



Rhode Island Department of Labor and Training Initial Claims Statistics

May

Rhode Island workers filed a total of 4,402 initial claims for unemployment insurance benefits in May 2005, down slightly (-3.1%) from the 4,542 initial claims filed in May 2004.

Employees with an attachment to the Manufacturing (675) industrial sector filed the greatest number of claims during the month followed by the employees of the Construction (420) sector. Combined, these two sectors accounted for nearly twenty-five percent of the initial claims filed in May. In comparison, Construction (4.4%) and Manufacturing (11.9%) accounted for just over sixteen percent of the state's total employment.* There were also a significant number of initial claims filed by individuals with an attachment to the Retail Trade sector (370) and the Health Care and Social Assistance (348) sector.

At the major occupational level, workers classified in Office and Administrative Support (654) and in Production (598) occupations filed the most claims accounting for over one-quarter of the May total. There were also significant numbers of initial claims filed by workers classified in Transportation & Material Moving (366) and Management (347) occupations.

Initial Claims by Industry Sector

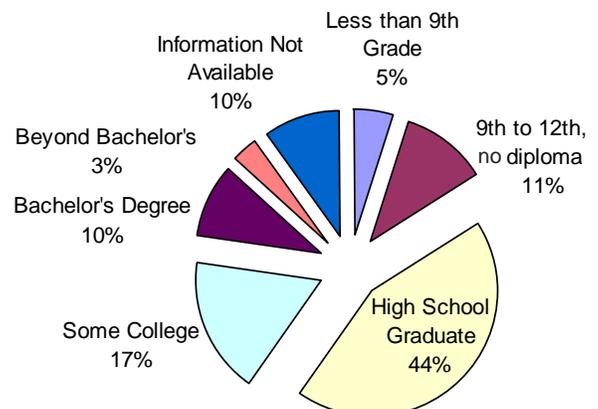
Industry	Claims	Percent
	4,402	100%
Agriculture/Forestry	1	0.0%
Mining	5	0.1%
Utilities	1	0.0%
Construction	420	9.5%
Manufacturing	675	15.3%
Wholesale Trade	137	3.1%
Retail Trade	370	8.4%
Transportation & Warehousing	79	1.8%
Information	40	0.9%
Finance & Insurance	167	3.8%
Real Estate	66	1.5%
Professional & Tech. Services	154	3.5%
Management of Companies	62	1.4%
Administrative & Waste Services	324	7.4%
Educational Services	58	1.3%
Health Care & Social Assistance	348	7.9%
Arts, Entertainment & Recreation	69	1.6%
Accommodation & Food Services	314	7.1%
Other Services	148	3.4%
Public Administration	22	0.5%
Information Not Available	942	21.4%

Initial Claims by Occupation

Occupation	Claims	Percent
	4,402	100%
Management	347	7.9%
Business & Financial Operations	137	3.1%
Computer & Mathematical	45	1.0%
Architecture & Engineering	51	1.2%
Life, Physical & Social Science	9	0.2%
Community & Social Services	41	0.9%
Legal	12	0.3%
Education, Training & Library	104	2.4%
Arts, Design, Entertainment, Sports & Media	66	1.5%
Healthcare Practitioner & Technical	75	1.7%
Healthcare Support	109	2.5%
Protective Service	41	0.9%
Food Preparation & Serving Related	236	5.4%
Building & Grounds Cleaning & Maintenance	87	2.0%
Personal Care & Service	56	1.3%
Sales & Related	268	6.1%
Office & Administrative Support	654	14.9%
Farming, Fishing & Forestry	10	0.2%
Construction & Extraction	290	6.6%
Installation, Maintenance & Repair	136	3.1%
Production	598	13.6%
Transportation & Material Moving	366	8.3%
Military Specific	23	0.5%
Information Not Available	641	14.6%

Men filed fifty-two percent of the May claims and women filed forty-eight percent. Construction Laborer was the most often cited occupation for these newly unemployed men while Customer Service Representative was the most often cited occupation for the newly unemployed women.

Forty four percent of the claimants filing initial claims this month reported a high school diploma as their highest level of educational attainment. Nearly one-third reported having education beyond high school, with ten percent possessing a Bachelor's degree. Sixteen percent of the initial claimants did not have a high school diploma or GED.



*2004 Annual Average Covered Employment.
Data may not add up due to rounding variations.