Unemployment Insurance

Initial Claims – 6,107 initial claims were processed during the month of April, an increase of 1,583 (35.0%) from the previous month, and a decrease of 491 (-7.4%) from a year ago. Of the 2,728 monetary determinations issued in April, 164 (6.0%) were monetarily ineligible.

Weeks Claimed – 46,237 weeks claimed were processed during the month of April, a decrease of 24,584 (-34.7%) from the previous month and a decrease of 6,566 (-12.4%) from a year ago. There were 42,645 payments made in April, which resulted in payments totaling $13.9 million. There were 2,886 (6.8%) partial payments issued in April 2015 compared to 4,097 (8.3%) last year. The average weekly benefit payment was $326. The number of weekly benefit payments is averaging 15.7 weeks per claim.

Workshare – 39 initial claims were processed for Workshare benefits this month, a decrease of 17 (-30.4%) from the previous month and an increase of 2 (5.4%) from April 2014. It is estimated that 8 layoffs were averted this month as a result of Rhode Island’s Workshare program.

First and Final Claims – 2,005 first payments and 932 final payments were issued in April 2015. The current exhaustion duration ratio is 34.3 percent.

Non-monetary Determinations – 2,230 non-monetary determinations were issued during the month of April 2015. Of the 2,230 determinations, 1,325 (59.4%) were separation issues and 905 (40.6%) were non-separation issues. Denials were issued for 567 (42.8%) separation issues and 833 (92.0%) non-separation issues.

Appeals – 379 appeal decisions were processed with the Board of Review in April 2015. Of the 379 processed, 318 (83.9%) were filed by UI applicants and 61 (16.1%) were filed by employers. The Board upheld the director’s decision in nearly two-thirds of the cases.