



Rhode Island Department of Labor and Training

Initial Claims Statistics

November 2008

In November 2008, Rhode Island workers filed 7,369 initial claims for Unemployment Insurance benefits, an increase of 1,017 (16.0%) from the 6,352 initial claims filed in November 2007.

Like October's claims figures, employees with an attachment to the Manufacturing (1,167) and Construction (1,106) sectors filed the greatest number of claims accounting for thirty one percent of the initial claims filed for November. Initial claims in Manufacturing rose 22 percent from the previous month (960) and 60 percent from a year ago (728). Claims linked to the Construction sector mirrored last years figure (1,040). In addition, 683 initial claims were filed by individuals with an attachment to the Administrative & Waste Services sector.

At the major occupational level, for the second month, workers classified in Production (1,171), Office & Administrative Support (864) and Construction & Extraction (735) occupations filed the largest number of initial claims accounting for 38 percent of the monthly total. There was also a significant number of claims filed by individuals with an attachment to Management (475), Transportation & Material Moving (467) and Food Preparation & Serving Related (460).

Layoffs of 10 or more individuals during the month of November occurred in 65 companies an increase of 26 from last months figure (39*). Industry sectors showing the largest number of companies with layoffs included Manufacturing, Administrative & Waste, and Construction. Additional layoffs of ten or more employees occurred in both the Retail and Finance & Insurance sectors.

Initial Claims by Industry Sector

	2008	2007
Total	7,369	6,352
Agriculture/Forestry	45	54
Mining	26	11
Utilities	11	11
Construction	1,106	1,040
Manufacturing	1,167	728
Wholesale Trade	198	154
Retail Trade	454	390
Transportation & Warehousing	170	98
Information	65	34
Finance & Insurance	223	203
Real Estate	100	110
Professional & Tech. Services	224	177
Management of Companies	31	41
Administrative & Waste Services	683	609
Educational Services	54	44
Health Care & Social Assistance	339	344
Arts, Entertainment & Recreation	258	230
Accommodation & Food Services	519	476
Other Services	169	142
Public Administration	37	32
Information Not Available	1,488	1,423

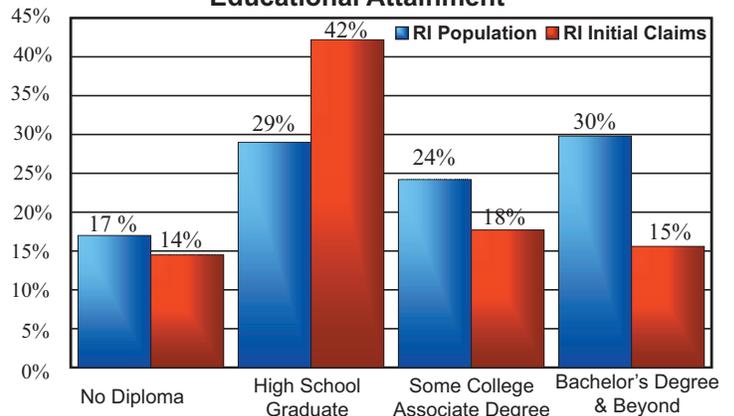
Initial Claims by Occupation

	2008	2007
Total	7,369	6,352
Management	475	509
Business & Financial Operations	144	159
Computer & Mathematical	67	58
Architecture & Engineering	72	52
Life, Physical & Social Science	24	34
Community & Social Services	34	30
Legal	17	22
Education, Training & Library	56	63
Arts, Design, Ent., Sports & Media	87	82
Healthcare Practitioner & Technical	87	85
Healthcare Support	119	119
Protective Service	59	54
Food Preparation & Serving Related	460	415
Building & Cleaning & Maintenance	450	453
Personal Care & Service	107	92
Sales & Related	327	302
Office & Administrative Support	864	813
Farming, Fishing & Forestry	37	50
Construction & Extraction	735	700
Installation, Maintenance & Repair	240	221
Production	1,171	789
Transportation & Material Moving	467	395
Military Specific	13	9
Information Not Available	1,258	847

Men filed 65 percent of the claims this month, and women filed 35 percent. Landscaping and Groundskeeping 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-two percent of the claimants filing initial claims in November reported a high school diploma as their highest level of educational attainment, 18 percent reported having some college education (including associate degree), 15 percent reported having a bachelor degree or beyond, while 14 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



* Revised .