

Initial Claims - April 2004

There were 7,059 initial claims filed for Unemployment Insurance Benefits in April 2004; a decrease of 836 (10.6%) from the 7,895 claims filed in April 2003. The estimated number of layoffs prevented as a result of Rhode Island's Workshare Program, numbered 80 down from 190 in April 2003.

According to our Mass Layoff Statistic's Program 1,700 firms laid off workers in April. A total of 5,173 claims were filed by workers associated with these firms. There were 42 potential Mass Layoff events identified this month. A Mass Layoff event involves firms having a layoff of twelve or more people.

| April Initial Claims By Major Industry Division | | |
|--|---------------|----------------|
| Industry | Claims | Percent |
| Total, All Industries | 5, 173 | 100.0% |
| Agriculture, Forestry, and Fishing | 17 | 0.3% |
| Mining | 4 | 0.1% |
| Construction | 470 | 9.1% |
| Manufacturing | 549 | 10.6% |
| Transportation, Communication & Utilities | 850 | 16.4% |
| Wholesale Trade | 130 | 2.5% |
| Retail Trade | 925 | 17.9% |
| Finance, Insurance, and Real Estate | 151 | 2.9% |
| Services | 1,025 | 19.8% |
| Government | 162 | 3.1% |
| Not Classified | 890 | 17.2% |

Employees in the Services sector filed 1,025 initial claims accounting nearly 20 percent of the initial claims filed this month. Business Services (245) and Health Services (234) had the largest losses in this sector, accounting for nearly half of the layoffs.

Retail Trade workers filed 925 initial claims representing nearly 18 percent of the month's initial claims. More than half of the claims filed by Retail Trade employees were the result of layoffs in Eating and Drinking Places (617).

Transportation, Communications, and Public Utilities employees filed 850 claims accounting for 16.4 percent of the initial claims processed in April. Over 90 percent of these claims were filed by workers in Local and Suburban Transportation who were laid off during the school vacation week.

Employees of Rhode Island manufacturing companies filed a total of 549 initial claims, accounting for 10.6 percent of the April claims. Within the Manufacturing sector, Miscellaneous Manufacturing which includes the Jewelry industry accounted for the most layoffs (183), followed by Fabricated Metal Products (70), and Textile Mill Products (67). Initial claims filed by individuals with an attachment to this sector are down 459 initial claims from the 1,008 claims filed this time last year.

Significant layoffs also occurred in the Construction industry, as 470 of the sector's workers filed claims for unemployment insurance representing 9.1 percent of the initial claims filed in April.

