



Rhode Island Department of Labor and Training

Initial Claims Statistics July 2008

In July 2008, Rhode Island workers filed a total of 7,529 initial claims for Unemployment Insurance benefits, an increase of 206 (0.3%) from the 7,323 initial claims filed in July 2007.

Employees with an attachment to the Manufacturing (1,241) sector filed the greatest number of claims this month, representing 17 percent of the initial claims filed in July. Layoffs in this sector were mainly due to vacation shut-downs that are typical for the Rhode Island Manufacturing sector during the first two weeks of July. These numbers represent an increase of 120 claims from the 1,121 claims filed in July of 2007 in this sector. In addition, 768 initial claims were filed by individuals with an attachment to the Construction sector.

At the major occupational level, workers classified in Production (1,288), Office & Administrative Support (985) and Transportation & Material Moving (728) occupations filed the largest number of initial claims, accounting for 40 percent of the monthly total. There was also a significant number of claims filed by individuals with an attachment to Food Preparation & Serving Related (539) and Construction & Extraction (492) occupations.

Layoffs of 10 or more individuals during the month of July occurred in 63 companies. Industry sectors showing the largest number of companies with layoffs included Miscellaneous Manufacturing and Administrative & Support Services.

Initial Claims by Industry Sector

	2008	2007
Total	7,529	7,323
Agriculture/Forestry	7	21
Mining	14	12
Utilities	1	1
Construction	768	650
Manufacturing	1,241	1,121
Wholesale Trade	217	197
Retail Trade	407	428
Transportation & Warehousing	438	429
Information	67	60
Finance & Insurance	250	321
Real Estate	88	114
Professional & Tech. Services	189	182
Management of Companies	6	36
Administrative & Waste Services	462	473
Educational Services	247	279
Health Care & Social Assistance	482	550
Arts, Entertainment & Recreation	103	69
Accommodation & Food Services	505	576
Other Services	215	217
Public Administration	94	40
Information Not Available	1,730	1,547

Initial Claims by Occupation

	2008	2007
Total	7,529	7,323
Management	431	514
Business & Financial Operations	217	216
Computer & Mathematical	55	60
Architecture & Engineering	47	61
Life, Physical & Social Science	26	17
Community & Social Services	71	75
Legal	31	24
Education, Training & Library	315	283
Arts, Design, Ent., Sports & Media	111	96
Healthcare Practitioner & Technical	116	128
Healthcare Support	146	174
Protective Service	77	81
Food Preparation & Serving Related	539	513
Building & Grounds Cleaning & Maintenance	111	107
Personal Care & Service	143	130
Sales & Related	316	372
Office & Administrative Support	985	1,017
Farming, Fishing & Forestry	8	21
Construction & Extraction	492	417
Installation, Maintenance & Repair	175	210
Production	1,288	1,314
Transportation & Material Moving	728	762
Military Specific	22	16
Information Not Available	1,078	717

Claims this month were evenly divided between the genders with men and women both filing 50 percent of the claims. Carpenters, Construction Laborers, and Production Workers are the occupations most cited by these newly unemployed men. School Bus Drivers, Production Workers, and General Office Clerks are the occupations most cited by the newly unemployed women.

Forty-one percent of the claimants filing initial claims in July reported a high school diploma as their highest level of educational attainment. Thirty-one percent of the claimants reported having education beyond high school, with fifteen percent possessing a Bachelor's degree or beyond. Fifteen percent of the claimants filing initial claims did not have a high school diploma or GED.

Initial Claims by Educational Attainment

