

Initial Claims – May 2002

There were 5,642 initial claims for Unemployment Insurance Benefits filed in May 2002; a decrease of 579 (9.3%) claims from the 6,221 claims filed in May 2001. The estimated number of layoffs prevented as a result of Rhode Island's Workshare Program, numbered 136 down from 200 in May 2001. Claims filed due to a total lack of work identified through our Mass Layoff Statistics Program numbered 3,679 and accounted for 65 percent of the initial claims filed in May. There were 30 potential Mass Layoff events identified this month. Each action involved at least twelve layoffs from a single firm. The number of firms involved totaled 1,737.

Employees of Rhode Island manufacturing companies filed a total of 1,089 initial claims, accounting for over 29.6 percent of the May claims. Last May there were 1,781 initial claims filed by individuals with an attachment to the manufacturing sector.

Employees in the Services sector filed 895 initial claims accounting for 24.3 percent of the initial claims filed in May. Initial claims filed by Construction workers numbered 340 representing 9.2 percent of the initial claims filed during the month. Retail Trade workers filed 542 initial claims representing 14.7 percent of the month's initial claims.

May Initial Claims by Major Industry Division		
Division	Number	Percent
Total	3,679	100
Agriculture	10	0.3%
Mining	10	0.3%
Construction	340	9.2%
Manufacturing	1,089	29.6%
Transportation, Communication & Utilities	131	3.6%
Wholesale Trade	167	4.5%
Retail Trade	542	14.7%
Finance, Insurance & Real Estate	149	4.1%
Services	895	24.3%
Government	22	0.6%
Not Classified	324	8.8%

Within the Manufacturing sector Miscellaneous Manufacturing which includes the Jewelry industry accounted for the most layoffs (256), followed by Leather and Leather Products (157), and Fabricated Metal Products (120). Business Services (282) and Health Services (157) accounted for nearly half of the layoffs associated with Service sector employees. Nearly two-thirds of the claims filed by Retail Trade employees were from Eating and Drinking Places (233) and Miscellaneous Retail (103), accounted for most of the losses in this sector.

May 2002 Layoffs by Industry

SIC Industry	Number	Percent
Total	3,679	100.0%
Agriculture	10	0.3%
01 Agriculture Production - Crops		
02 Agricultural Production - Livestock and Animal Specialties	1	0.0%
07 Agricultural Services	7	0.2%
08 Forestry	0	0.0%
09 Fishing, Hunting, and Trapping	2	0.1%
Mining	10	0.3%
14 Mining and Quarrying of Nonmetallic Minerals, Except Fuels	10	0.3%
Construction	340	9.2%
15 Building Construction - General Contractors and Operative Builders	62	1.7%
16 Heavy Construction Other Than Building Construction - Contractors	46	1.3%
17 Construction - Special Trade Contractors	232	6.3%
Manufacturing	1,089	29.6%
20 Food and Kindred Products	37	1.0%
22 Textile Mill Products	60	1.6%
23 Apparel and Other Finished Products Made from Fabrics and Similar Materials	9	0.2%
24 Lumber and Wood Products, Except Furniture	13	0.4%
25 Furniture and Fixtures	29	0.8%
26 Paper and Allied Products	17	0.5%
27 Printing, Publishing, and Allied Industries	48	1.3%
28 Chemicals and Allied Products	6	0.2%
29 Petroleum Refining and Related	3	0.1%
30 Rubber and Miscellaneous Plastics Products	26	0.7%
31 Leather and Leather Products	157	4.3%
32 Stone, Clay, Glass and Concrete Products	34	0.9%
33 Primary Metal Industries	101	2.7%
34 Fabricated Metal Products, Except Machinery and Transportation Equipment	120	3.3%
35 Industrial and Commercial Machinery and Computer Equipment	65	1.8%
36 Electronic and Other Electrical Equipment and Components, Except Computer Equipment	63	1.7%
37 Transportation Equipment	14	0.4%
38 Measuring, Analyzing, and Controlling Instruments; Photographic, Medical & Optical Goods	31	0.8%
39 Miscellaneous Manufacturing Industries	256	7.0%
Transportation, Communication, and Public Utilities	131	3.6%
41 Local and Suburban Transit and Interurban Highway Passenger Transportation	54	1.5%
42 Motor Freight Transportation and Warehousing	19	0.5%
43 United States Postal Service	5	0.1%
44 Water Transportation	14	0.4%
45 Transportation by Air	6	0.2%
47 Transportation Services	7	0.2%
48 Communications	20	0.5%
49 Electric, Gas, and Sanitary Services	6	0.2%
Wholesale Trade	167	4.5%
50 Wholesale Trade - Durable Goods	88	2.4%
51 Wholesale Trade - Nondurable Goods	79	2.1%
Retail Trade	542	14.7%
52 Building Materials, Hardware, Garden Supply, and Mobile Home Dealers	9	0.2%
53 General Merchandise Stores	38	1.0%
54 Food Stores	63	1.7%
55 Automotive Dealers and Gasoline Service Stations	55	1.5%
56 Apparel and Accessory Stores	17	0.5%
57 Home Furniture, Furnishings, and Equipment Stores	24	0.7%
58 Eating and Drinking Places	233	6.3%
59 Miscellaneous Retail	103	2.8%

May 2002 Layoffs by Industry

SIC Industry	Number	Percent
Finance, Insurance, and Real Estate	149	4.1%
60 Depository Institutions	53	1.4%
61 Nondepository Credit Institutions	14	0.4%
62 Security and Commodity Brokers, Dealers, Exchanges, and Services	12	0.3%
63 Insurance Carriers	12	0.3%
64 Insurance Agents, Brokers, and Service	9	0.2%
65 Real Estate	46	1.3%
67 Holding and Other Investment Offices	3	0.1%
Services	895	24.3%
70 Hotels, Rooming Houses, Camps, and Other Lodging Places	45	1.2%
72 Personal Services	35	1.0%
73 Business Services	282	7.7%
75 Automotive Repair, Services, and Parking	40	1.1%
76 Miscellaneous Repair Services	16	0.4%
78 Motion Pictures	6	0.2%
79 Amusement and Recreation Services	51	1.4%
80 Health Services	157	4.3%
81 Legal Services	14	0.4%
82 Educational Services	63	1.7%
83 Social Services	71	1.9%
84 Museums, Art Galleries, and Botanical and Zoological Gardens	3	0.1%
86 Membership Organizations	19	0.5%
87 Engineering, Accounting, research, Management, and Related Services	92	2.5%
88 Private Households	1	0.0%
89 Services, Not Elsewhere Classified	0	0.0%
Government	22	0.6%
91 Executive, Legislative, and General Government, Except Finance	10	0.3%
92 Justice, Public Order, and Safety	0	0.0%
93 Public Finance, Taxation & Monetary Policy	1	0.0%
94 Administration of Human Resource Programs	1	0.0%
95 Administration of Environmental Quality and Housing Programs	8	0.2%
96 Administration of Economic Programs	2	0.1%
99 Nonclassifiable Establishments	324	8.8%