

Rhode Island Department of Labor and Training

Initial Claims Statistics

October 2011



In October 2011, Rhode Island workers filed 6,358 initial claims for Unemployment Insurance benefits, an increase of 205 (3.3%) from the 6,153 initial claims filed in October 2010.

Employees with an attachment to the Construction (636) sector filed the greatest number of initial claims this month, followed by the Accommodation & Food Services (616) sector, accounting for 20 percent of the total initial claims this month. Over the year, claims against the Construction sector decreased by 87 (-12.0%) from the 723 initial claims filed in October 2010. The Accommodation & Food Services sector increased 106 (20.8%) from the 510 initial claims filed during this same period.

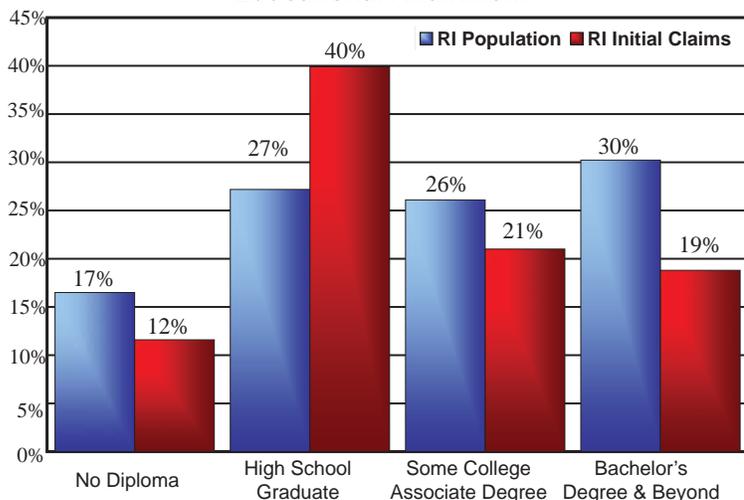
At the major occupational level, workers classified in Office & Administrative Support (803) occupations filed the largest number of initial claims, followed by Production (732) occupations. These two sectors accounted for 24 percent of the total monthly claims in our state.

Men filed 59 percent of the claims this month, while women filed 41 percent. Landscaping and Groundskeeping Workers, 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 37 companies, a decrease of 34 from last month's figure (71), and an increase of 13 from the October 2010 figure (24). Industry sectors showing the largest number of companies with layoffs included Manufacturing and Professional & Business Services. The Construction and Trade, Transportation, & Utilities sectors tied for third place.

Forty percent of the claimants filing initial claims this month reported a high school diploma as their highest level of educational attainment, 21 percent reported having some college education (including associate degree), 19 percent reported having a bachelor's degree or beyond, while 12 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

	Oct 2011	Oct 2010
Total	6,358	6,153
Agriculture/Forestry	21	15
Mining	2	2
Utilities	15	14
Construction	636	723
Manufacturing	607	428
Wholesale Trade	169	132
Retail Trade	443	361
Transportation & Warehousing	128	124
Information	45	66
Finance & Insurance	169	231
Real Estate	90	88
Professional & Tech. Services	202	179
Management of Companies	34	56
Administrative & Waste Services	464	444
Educational Services	71	76
Health Care & Social Assistance	495	492
Arts, Entertainment & Recreation	180	143
Accommodation & Food Services	616	510
Other Services	148	155
Public Administration	38	39
Information Not Available	1,785	1,878

Initial Claims by Occupation

	Oct 2011	Oct 2010
Total	6,358	6,153
Management	511	445
Business & Financial Operations	133	170
Computer & Mathematical	77	82
Architecture & Engineering	82	59
Life, Physical & Social Science	39	33
Community & Social Services	69	64
Legal	22	14
Education, Training & Library	87	104
Arts, Design, Ent., Sports & Media	101	82
Healthcare Practitioner & Technical	133	117
Healthcare Support	171	184
Protective Service	94	104
Food Preparation & Serving Related	651	592
Building & Cleaning & Maintenance	227	214
Personal Care & Service	144	108
Sales & Related	324	300
Office & Administrative Support	803	835
Farming, Fishing & Forestry	24	20
Construction & Extraction	368	481
Installation, Maintenance & Repair	219	198
Production	732	575
Transportation & Material Moving	436	377
Military Specific	37	53
Information Not Available	876	942

Data may not add due to rounding variations.