Labor Supply & Demand - Third Quarter 2013

RI Department of Labor and Training Labor Market Information

Unemployment insurance claimants represent an able and available supply of trained workers who are currently seeking work. Online postings represent a current demand for labor detailing the types of occupations employers are seeking to fill. A comparison of these two groups provides an indication of occupational groups for which labor supply is sufficient to meet employer's current needs; and for which there is a shortage of trained workers available to meet employers' current demands.

On September 30, 2013, the Department of Labor and Training's EmployRI on-line network recorded 10,351 on-line job postings from Rhode Island based businesses. Also in September, some 15,993 individuals collected Unemployment Insurance (UI) benefits. A comparison of the on-line job postings to the UI claimants currently seeking work indicates that there were one and a half claimants for each online posting, and a surplus of available labor (more claimants per posting) for jobs typically requiring less than a college degree.

Educational Levels for Postings and Claimants					
		ings*	Claimants**		
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	
Total	10,351	100.0%	15,993	100.0%	
Advance Degrees	642	6.2%	2,002	12.5%	
Bachelor's	2,248	21.7%	1,522	9.5%	
Associate	965	9.3%	768	4.8%	
Some College or					
Some College or Post Secondary Award	311	3.0%	3,032	19.0%	
High School/GED	3,049	29.5%	6,004	37.5%	
Less Than High School	1,168	11.3%	1,507	9.4%	
Unavailable	1,968	19.0%	1,158	7.2%	

Jobs for which the usual educational requirement was either a high school diploma (29.5%) or a bachelor's degree (21.7%) accounted for the most on-line postings, numbering 3,049 and 2,248, respectively. Nearly ten percent of the postings required an associate degree, 6.2 percent required advance degrees and 3.0 percent required some college or post secondary non-degree award. For 19.0 percent of the postings, there was no educational requirement (i.e. less than high school).

There was a surplus of available labor for many occupational groups in September 2013. Postings for Sales & Related

Labor Supply & Demand by Major Occupation				
	EmployRI Postings*	Unemployed Claimants**	Claimants per Postings	
Total	10,351	15,993	1.5	
Construction & Extraction	62	598	9.7	
Production	344	2,083	6.1	
Building & Grounds Cleaning				
& Maintenance	104	370	3.6	
Office & Administrative Support	845	2,976	3.5	
Personal Care & Service	127	395	3.1	
Installation, Maintenance, & Repair	191	523	2.7	
Healthcare Support	200	523	2.6	
Community & Social Services	122	286	2.3	
Legal	34	78	2.3	
Food Preparation & Serving Related	d 370	743	2.0	
Farming, Fishing, & Forestry	16	30	1.9	
Arts, Design, Entertainment,				
Sports, & Media	156	295	1.9	
Transportation & Material Moving	589	950	1.6	
Life, Physical, & Social Science	89	135	1.5	
Protective Service	151	226	1.5	
Management	1,454	1,721	1.2	
Business & Financial Operations	632	588	0.9	
Sales & Related	1,480	1,031	0.7	
Education, Training, & Library	824	522	0.6	
Architecture & Engineering	289	169	0.6	
Computer & Mathematical	680	309	0.5	
Healthcare Practitioners & Technica	al 1,475	484	0.3	

occupations (1,480) and Healthcare Practitioners & Technical occupations (1,475) accounted for the most postings during the third quarter of 2013, followed by the Management occupational group (1,454).

The greatest labor surplus was associated with the Construction & Extraction and Production occupational groups for which there were nearly ten UI claimants with this type of work experience for every online posting. In contrast, there was more of a demand for Healthcare Practitioners & Technical; Computer & Mathematical; and Architecture & Engineering occupations. For all three of these occupational groups there were significantly more on-line postings than unemployed insurance claimants indicating previous work experience in these occupational groups.

These statistics indicate that employers seeking to hire workers to fill vacancies in these occupational groups would have more difficulty finding qualified workers than those employers attempting to fill vacancies in occupational groups for which there are significantly more unemployed claimants than on-line postings.

