



Rhode Island Department of Labor and Training

Initial Claims Statistics December 2007

In December 2007, Rhode Island workers filed a total of 10,302 initial claims for Unemployment Insurance benefits, an increase of 271 (2.7%) from the 10,031 initial claims filed in December 2006.

Employees with an attachment to the Construction (2,193) and Manufacturing (1,286) sectors filed the greatest number of claims this month. These two sectors represented 34 percent of the month's claims, slightly higher than last year's 31 percent. The majority of these layoffs are attributed to holiday shutdowns and seasonal layoffs typical for this time of year. There were also a significant number of initial claims filed by individuals with an attachment to the Administrative & Waste Services (1,270), Accommodation & Food Services (929), and Transportation & Warehousing (807) sectors.

At the major occupational level, workers classified in Production occupations (1,328), Construction & Extraction occupations (1,317) and Transportation & Material Moving occupations (1,311) filed the most initial claims, accounting for 38 percent of the monthly total. There were also significant claims filed by individuals with an attachment to Building & Grounds Cleaning & Maintenance (915), Office & Administrative Support (844), and Food Preparation & Serving Related occupations (796).

Initial Claims by Industry Sector

	Claims	Percent
Total	10,302	100.0%
Agriculture/Forestry	133	1.3%
Mining	43	0.4%
Utilities	2	0.0%
Construction	2,193	21.3%
Manufacturing	1,286	12.5%
Wholesale Trade	230	2.2%
Retail Trade	471	4.6%
Transportation & Warehousing	807	7.8%
Information	40	0.4%
Finance & Insurance	180	1.7%
Real Estate	68	0.7%
Professional & Technical Services	191	1.9%
Management of Companies	23	0.2%
Administrative & Waste Services	1,270	12.3%
Educational Services	77	0.7%
Health Care & Social Assistance	360	3.5%
Arts, Entertainment & Recreation	230	2.2%
Accommodation & Food Services	929	9.0%
Other Services	159	1.5%
Public Administration	80	0.8%
Information Not Available	1,530	14.9%

Initial Claims by Occupation

	Claims	Percent
Total	10,302	100.0%
Management	538	5.2%
Business & Financial Operations	130	1.3%
Computer & Mathematical	36	0.3%
Architecture & Engineering	56	0.5%
Life, Physical & Social Science	31	0.3%
Community & Social Services	24	0.2%
Legal	16	0.2%
Education, Training & Library	100	1.0%
Arts, Design, Entertainment., Sports & Media	111	1.1%
Healthcare Practitioner & Technical	89	0.9%
Healthcare Support	143	1.4%
Protective Service	106	1.0%
Food Preparation & Serving Related	796	7.7%
Building & Grounds Cleaning & Maintenance	915	8.9%
Personal Care & Service	128	1.2%
Sales & Related	372	3.6%
Office & Administrative Support	844	8.2%
Farming, Fishing & Forestry	76	0.7%
Construction & Extraction	1,317	12.8%
Installation, Maintenance & Repair	269	2.6%
Production	1,328	12.9%
Transportation & Material Moving	1,311	12.7%
Military Specific	12	0.1%
Information Not Available	1,555	13.3%

Men filed 62 percent of the claims this month, whereas women filed 38 percent. Landscaping and Groundskeeping Workers, Construction Laborers, and Tractor-Trailer Truck Drivers are the occupations most cited by these newly unemployed men. School Bus Drivers, General Office Clerks, and Food Preparation Workers are the occupations most cited by the newly unemployed women.

Forty-nine percent of the claimants filing initial claims in December reported a high school diploma as their highest level of educational attainment. Twenty-four percent of the claimants reported having education beyond high school, with 10 percent possessing a Bachelor's degree or beyond. Eighteen percent of the claimants filing initial claims did not have a high school diploma or GED.

Initial Claims by Educational Attainment

