



Rhode Island Department of Labor and Training Initial Claims Statistics August 2012

In August 2012, Rhode Island workers filed 5,426 initial claims for Unemployment Insurance benefits, a decrease of 1,382 (-20.3%) from the 6,808 initial claims filed in August 2011.

Employees with an attachment to the Health Care & Social Assistance (585) sector filed the greatest number of initial claims this month, followed by the Construction (531) sector, accounting for 21 percent of the total initial claims this month. Over the year, claims against the Health Care & Social Assistance sector decreased by 44 (-7.0%) from the 629 initial claims filed in August 2011. The Construction sector decreased by 70 (-11.6%) from the 601 initial claims filed during this same period.

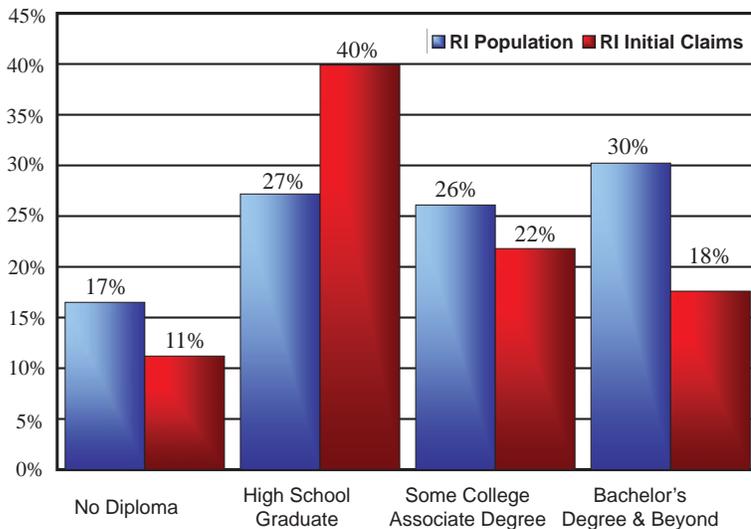
At the major occupational level, workers classified in Office & Administrative Support (713) occupations filed the largest number of initial claims, followed by Production (654) occupations. These two sectors accounted for 25 percent of the total monthly claims in our state.

Men filed 52 percent of the claims this month, while women filed 48 percent. School Bus Driver was the occupation most cited by the newly unemployed men and women.

Layoffs of 10 or more individuals during the month occurred in 29 companies, a decrease of 16 from last month's figure (45), and a decrease of 9 from the August 2011 figure (38). Industry sectors showing the largest number of companies with layoffs included Manufacturing, Professional & Business Services, and Trade, Transportation, & Utilities.

Forty 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 11 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.

Educational Attainment



Initial Claims by Industry Sector

	Aug 2012	Aug 2011
Total	5,426	6,808
Agriculture/Forestry	9	11
Mining	10	2
Utilities	3	8
Construction	531	601
Manufacturing	524	623
Wholesale Trade	125	136
Retail Trade	360	387
Transportation & Warehousing	402	386
Information	46	844
Finance & Insurance	130	133
Real Estate	68	88
Professional & Tech. Services	166	173
Management of Companies	18	35
Administrative & Waste Services	397	431
Educational Services	138	181
Health Care & Social Assistance	585	629
Arts, Entertainment & Recreation	46	89
Accommodation & Food Services	354	392
Other Services	180	228
Public Administration	27	49
Information Not Available	1,308	1,384

Initial Claims by Occupation

	Aug 2012	Aug 2011
Total	5,426	6,808
Management	386	395
Business & Financial Operations	114	111
Computer & Mathematical	55	143
Architecture & Engineering	36	69
Life, Physical & Social Science	35	41
Community & Social Services	67	71
Legal	18	13
Education, Training & Library	162	219
Arts, Design, Ent., Sports & Media	67	113
Healthcare Practitioner & Technical	153	171
Healthcare Support	206	178
Protective Service	55	49
Food Preparation & Serving Related	390	396
Building & Cleaning & Maintenance	122	131
Personal Care & Service	163	145
Sales & Related	266	318
Office & Administrative Support	713	819
Farming, Fishing & Forestry	11	15
Construction & Extraction	309	296
Installation, Maintenance & Repair	138	491
Production	654	723
Transportation & Material Moving	597	617
Military Specific	16	25
Information Not Available	693	1,260

Data may not add due to rounding variations.