Rhode Island Department of Labor and Training
Initial Claims Statistics
December 2012

In December 2012, Rhode Island workers filed 10,191 initial claims for Unemployment Insurance benefits, a decrease of 1,122 (-9.9%) from the 11,313 initial claims filed in December 2011.

Employees with an attachment to the Construction (1,500) sector filed the greatest number of initial claims this month, followed by the Administrative & Waste Services (1,398) sector, accounting for 28 percent of the total initial claims this month. Over the year, claims against the Construction sector increased by 88 (6.2%) from the 1,412 initial claims filed in December 2011. The Administrative & Waste Services sectors claims decreased by 90 (-6.0%) from the 1,488 initial claims filed during this same period.

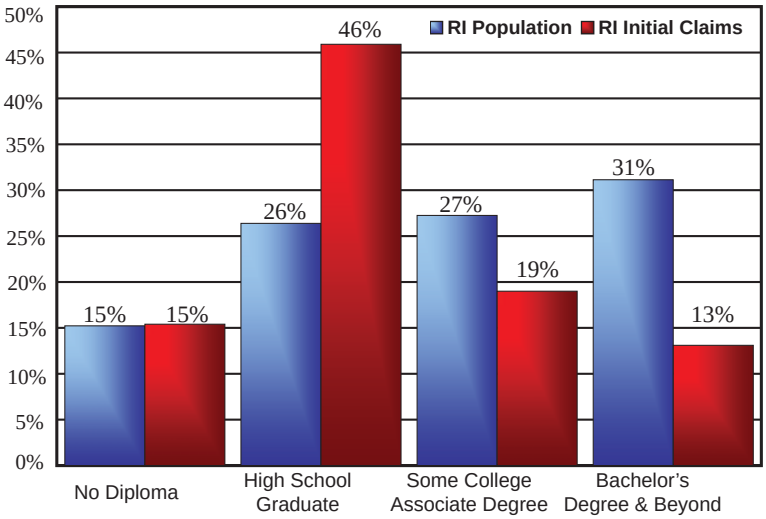
At the major occupational level, workers classified in Transportation & Material Moving (1,477) occupations filed the largest number of initial claims, followed by Food Preparation & Serving Related (1,113) occupations. These two sectors accounted for 25 percent of the total monthly claims in our state.

Men filed 60 percent of the claims this month, while women filed 40 percent. Landscaping and Groundskeeping Workers was the occupation most cited by the newly unemployed men. School Bus Drivers was the occupation most cited by the newly unemployed women.

Layoffs of 10 or more individuals during the month occurred in 88 companies, an increase of 28 from last month's figure (60), and a decrease of 20 from the December 2011 figure (108). Industry sectors showing the largest number of companies with layoffs included Professional & Business Services, Construction, and Manufacturing sector.

Forty-six percent of the claimants filing initial claims this month reported a high school diploma as their highest level of educational attainment, 19 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, 26 percent of the state's population (25 & over) reported a high school diploma as their highest level of educational attainment, 27 percent reported having some college education (including associate degree), 31 percent reported having a bachelor's degree or beyond, while 15 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 2012	Dec 2011
Total	10,191	11,313
Agriculture/Forestry	96	93
Mining	25	21
Utilities	2	1
Construction	1,500	1,412
Manufacturing	969	1,246
Wholesale Trade	167	171
Retail Trade	444	473
Transportation & Warehousing	1,101	1,226
Information	45	46
Finance & Insurance	108	144
Real Estate	94	84
Professional & Tech. Services	201	194
Management of Companies	23	37
Administrative & Waste Services	1,398	1,488
Educational Services	97	116
Health Care & Social Assistance	469	539
Arts, Entertainment & Recreation	278	326
Accommodation & Food Services	1,149	1,499
Other Services	171	179
Public Administration	61	84
Information Not Available	1,794	1,934

Initial Claims by Occupation

	Dec 2012	Dec 2011
Total	10,191	11,313
Management	525	623
Business & Financial Operations	131	139
Computer & Mathematical	56	70
Architecture & Engineering	77	93
Life, Physical & Social Science	34	47
Community & Social Services	48	52
Legal	17	12
Education, Training & Library	131	150
Arts, Design, Ent., Sports & Media	123	136
Healthcare Practitioner & Technical	107	135
Healthcare Support	164	176
Protective Service	101	101
Food Preparation & Serving Related	1,113	1,312
Building & Cleaning & Maintenance	984	1,002
Personal Care & Service	208	219
Sales & Related	339	442
Office & Administrative Support	848	952
Farming, Fishing & Forestry	100	89
Construction & Extraction	830	830
Installation, Maintenance & Repair	254	275
Production	1,107	1,363
Transportation & Material Moving	1,477	1,642
Military Specific	26	19
Information Not Available	1,1389	1,434

Data may not add due to rounding variations.

DLT is an Equal Opportunity Employer/ Program. Auxiliary aids and services are available upon request to individuals with disabilities. TTY via RI Relay 711.