April 2004 Layoffs by Industry

| SIC Industry | Number | Percent |
|--|--------------|---------------|
| Total | 5,173 | 100.0% |
| Agriculture | 17 | 0.3% |
| 01 Agriculture Production - Crops | 1 | 0.0% |
| 02 Agricultural Production - Livestock and Animal Specialties | 0 | 0.0% |
| 07 Agricultural Services | 15 | 0.3% |
| 08 Forestry | 0 | 0.0% |
| 09 Fishing, Hunting, and Trapping | 1 | 0.0% |
| Mining | 4 | 0.1% |
| 14 Mining and Quarrying of Nonmetallic Minerals, Except Fuels | 4 | 0.1% |
| Construction | 470 | 9.1% |
| 15 Building Construction - General Contractors and Operative Builders | 88 | 1.7% |
| 16 Construction - General Contractors | 38 | 0.7% |
| 17 Construction - Special Trade Contractors | 344 | 6.6% |
| Manufacturing | 549 | 10.6% |
| 20 Food and Kindred Products | 21 | 0.4% |
| 22 Textile Mill Products | 67 | 1.3% |
| 23 Apparel and Other Finished Products Made from Fabrics and Similar Materials | 10 | 0.2% |
| 24 Lumber and Wood Products, Except Furniture | 3 | 0.1% |
| 25 Furniture and Fixtures | 22 | 0.4% |
| 26 Paper and Allied Products | 11 | 0.2% |
| 27 Printing, Publishing, and Allied Industries | 19 | 0.4% |
| 28 Chemicals and Allied Products | 12 | 0.2% |
| 29 Petroleum Refining and Related | 0 | 0.0% |
| 30 Rubber and Miscellaneous Plastics Products | 25 | 0.5% |
| 31 Leather and Leather Products | 1 | 0.0% |
| 32 Stone, Clay, Glass and Concrete Products | 11 | 0.2% |
| 33 Primary Metal Industries | 12 | 0.2% |
| 34 Fabricated Metal Products, Except Machinery and Transportation Equipment | 70 | 1.4% |
| 35 Industrial and Commercial Machinery and Computer Equipment | 26 | 0.5% |
| 36 Electronic and Other Electrical Equipment and Components, Except Computer Equipment | 25 | 0.5% |
| 37 Transportation Equipment | 21 | 0.4% |
| 38 Instruments | 10 | 0.2% |
| 39 Miscellaneous Manufacturing Industries | 183 | 3.5% |
| Transportation, Communication, and Public Utilities | 850 | 16.4% |
| 41 Local and Suburban Transit and Interurban Highway Passenger Transportation | 788 | 15.2% |
| 42 Motor Freight Transportation and Warehousing | 29 | 0.6% |
| 43 United States Postal Service | 0 | 0.0% |
| 44 Water Transportation | 4 | 0.1% |
| 45 Transportation by Air | 5 | 0.1% |
| 47 Transportation Services | 9 | 0.2% |
| 48 Communications | 10 | 0.2% |
| 49 Electric, Gas, and Sanitary Services | 5 | 0.1% |
| Wholesale Trade | 130 | 2.5% |
| 50 Wholesale Trade - Durable Goods | 82 | 1.6% |
| 51 Wholesale Trade - Nondurable Goods | 48 | 0.9% |
| Retail Trade | 925 | 17.9% |
| 52 Building Materials, Hardware, Garden Supply, and Mobile Home Dealers | 21 | 0.4% |
| 53 General Merchandise Stores | 30 | 0.6% |
| 54 Food Stores | 48 | 0.9% |
| 55 Automotive Dealers and Gasoline Service Stations | 53 | 1.0% |
| 56 Apparel and Accessory Stores | 23 | 0.4% |
| 57 Home Furniture, Furnishings, and Equipment Stores | 42 | 0.8% |
| 58 Eating and Drinking Places | 617 | 11.9% |
| 59 Miscellaneous Retail | 91 | 1.8% |

April 2004 Layoffs by Industry

| SIC Industry | Number | Percent |
|--|---------------|----------------|
| Finance, Insurance, and Real Estate | 151 | 2.9% |
| 60 Depository Institutions | 70 | 1.4% |
| 61 Nondepository Credit Institutions | 24 | 0.5% |
| 62 Security and Commodity Brokers, Dealers, Exchanges, and Services | 8 | 0.2% |
| 63 Insurance Carriers | 13 | 0.3% |
| 64 Insurance Agents, Brokers, and Service | 10 | 0.2% |
| 65 Real Estate | 26 | 0.5% |
| 67 Holding and Other Investment Offices | 0 | 0.0% |
| Services | 1,025 | 19.8% |
| 70 Hotels, Rooming Houses, Camps, and Other Lodging Places | 34 | 0.7% |
| 72 Personal Services | 88 | 1.7% |
| 73 Business Services | 245 | 4.7% |
| 75 Automotive Repair, Services, and Parking | 44 | 0.9% |
| 76 Miscellaneous Repair Services | 29 | 0.6% |
| 78 Motion Pictures | 9 | 0.2% |
| 79 Amusement and Recreation Services | 33 | 0.6% |
| 80 Health Services | 234 | 4.5% |
| 81 Legal Services | 11 | 0.2% |
| 82 Educational Services | 60 | 1.2% |
| 83 Social Services | 137 | 2.6% |
| 84 Museums, Art Galleries, and Botanical and Zoological Gardens | 5 | 0.1% |
| 86 Membership Organizations | 28 | 0.5% |
| 87 Engineering, Accounting, research, Management, and Related Services | 67 | 1.3% |
| 88 Private Households | 1 | 0.0% |
| 89 Miscellaneous Services | 0 | 0.0% |
| Government | 196 | 3.8% |
| 91 Executive, Legislative, and General Government, Except Finance | 161 | 3.1% |
| 92 Justice, Public Order, and Safety | 0 | 0.0% |
| 93 Administration & Human Resource Programs | 0 | 0.0% |
| 95 Administration of Environmental & Housing Program | 1 | 0.0% |
| 96 National Security & International Affairs | 0 | 0.0% |
| 97 Administration of Economic Programs | 0 | 0.0% |
| 99 Nonclassifiable Establishments | 890 | 17.2% |