



Rhode Island Department of Labor and Training

Initial Claims Statistics

October 2008

In October 2008, Rhode Island workers filed 6,151 initial claims for Unemployment Insurance benefits, an increase of 721 (13.3%) from the 5,430 initial claims filed in October 2007.

Employees with an attachment to the Manufacturing (960) and Construction (757) sectors filed the greatest number of claims this month, representing twenty-eight percent of the total initial claims filed for October. Initial claims in Manufacturing are down 15 percent from the previous month (1,131) and up 19 percent from a year ago (806). Claims linked to the Construction sector are down nine percent from the previous month's figure of (831) and up approximately ten percent over last year's figure of (689). In addition, 416 initial claims were filed by individuals with an attachment to the Administrative and Waste Services sector, also up 15 percent over the year.

At the major occupational level, workers classified in Production (967), Office & Administrative Support (793) and Construction & Extraction (491) occupations filed the largest number of initial claims accounting for 37 percent of the monthly total. There was also a significant number of claims filed by individuals with an attachment to Management (416), Transportation & Material Moving (370), Food Preparation & Serving Related (330) and Sales & Related (302) occupations.

Layoffs of 10 or more individuals during the month of October occurred in 26 companies. Industry sectors showing the largest number of companies with layoffs included Manufacturing and Administrative and Waste Services.

Initial Claims by Industry Sector

	2008	2007
Total	6,151	5,430
Agriculture/Forestry	8	12
Mining	14	9
Utilities	3	5
Construction	757	689
Manufacturing	960	806
Wholesale Trade	186	195
Retail Trade	391	364
Transportation & Warehousing	122	121
Information	75	38
Finance & Insurance	182	268
Real Estate	60	69
Professional & Tech. Services	168	154
Management of Companies	21	14
Administrative & Waste Services	416	362
Educational Services	58	37
Health Care & Social Assistance	331	399
Arts, Entertainment & Recreation	95	92
Accommodation & Food Services	330	311
Other Services	178	126
Public Administration	17	23
Information Not Available	1,777	1,336

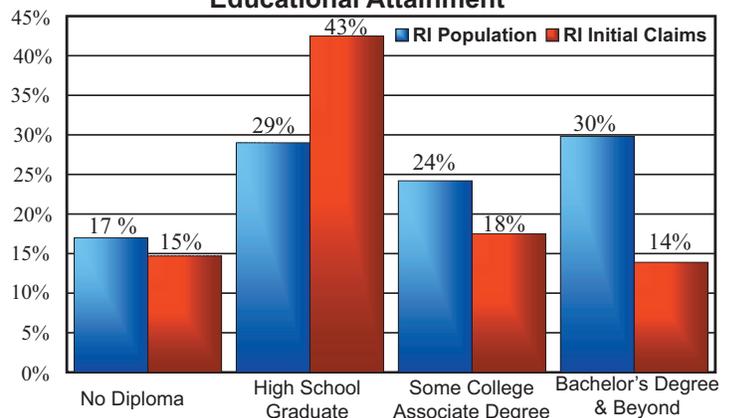
Initial Claims by Occupation

	2008	2007
Total	6,151	5,430
Management	416	447
Business & Financial Operations	140	190
Computer & Mathematical	58	58
Architecture & Engineering	62	61
Life, Physical & Social Science	28	49
Community & Social Services	27	40
Legal	13	36
Education, Training & Library	58	51
Arts, Design, Ent., Sports & Media	88	85
Healthcare Practitioner & Technical	96	123
Healthcare Support	114	156
Protective Service	75	59
Food Preparation & Serving Related	330	339
Building & Grounds Cleaning & Maint.	167	170
Personal Care & Service	93	75
Sales & Related	302	307
Office & Administrative Support	793	789
Farming, Fishing & Forestry	15	21
Construction & Extraction	491	492
Installation, Maintenance & Repair	218	215
Production	967	677
Transportation & Material Moving	370	353
Military Specific	21	13
Information Not Available	1,209	624

Men filed 63 percent of the claims this month, and women filed 37 percent. Production Workers is the occupation most cited by these newly unemployed men. General Office Clerks is the occupation most cited by the newly unemployed women.

Forty-three percent of the claimants filing initial claims in October reported a high school diploma as their highest level of educational attainment, 18 percent reported having some college education (including associate degree), 14 percent reported having a bachelor degree or beyond, while 15 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 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



Data may not add up due to rounding variations.