

Initial Claims - December 2004

There were 11,097 initial claims filed for Unemployment Insurance Benefits in December 2004; a decrease of 1,098 (-9.0%) from the 12,195 claims filed in December 2003. The estimated number of layoffs prevented as a result of Rhode Island's Workshare Program numbered 94, down from 159 in December 2003.

According to our Mass Layoff Statistic's Program, 2,917 firms laid off workers in December. A total of 8,996 claims were filed by workers associated with these firms. There were 92 significant events identified this month. A significant event involves firms having a layoff of twelve or more people.

December Initial Claims By Major Industry Division

Industry	Claims	Percent
Total, All Industries	8,996	100.0%
Agriculture, Forestry, and Fishing	745	8.3%
Mining	42	0.5%
Construction	1,554	17.3%
Manufacturing	1,514	16.8%
Transportation, Communication & Utilities	921	10.2%
Wholesale Trade	177	2.0%
Retail Trade	1,051	11.7%
Finance, Insurance, and Real Estate	177	2.0%
Services	1,259	14.0%
Government	89	1.0%
Not Classified	1,467	16.3%

Employees of the construction sector filed 1,554 initial claims accounting for 17 percent of the month's initial claims. These claims are typical for December due to seasonal conditions.

Rhode Island manufacturing companies filed a total of 1,514 initial claims, representing 17 percent of the December claims. Within this sector, Miscellaneous Manufacturing, which includes the Jewelry industry, accounted for the most layoffs (597), followed by Fabricated Metal Products (221) and Textile Mill Products (109).

Workers in the Services sector filed 1,259 initial claims, accounting for 14 percent of the initial claims filed this month. Business Services (423) and Health Services (229) had the largest losses in this sector.

Initial claims filed by Retail Trade workers numbered 1,051 representing 12 percent of the initial claims filed this month. More than half of these claims were filed by employees from Eating and Drinking Places (687).

Monthly Highlight: The employees of the manufacturing sector filed 1,514 claims, mainly due to holiday shut downs and general production slow downs. The majority of the claims filed against the retail trade sector were from restaurant workers and school related lunch program workers who did not work due to the school vacation period.

December Layoffs by Industry

SIC Code Industry	Number	Percent
Total Industries	8,996	100%
Agriculture	745	8.3%
01 Agriculture Production - Crops	90	1.0%
02 Agricultural Production - Livestock and Animal Specialties	1	0.0%
07 Agricultural Services	648	7.2%
08 Forestry	2	0.0%
09 Fishing, Hunting, and Trapping	4	0.0%
Mining	42	0.5%
14 Mining and Quarrying of Nonmetallic Minerals, Except Fuels	42	0.5%
Construction	1,554	17.3%
15 Building Construction - General Contractors and Operative Builders	144	1.6%
16 Construction - General Contractors	405	4.5%
17 Construction - Special Trade Contractors	1,005	11.2%
Manufacturing	1,514	16.8%
20 Food and Kindred Products	24	0.3%
22 Textile Mill Products	109	1.2%
23 Apparel and Other Finished Products Made from Fabrics and Similar Materials	19	0.2%
24 Lumber and Wood Products, Except Furniture	32	0.4%
25 Furniture and Fixtures	21	0.2%
26 Paper and Allied Products	22	0.2%
27 Printing, Publishing, and Allied Industries	15	0.2%
28 Chemicals and Allied Products	18	0.2%
29 Petroleum Refining and Related	17	0.2%
30 Rubber and Miscellaneous Plastics Products	49	0.5%
31 Leather and Leather Products	28	0.3%
32 Stone, Clay, Glass and Concrete Products	69	0.8%
33 Primary Metal Industries	81	0.9%
34 Fabricated Metal Products, Except Machinery and Transportation Equipment	221	2.5%
35 Industrial and Commercial Machinery and Computer Equipment	32	0.4%
36 Electronic and Other Electrical Equipment and Components, Except Computer Equipment	91	1.0%
37 Transportation Equipment	55	0.6%
38 Instruments	14	0.2%
39 Miscellaneous Manufacturing Industries	597	6.6%
Transportation, Communication, and Public Utilities	921	10.2%
41 Local and Suburban Transit and Interurban Highway Passenger Transportation	786	8.7%
42 Motor Freight Transportation and Warehousing	51	0.6%
43 United States Postal Service	2	0.0%
44 Water Transportation	30	0.3%
45 Transportation by Air	17	0.2%
47 Transportation Services	10	0.1%
48 Communications	22	0.2%
49 Electric, Gas, and Sanitary Services	3	0.0%
Wholesale Trade	177	2.0%
50 Wholesale Trade - Durable Goods	129	1.4%
51 Wholesale Trade - Nondurable Goods	48	0.5%
Retail Trade	1,051	11.7%
52 Building Materials, Hardware, Garden Supply, and Mobile Home Dealers	56	0.6%
53 General Merchandise Stores	39	0.4%
54 Food Stores	76	0.8%
55 Automotive Dealers and Gasoline Service Stations	67	0.7%
56 Apparel and Accessory Stores	25	0.3%
57 Home Furniture, Furnishings, and Equipment Stores	22	0.2%
58 Eating and Drinking Places	687	7.6%
59 Miscellaneous Retail	79	0.9%

December Layoffs by Industry

SIC Code Industry	Number	Percent
Finance, Insurance, and Real Estate	177	2.0%
60 Depository Institutions	68	0.8%
61 Nondepository Credit Institutions	24	0.3%
62 Security and Commodity Brokers, Dealers, Exchanges, and Services	4	0.0%
63 Insurance Carriers	16	0.2%
64 Insurance Agents, Brokers, and Service	10	0.1%
65 Real Estate	55	0.6%
67 Holding and Other Investment Offices	0	0.0%
Services	1,259	14.0%
70 Hotels, Rooming Houses, Camps, and Other Lodging Places	97	1.1%
72 Personal Services	35	0.4%
73 Business Services	423	4.7%
75 Automotive Repair, Services, and Parking	25	0.3%
76 Miscellaneous Repair Services	23	0.3%
78 Motion Pictures	4	0.0%
79 Amusement and Recreation Services	149	1.7%
80 Health Services	229	2.5%
81 Legal Services	13	0.1%
82 Educational Services	62	0.7%
83 Social Services	102	1.1%
84 Museums, Art Galleries, and Botanical and Zoological Gardens	3	0.0%
86 Membership Organizations	32	0.4%
87 Engineering, Accounting, research, Management, and Related Services	57	0.6%
88 Private Households	2	0.0%
89 Miscellaneous Services	3	0.0%
Government	89	1.0%
91 Executive, Legislative, and General Government, Except Finance	83	0.9%
92 Justice, Public Order, and Safety	0	0.0%
94 Administration & Human Resource Programs	0	0.0%
95 Administration of Environmental & Housing Program	6	0.1%
96 Administration of Economic Programs	0	0.0%
97 National Security & International Affairs	0	0.0%
99 Nonclassifiable Establishments	1,467	16.3%