



Rhode Island Department of Labor and Training

Initial Claims Statistics September 2008

In September 2008, Rhode Island workers filed a total of 6,424 initial claims for Unemployment Insurance benefits, an increase of 1,994 (45.0%) from the 4,430 initial claims filed in September 2007.

Employees with an attachment to the Manufacturing (1,131) and Construction (831) sectors filed the greatest number of claims this month, representing thirty-one percent of the total initial claims filed for September. Initial claims in Manufacturing increased by 622 from the September 2007 figure (509), more than doubling the amount of initial claims filed last year. Claims linked to the Construction sector increased by 264, representing a forty-seven percent increase from the same time period last year (567). In addition, 513 initial claims were filed by individuals with an attachment to the Health Care & Social Assistance sector.

At the major occupational level, workers classified in Production (1,032), Office & Administrative Support (797) and Construction & Extraction (578) occupations filed the largest number of initial claims, accounting for thirty-eight percent of the monthly total. There was also a significant number of claims filed by individuals with an attachment to Management (423), Transportation & Material Moving (393), Food Preparation & Serving Related (340) and Sales & Related (333).

Layoffs of 10 or more individuals during the month of September occurred in 43 companies. Industry sectors showing the largest number of companies with layoffs included Manufacturing and Construction.

Initial Claims by Industry Sector

	2008	2007
Total	6,424	4,430
Agriculture/Forestry	8	12
Mining	2	9
Utilities	4	2
Construction	831	567
Manufacturing	1,131	509
Wholesale Trade	158	121
Retail Trade	478	432
Transportation & Warehousing	150	97
Information	84	32
Finance & Insurance	209	281
Real Estate	70	59
Professional & Tech. Services	169	156
Management of Companies	15	17
Administrative & Waste Services	373	300
Educational Services	104	73
Health Care & Social Assistance	513	395
Arts, Entertainment & Recreation	55	70
Accommodation & Food Services	328	245
Other Services	174	113
Public Administration	41	26
Information Not Available	1,526	913

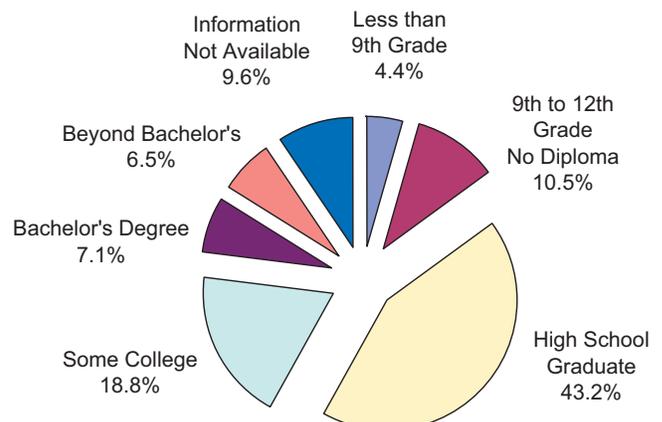
Initial Claims by Occupation

	2008	2007
Total	6,424	4,430
Management	423	337
Business & Financial Operations	145	188
Computer & Mathematical	41	46
Architecture & Engineering	54	39
Life, Physical & Social Science	32	23
Community & Social Services	68	49
Legal	21	31
Education, Training & Library	123	78
Arts, Design, Ent., Sports & Media	76	60
Healthcare Practitioner & Technical	124	114
Healthcare Support	143	147
Protective Service	77	40
Food Preparation & Serving Related	340	238
Building & Grounds Cleaning & Maintenance	120	97
Personal Care & Service	82	74
Sales & Related	333	254
Office & Administrative Support	797	752
Farming, Fishing & Forestry	5	8
Construction & Extraction	578	308
Installation, Maintenance & Repair	244	156
Production	1,032	460
Transportation & Material Moving	393	256
Military Specific	14	9
Information Not Available	1,160	665

Men filed sixty percent of the claims this month, whereas women filed forty percent. Carpenters, Production Workers (All Other), and Construction Laborers are the occupations most cited by these newly unemployed men. General Office Clerks, Production Workers (All Other), and Customer Service Representatives are the occupations most cited by the newly unemployed women.

Forty-three percent of the claimants filing initial claims in September reported a high school diploma as their highest level of educational attainment. Thirty-two percent of the claimants reported having education beyond high school, with fourteen 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



Data may not add up due to rounding variations.