Education, Training & Library	76	75
Arts, Design, Ent., Sports & Media	115	83
Healthcare Practitioner & Technical	164	151
Healthcare Support	171	212
Protective Service	87	75
Food Preparation & Serving Related	548	573
Building & Cleaning & Maintenance	131	131
Personal Care & Service	117	154
Sales & Related	313	384
Office & Administrative Support	814	884
Farming, Fishing & Forestry	11	3
Construction & Extraction	423	497
Installation, Maintenance & Repair	223	186
Production	665	717
Transportation & Material Moving	373	483
Military Specific	16	12
Information Not Available	883	968

*Data may not add due to rounding variations.*