



Rhode Island Department of Labor and Training

Initial Claims Statistics December 2006

Rhode Island workers filed a total of 10,031 initial claims for unemployment insurance benefits this month, a decrease of 810 (-7.5%) from the 10,841 initial claims filed in December 2005.

Employees with an attachment to the Manufacturing (1,632) and Construction (1,508) sectors filed the greatest number of claims this month, representing thirty-one percent of the month's total claims. These layoffs are mainly attributed to holiday shut-downs typical for this time of year and mirror last year's layoffs of 17% in Construction and 15% in Manufacturing. Workers classified in the Administrative & Waste Services and Accommodation & Food Services sectors accounted for an additional twenty-two percent of claims filed this month.

At the major occupational level, workers classified in Production (1,749), Transportation and Material Moving (1,321) and Construction & Extraction (1,011) occupations filed the largest number of initial claims accounting for forty-one percent of the monthly total. There were also a significant number of initial claims filed by individuals working in Building & Grounds Cleaning & Maintenance (866), Food Preparation & Serving Related (837), and Office & Administrative Support (827).

Initial Claims by Industry Sector

Industry	Claims	Percent
Industry	10,031	100 %
Agriculture/Forestry	116	1.2 %
Mining	34	0.3 %
Utilities	4	0.0 %
Construction	1,508	15.0 %
Manufacturing	1,632	16.3 %
Wholesale Trade	191	1.9 %
Retail Trade	406	4.0 %
Transportation & Warehousing	874	8.7 %
Information	39	0.4 %
Finance & Insurance	139	1.4 %
Real Estate	77	0.8 %
Professional & Tech. Services	195	1.9 %
Management of Companies	10	0.1 %
Administrative & Waste Services	1,204	12.0 %
Educational Services	83	0.8 %
Health Care & Social Assistance	342	3.4 %
Arts, Entertainment & Recreation	215	2.1 %
Accommodation & Food Services	987	9.8 %
Other Services	167	1.7 %
Public Administration	76	0.8 %
Information Not Available	1,734	17.3 %

Initial Claims by Occupation

Occupation	Claims	Percent
Occupation	10,031	100 %
Management	544	5.4 %
Business & Financial Operations	91	0.9 %
Computer & Mathematical	68	0.7 %
Architecture & Engineering	66	0.7 %
Life, Physical & Social Science	20	0.2 %
Community & Social Services	29	0.3 %
Legal	8	0.1 %
Education, Training & Library	103	1.0 %
Arts, Design, Entertainment, Sports & Media	111	1.1 %
Healthcare Practitioner & Technical	77	0.8 %
Healthcare Support	127	1.3 %
Protective Service	101	1.0 %
Food Preparation & Serving Related	837	8.3 %
Building & Grounds Cleaning & Maintenance	866	8.6 %
Personal Care & Service	101	1.0 %
Sales & Related	403	4.0 %
Office & Administrative Support	827	8.2 %
Farming, Fishing & Forestry	77	0.8 %
Construction & Extraction	1,011	10.1 %
Installation, Maintenance & Repair	233	2.3 %
Production	1,749	17.4 %
Transportation & Material Moving	1,321	13.2 %
Military Specific	14	0.1 %
Information Not Available	1,248	12.4 %

Data may not add up due to rounding variations.

Men filed fifty-eight percent of the December claims whereas women filed forty-two percent. Landscaping and Groundskeeping Workers, Construction Laborers and Production Workers (Helpers) are the occupations most cited by these newly unemployed men. School Bus Drivers, Food Preparation Workers, and Assemblers & Fabricators, are the occupations most cited by the newly unemployed women.

Forty-six percent of the claimants filing initial claims this month reported a high school diploma as their highest level of educational attainment. Twenty-three percent of the claimants reported having education beyond high school, with nine percent possessing a Bachelor's degree or beyond. Eighteen percent of the claimants filing did not have a high school diploma or GED.

Initial Claims by Educational Attainment

