



Rhode Island Department of Labor and Training

Monthly Update

Month Ending: August 31, 2009

Unemployment Insurance

Initial Claims – 7,398 initial claims were processed during the month of August, a decrease of 3,536 (-32.3%) from the previous month, and an increase of 1,253 (20.4%) from a year ago. Of the 7,398 initial claims processed this month, 165 (2.2%) were filed by customers who were not citizens of the U.S. Of the 4,138 monetary determinations issued in August, 334 (8.1%) were monetarily ineligible.

Weeks Claimed – 105,350 weeks claimed were processed during the month of August, an increase of 7,307 (7.5%) from the previous month and an increase of 40,403 (62.2%) from a year ago. There were 98,920 payments made in August, which resulted in payments totaling \$35.7 million. There were 9,250 (9.4%) partial payments issued in August 2009 compared to 5,254 (8.6%) last year. The average weekly benefit payment was \$361. The number of weekly benefit payments is averaging 19.0 weeks per claim.

Workshare – 2,008 initial claims were processed for Workshare benefits this month, a decrease of 842 (-29.5%) from the previous month and an increase of 1,094 (119.7%) from August 2008. It is estimated that 475 layoffs were averted this month as a result of Rhode Island's Workshare program.

First and Final Claims – 3,676 first payments and 3,450 final payments were issued in August 2009. The current exhaustion duration ratio is 66.4 percent.

Non-monetary Determinations – 2,877 non-monetary determinations were issued during the month of August 2009. Of the 2,877 determinations, 1,730 (60.1%) were separation issues and 1,170 (40.7%) were non-separation issues. Denials were issued for 887 (51.3%) separation issues and 825 (70.5%) non-separation issues.

Appeals – 422 appeal decisions were processed with the Board of Review in August 2009. Of the 422 processed, 342 (81.0%) were filed by UI applicants and 80 (19.0%) were filed by employers. The Board upheld the director's decision in nearly two-thirds of the cases.

Emergency Unemployment Compensation 08

Initial Claims – EUC08, which became effective July 6, 2008, provided up to thirteen weeks of federally funded benefits to eligible individuals who exhausted their UI claims. In November 2008, the program was expanded to provide up to twenty weeks of additional benefits in all states and a second tier of benefits was added which provided up to thirteen more weeks of benefits to states with high unemployment rates. There were 4,090 initial claims processed during the month of August, an increase of 6 (0.1%) from the previous month, and an increase of 1,546 (60.8%) from a year ago. Of the 2,674 monetary determinations issued 37 (1.4%) were monetarily ineligible.

Number of Payments – There were 61,142 (45,024 under tier 1 and 16,118 under tier 2) payments issued in August, which resulted in payments totaling \$22.4 million. The average weekly benefit payment was \$367.

First and Final Claims – 4,704 first payments (2,974 under tier 1 and 1,730 under tier 2) and 3,209 final payments (1,952 under tier 1 and 1,257 under tier 2) were issued in August 2009. To date 32,734 individuals have collected EUC08 benefits and 9,193 final payments have been made.

Extended Benefits

Initial Claims – EB is available to individuals who have exhausted EUC08 claims. There were 869 initial claims processed during the month of August, an increase of 26 (3.1%) from the previous month. Of the 846 monetary determinations issued 3 (0.4%) were monetarily ineligible.

Number of Payments – There were 15,546 payments issued in August, which resulted in payments totaling \$5.5 million. The average weekly benefit payment was \$355.

First and Final Claims – 913 first payments were issued and 842 final payments was issued in August 2009. To date 7,472 first payments and 2,673 final payments have been made.

Claims Summary

Month Ending: August 31, 2009

Unemployment Insurance

	Current Month	Previous Month	Year Ago	Percent Change From		Year to Date	
				Previous Month	Year Ago	2009	2008
Initial Claims	7,398	10,934	6,145	-32.3%	20.4%	84,564	62,738
Monetary Determinations	4,138	6,168	3,731	-32.9%	10.9%	51,976	38,662
Monetary Ineligible	334	303	227	10.2%	47.1%	3,366	2,295
Weeks Claimed	105,350	98,043	64,947	7.5%	62.2%	888,318	566,835
Number of Payments	98,920	92,350	60,862	7.1%	62.5%	831,949	527,333
Amount of Payments	\$35,680,504	\$33,574,961	\$20,781,880	6.3%	71.7%	\$307,299,013	\$187,948,476
Average Payment	\$361	\$364	\$341	-0.8%	5.6%	\$369	\$356
Partial Payments	9,250	8,456	5,254	9.4%	76.1%	68,198	43,700
Average Duration (12 Months)	19.0	18.5	16.4	2.5%	15.6%	19.0	16.4
Exhaustion Ratio (12 Months)	66.4	63.5	43.1	4.5%	54.0%	66.4	43.1
First Payments	3,676	4,291	2,913	-14.3%	26.2%	42,669	32,339
Final Payments	3,450	3,162	1,574	9.1%	119.2%	23,949	13,106
Workshare Initial Claim:	2,008	2,850	914	-29.5%	119.7%	19,597	6,970
Workshare Equivalency	475	650	238	-26.9%	99.6%	4,892	2,039

Emergency Unemployment Compensation 08

	Current Month	Previous Month	Year Ago	Percent Change From		Year to Date 2009	Since Program Began
				Previous Month	Year Ago		
Initial Claims	4,090	4,084	2,544	0.1%	60.8%	26,112	44,264
Monetary Determinations	2,674	2,711	2,303	-1.4%	16.1%	17,946	32,706
Monetary Ineligible	37	37	59	0.0%	-37.3%	305	647
Number of Payments	61,142	47,087	32,267	29.8%	89.5%	385,979	546,871
Amount of Payments	\$22,431,015	\$17,094,345	\$11,080,778	31.2%	102.4%	\$137,558,538	193,771,081
Average Payment	\$367	\$363	\$343	1.1%	6.8%	\$356	\$354
First Payments (tier 1)	2,974	2,447	2,441	21.5%	21.8%	17,969	32,734
Final Payments (tier 1)	1,952	1,489	413	31.1%	372.6%	14,775	14,775
First Payments (tier 2)	1,730	1,217	N/A	42.2%	N/A	13,628	13,628
Final Payments (tier 2)	1,257	1,062	N/A	18.4%	N/A	9,193	9,193

Extended Benefits

	Current Month	Previous Month	Year Ago	Percent Change From		Year to Date Date 2009	Since Program Began
				Previous Month	Year Ago		
Initial Claims	869	843	62	3.1%	-	4,899	8,342
Monetary Determinations	846	808	56	4.7%	-	4,584	7,930
Monetary Ineligible	3	0	2	-	50.0%	104	325
Number of Payments	15,546	13,811	8	12.6%	-	64,584	81,848
Amount of Payments	\$5,512,627	\$4,929,833	\$2,109	11.8%	-	\$22,616,410	28,741,872
Average Payment	\$355	\$357	\$264	-0.7%	34.5%	\$350	\$351
First Payments	913	746	8	22.4%	-	4,333	7,472
Final Payments	842	856	0	-1.6%	-	2,673	2,673