

Monthly Update

Month Ending: May 31, 2016

Unemployment Insurance

Initial Claims – 3,590 initial claims were processed during the month of May, a decrease of 2,395 (-40.0%) from the previous month, and a decrease of 157 (-4.2%) from a year ago. Of the 2,618 monetary determinations issued in May, 341 (13.0%) were monetarily ineligible.

Weeks Claimed – 40,693 weeks claimed were processed during the month of May, a decrease of 996 (-2.4%) from the previous month and an increase of 5,652 (16.1%) from a year ago. There were 38,754 payments made in May, which resulted in payments totaling \$13.8 million. There were 2,517 (6.5%) partial payments issued in May 2016 compared to 2,263 (7.1%) last year. The average weekly benefit payment was \$355. The number of weekly benefit payments is averaging 15.1 weeks per claim. The over-the-year increase is attributed to the “calendar”. This year there were five Mondays in May (heaviest day for payments) compared to four in May 2015.

Workshare – 122 initial claims were processed for Workshare benefits this month, an increase of 11 (9.9%) from the previous month and a decrease of 65 (-34.8%) from May 2015. It is estimated that 24 layoffs were averted this month as a result of Rhode Island’s Workshare program.

First and Final Claims – 2,508 first payments and 872 final payments were issued in May 2016. The current exhaustion duration ratio is 29.0 percent.

Non-monetary Determinations – 1,956 non-monetary determinations were issued during the month of May 2016. Of the 1,956 determinations, 1,176 (60.1%) were separation issues and 780 (39.9%) were non-separation issues. Denials were issued for 508 (43.2%) separation issues and 691 (88.6%) non-separation issues.

Appeals – 313 appeal decisions were processed with the Board of Review in May 2016. Of the 313 processed, 251 (80.2%) were filed by UI applicants and 62 (19.8%) were filed by employers. The Board upheld the director’s decision in nearly two-thirds of the cases.

	Current Month	Previous Month	Year Ago	Percent Change From		Year to Date	
				Previous Month	Year Ago	2016	2015
Initial Claims	3,590	5,985	3,747	-40.0%	-4.2%	29,290	31,437
Monetary Determinations	2,618	2,917	2,257	-10.3%	16.0%	18,823	19,396
Monetary Ineligible	341	150	178	127.3%	91.6%	1,366	1,495
Weeks Claimed	40,693	41,689	35,041	-2.4%	16.1%	250,689	273,540
Number of Payments	38,754	38,031	31,872	1.9%	21.6%	230,250	247,794
Amount of Payments	\$13,773,179	\$12,737,449	\$10,536,468	8.1%	30.7%	\$78,313,603	\$81,758,715
Average Payment	\$355	\$335	\$331	6.1%	7.5%	\$340	\$330
Partial Payments	2,517	2,491	2,263	1.0%	11.2%	14,074	16,407
Average Duration (12 Months)	15.1	15.3	15.6	-1.2%	-3.1%	15.1	15.6
Exhaustion Ratio (12 Months)	29.0	29.2	33.8	-0.7%	-14.2%	29.0	33.8
First Payments	2,508	1,853	1,726	35.3%	45.3%	15,800	16,357
Final Payments	872	825	885	5.7%	-1.5%	3,981	4,634
Workshare Initial Claims	122	111	187	9.9%	-34.8%	395	449
Workshare Equivalency	24	31	44	-22.6%	-45.5%	96	113
Workshare Continued Claims	2,351	1,451	1,440	62.0%	63.3%	6,766	5,067

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