

Rhode Island Department of Labor and Training

Initial Claims Statistics

September 2012



In September 2012, Rhode Island workers filed 5,193 initial claims for Unemployment Insurance benefits, a decrease of 1,848 (-26.2%) from the 7,041 initial claims filed in September 2011.

Employees with an attachment to the Construction (613) sector filed the greatest number of initial claims this month, followed by the Health Care & Social Assistance (466) sector, accounting for 21 percent of the total initial claims this month. Over the year, claims against the Construction sector decreased by 187 (-23.4%) from the 800 initial claims filed in September 2011. The Health Care & Social Assistance sector decreased by 205 (-30.6%) from the 671 initial claims filed during this same period.

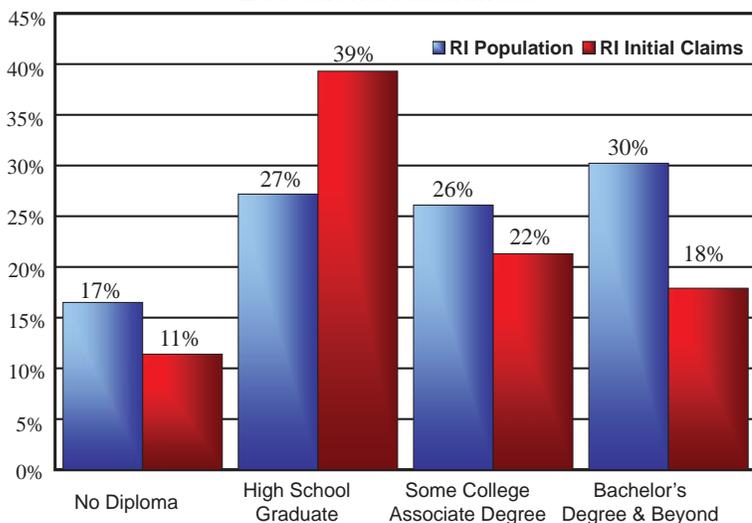
At the major occupational level, workers classified in Office & Administrative Support (709) occupations filed the largest number of initial claims, followed by Production (643) occupations. These two sectors accounted for 26 percent of the total monthly claims in our state.

Men filed 58 percent of the claims this month, while women filed 42 percent. Production Workers, All Other was the occupation most cited by the newly unemployed men. Waiters and Waitresses was the occupation most cited by the newly unemployed women.

Layoffs of 10 or more individuals during the month occurred in 21 companies, a decrease of 8 from last month's figure (29), and a decrease of 50 from the September 2011 figure (71). Industry sectors showing the largest number of companies with layoffs included Professional & Business Services, Construction and Manufacturing both tied for second place, followed by Trade, Transportation, & Utilities.

Thirty-nine 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

	Sept 2012	Sept 2011
Total	5,193	7,041
Agriculture/Forestry	8	14
Mining	7	2
Utilities	2	5
Construction	613	800
Manufacturing	464	1,352
Wholesale Trade	150	171
Retail Trade	381	436
Transportation & Warehousing	142	154
Information	27	46
Finance & Insurance	119	185
Real Estate	78	87
Professional & Tech. Services	162	259
Management of Companies	30	26
Administrative & Waste Services	409	456
Educational Services	95	82
Health Care & Social Assistance	466	671
Arts, Entertainment & Recreation	73	81
Accommodation & Food Services	405	404
Other Services	193	182
Public Administration	32	42
Information Not Available	1,337	1,585

Initial Claims by Occupation

	Sept 2012	Sept 2011
Total	5,193	7,041
Management	340	450
Business & Financial Operations	91	179
Computer & Mathematical	58	89
Architecture & Engineering	60	82
Life, Physical & Social Science	39	48
Community & Social Services	57	66
Legal	9	19
Education, Training & Library	115	176
Arts, Design, Ent., Sports & Media	69	89
Healthcare Practitioner & Technical	144	154
Healthcare Support	143	188
Protective Service	66	65
Food Preparation & Serving Related	442	454
Building & Cleaning & Maintenance	135	152
Personal Care & Service	113	165
Sales & Related	274	319
Office & Administrative Support	709	898
Farming, Fishing & Forestry	15	13
Construction & Extraction	350	422
Installation, Maintenance & Repair	160	209
Production	643	1,251
Transportation & Material Moving	340	482
Military Specific	25	52
Information Not Available	795	1,021

Data may not add due to rounding variations.