



Rhode Island Department of Labor and Training

Initial Claims Statistics

October 2009

In October 2009, Rhode Island workers filed 6,909 initial claims for Unemployment Insurance benefits, an increase of 758 (12.3%) from the 6,151 initial claims filed in October 2008.

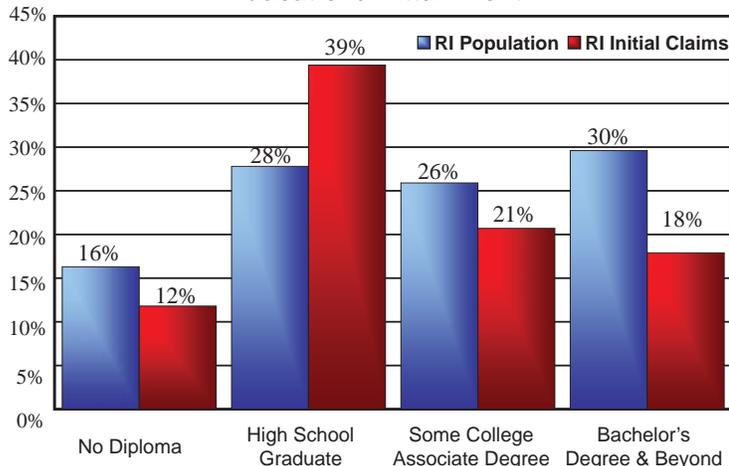
Employees with an attachment to the Construction (871) and Manufacturing (834) sectors filed the greatest number of initial claims, together accounting for 25 percent of the total initial claims this month. Construction claims decreased by 9 percent from the 952 initial claims filed in September 2009. Initial claims against the Manufacturing sector decreased 12 percent from the 951 initial claims filed during the same time period.

At the major occupational level, workers classified in Office & Administrative Support (842) occupations filed the largest number of initial claims, followed by Production (810) and Food Preparation & Serving Related (560) occupations. These three sectors accounted for 32 percent of the total monthly claims.

Men filed 63 percent of the claims this month, while women filed 37 percent. Landscaping and Groundskeeping 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 46 companies, an increase of 9 companies from last month's (37). Industry sectors showing the largest number of companies with layoffs included Manufacturing, Construction, Professional & Business Services and Financial Activities.

Thirty-nine percent of the claimants filing initial claims in October reported a high school diploma as their highest level of educational attainment, 21 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, 28 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 16 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

	Oct 2009	Oct 2008
Total	6,909	6,151
Agriculture/Forestry	32	8
Mining	1	14
Utilities	6	3
Construction	871	757
Manufacturing	834	960
Wholesale Trade	191	186
Retail Trade	394	391
Transportation & Warehousing	143	122
Information	107	75
Finance & Insurance	203	182
Real Estate	113	60
Professional & Tech. Services	173	168
Management of Companies	32	21
Administrative & Waste Services	493	416
Educational Services	99	58
Health Care & Social Assistance	366	331
Arts, Entertainment & Recreation	170	95
Accommodation & Food Services	521	330
Other Services	159	178
Public Administration	64	17
Information Not Available	1,935	1,777

Initial Claims by Occupation

	Oct 2009	Oct 2008
Total	6,909	6,151
Management	517	416
Business & Financial Operations	163	140
Computer & Mathematical	73	58
Architecture & Engineering	103	62
Life, Physical & Social Science	32	28
Community & Social Services	45	27
Legal	18	13
Education, Training & Library	82	58
Arts, Design, Ent., Sports & Media	95	88
Healthcare Practitioner & Technical	117	96
Healthcare Support	135	114
Protective Service	77	75
Food Preparation & Serving Related	560	330
Building & Cleaning & Maintenance	207	167
Personal Care & Service	127	93
Sales & Related	346	302
Office & Administrative Support	842	793
Farming, Fishing & Forestry	32	15
Construction & Extraction	458	491
Installation, Maintenance & Repair	258	218
Production	810	967
Transportation & Material Moving	392	370
Military Specific	11	21
Information Not Available	1,408	1,209

Data may not add due to rounding variations.