



Rhode Island Department of Labor and Training

Initial Claims Statistics

September 2009

In September 2009, Rhode Island workers filed 6,605 initial claims for Unemployment Insurance benefits, an increase of 181 (2.8%) from the 6,424 initial claims filed in September 2008.

Employees with an attachment to the Construction (952) and Manufacturing (951) sectors filed the greatest number of initial claims, each accounting for 14 percent of the total initial claims this month. Construction showed a small over-the-month increase of 3 percent from the 927 initial claims filed in August 2009. Initial claims in Manufacturing decreased 18 percent from the 1,165 initial claims filed during the same time period.

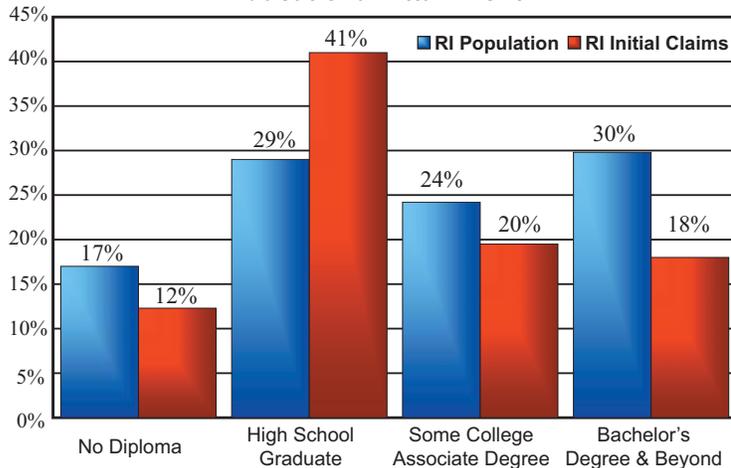
At the major occupational level, workers classified in Production (859) occupations filed the largest number of initial claims, followed by Office & Administrative Support (834) and Construction & Extraction (468) occupations. These three sectors accounted for 33 percent of the monthly total.

Forty-one percent of the claimants filing initial claims in September reported a high school diploma as their highest level of educational attainment, 20 percent reported having some college education (including associate degree), 18 percent reported having a bachelor's degree or beyond, while 12 percent reported that they did not have a high school diploma. In comparison, 29 percent of the state's population (25 & over) reported a high school diploma as their highest level of educational attainment, 24 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.

Men filed 60 percent of the claims this month, while women filed 40 percent. Production Supervisor was the occupation most cited by the newly unemployed men while General Office Clerk was the occupation most cited by the newly unemployed women.

Layoffs of 10 or more individuals during the month occurred in 37 companies, showing no change from last months figure. Industry sectors showing the largest number of companies with layoffs included Manufacturing, Construction, Finance & Insurance and Administrative & Waste Services.

Educational Attainment



Initial Claims by Industry Sector

	Sept 2009	Sept 2008
Total	6,605	6,424
Agriculture/Forestry	19	8
Mining	-	2
Utilities	4	4
Construction	952	831
Manufacturing	951	1,131
Wholesale Trade	186	158
Retail Trade	384	478
Transportation & Warehousing	142	150
Information	75	84
Finance & Insurance	181	209
Real Estate	76	70
Professional & Tech. Services	210	169
Management of Companies	25	15
Administrative & Waste Services	409	373
Educational Services	130	104
Health Care & Social Assistance	476	513
Arts, Entertainment & Recreation	105	55
Accommodation & Food Services	395	328
Other Services	200	174
Public Administration	35	41
Information Not Available	1,651	1,526

Initial Claims by Occupation

	Sept 2009	Sept 2008
Total	6,605	6,424
Management	394	423
Business & Financial Operations	153	145
Computer & Mathematical	76	41
Architecture & Engineering	109	54
Life, Physical & Social Science	27	32
Community & Social Services	68	68
Legal	26	21
Education, Training & Library	156	123
Arts, Design, Ent., Sports & Media	74	76
Healthcare Practitioner & Technical	120	124
Healthcare Support	148	143
Protective Service	57	77
Food Preparation & Serving Related	404	340
Building & Cleaning & Maintenance	139	120
Personal Care & Service	129	82
Sales & Related	327	333
Office & Administrative Support	834	797
Farming, Fishing & Forestry	19	5
Construction & Extraction	468	578
Installation, Maintenance & Repair	213	244
Production	859	1,032
Transportation & Material Moving	345	393
Military Specific	23	14
Information Not Available	1,437	1,160

Data may not add due to rounding variations.