

Rhode Island Department of Labor and Training

Initial Claims Statistics

December 2011



In December 2011, Rhode Island workers filed 11,313 initial claims for Unemployment Insurance benefits, a decrease of 1,489 (-11.6%) from the 12,802 initial claims filed in December 2010.

Employees with an attachment to the Accommodation & Food Services (1,499) sector filed the greatest number of initial claims this month, followed by the Administrative & Waste Services (1,488) sector, accounting for 26 percent of the total initial claims this month. Over the year, claims against the Accommodation & Food Services sector increased by 97 (-6.9%) from the 1,402 initial claims filed in December 2010. The Administrative & Waste Services sector decreased 89 (-5.6%) from the 1,577 initial claims filed during this same period.

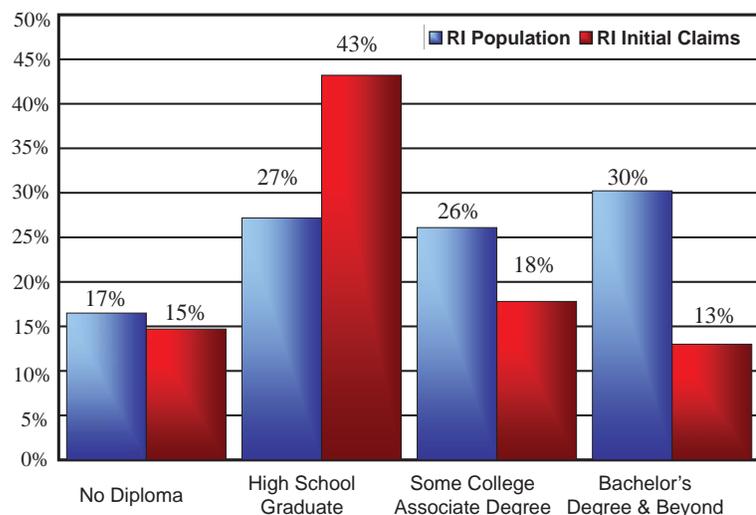
At the major occupational level, workers classified in Transportation & Material Moving (1,642) occupations filed the largest number of initial claims, followed by Production (1,363) occupations. These two sectors accounted for 26 percent of the total monthly claims in our state.

Men filed 56 percent of the claims this month, while women filed 44 percent. Landscaping and Groundskeeping Worker was the occupation most cited by the newly unemployed men. School Bus Driver was the occupation most cited by the newly unemployed woman.

Layoffs of 10 or more individuals during the month occurred in 108 companies, an increase of 60 from last month's figure (48), and an increase of 4 from the December 2010 figure (104). Industry sectors showing the largest number of companies with layoffs included Professional & Business Services, Manufacturing, and the Trade, Transportation & Utilities sectors.

Forty-three percent of the claimants filing initial claims this month reported a high school diploma as their highest level of educational attainment, 18 percent reported having some college education (including associate degree), 13 percent reported having a bachelor's degree or beyond, while 15 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

	Dec 2011	Dec 2010
Total	11,313	12,802
Agriculture/Forestry	93	120
Mining	21	43
Utilities	1	4
Construction	1,412	2,023
Manufacturing	1,246	1,191
Wholesale Trade	171	253
Retail Trade	473	525
Transportation & Warehousing	1,226	1,193
Information	46	48
Finance & Insurance	144	130
Real Estate	84	119
Professional & Tech. Services	194	327
Management of Companies	37	50
Administrative & Waste Services	1,488	1,577
Educational Services	116	169
Health Care & Social Assistance	539	488
Arts, Entertainment & Recreation	326	339
Accommodation & Food Services	1,499	1,402
Other Services	179	198
Public Administration	84	104
Information Not Available	1,934	2,499

Initial Claims by Occupation

	Dec 2011	Dec 2010
Total	11,313	12,802
Management	623	631
Business & Financial Operations	139	152
Computer & Mathematical	70	88
Architecture & Engineering	93	119
Life, Physical & Social Science	47	36
Community & Social Services	52	62
Legal	12	15
Education, Training & Library	150	145
Arts, Design, Ent., Sports & Media	136	177
Healthcare Practitioner & Technical	135	125
Healthcare Support	176	192
Protective Service	101	124
Food Preparation & Serving Related	1,312	1,446
Building & Cleaning & Maintenance	1,002	1,016
Personal Care & Service	219	192
Sales & Related	442	442
Office & Administrative Support	952	1,016
Farming, Fishing & Forestry	89	76
Construction & Extraction	830	1,136
Installation, Maintenance & Repair	275	324
Production	1,363	1,376
Transportation & Material Moving	1,642	1,730
Military Specific	19	18
Information Not Available	1,434	2,163

Data may not add due to rounding variations.