Labor Demand

On-line postings represent a current demand for labor, detailing the types of occupations employers are seeking to fill.

During the third quarter of 2013, EmployRI recorded 10,351 on-line job postings for 417 different occupations. There were 37 occupations with 50 or more job postings during the third quarter 2013 accounting 46.2 percent of the on-line postings.

Demand exceeded supply for 24 of the 30 occupations most in demand. For eleven of these 24 occupations an associate degree or higher is generally required.

Top Thirty Occupations with the Most Postings Third Quarter 2013				
Occupational Title	Postings*	Claimants**	Claimants per Posting	Educational Requirement
Accountants & Auditors	135	73	0.5	Bachelor's
Advertising & Promotions Managers	107	22	0.2	Bachelor's
Cashiers	71	103	1.5	Less than HS
Combined Food Preparation & Serving Workers	83	77	0.9	Less than HS
Computer Programmers	173	7	0.0	Bachelor's
Computer System Analyst	85	30	0.4	Bachelor's
Customer Service Representatives	342	319	0.9	High School/GED
Demonstrators & Product Promoters	90	11	0.1	High School/GED
Driver/Sales Workers	93	54	0.6	High School/GED
Financial Managers	77	82	1.1	Bachelor's
First-Line Supervisors of Retail Sales Workers	191	167	0.9	High School/GED
First-Line Supervisors: Correctional Officers	63	3	0.1	High School/GED
First-Line Supervisors: Food Prep & Serving Workers	70	58	0.8	High School/GED
General & Operations Managers	98	296	3.0	Associates
Heavy & Tractor-Trailer Truck Drivers	256	107	0.4	High School/GED
Insurance Sales Agents	69	27	0.4	High School/GED
Management Analysts	94	21	0.2	Bachelor's
Marketing Managers	61	67	1.1	Bachelor's
Merchandise Displayers & Window Trimmers	67	21	0.3	High School/GED
Network & Computer System Administrators	69	40	0.6	Bachelor's
Nursing Aides, Orderlies, & Attendants	92	156	1.7	Postsecondary
Occupational Therapists	67	2	0.0	Master's
Pharmacy Technicians	96	23	0.2	High School/GED
Physical Therapists	81	9	0.1	Doctoral/Professional
Registered Nurses	635	104	0.2	Associates
Retail Salespersons	380	118	0.3	Less than HS
Substitute Secondary School Teachers	210	29	0.1	Bachelor's
Shipping, Receiving, & Traffic Clerks	69	82	1.2	High School/GED
Speech-Language Pathologists	69			Master's
Tax Preparers	114	91	0.8	High School/GED

Labor Supply

Unemployment insurance claimants represent an able and available supply of trained workers who are currently seeking work.

A total of 15,993 individuals collected unemployment insurance benefits during September 2013. These unemployed claimants reported previous work experience in nearly 700 different occupations.

Labor surpluses existed for 25 of the 30 occupations most frequently cited by UI claimants. For one third of these occupations, there were more than ten experienced workers for every job posting, signifying the difficulty many unemployed workers are having finding work in occupations in which they were previously employed.

Top Thirty Occupations with the Most Claimants Third Quarter 2013				
Occupational Title	Postings*	Claimants**	Claimants per Postings	Educational Requirement
Billing & Posting Clerks	8	94	11.8	High School/GED
Bookkeeping, Accounting, & Auditing Clerks	38	182	4.8	High School/GED
Cashiers	71	103	1.5	Less than HS
Construction Laborers	4	102	25.5	Less than HS
Customer Service Representatives	342	319	0.9	High School/GED
Executive Secretaries & Executive Administrative Assistan	nts 46	177	3.9	High School/GED
First-Line Supervisors: Production & Operating Workers	12	153	12.8	Postsecondary
First-Line Supervisors: Retail Sales Workers	191	167	0.9	High School/GED
First-Line Supervisors: Office & Administrative Support	47	158	3.3	High School/GED
General & Operations Managers	98	296	3.0	Associates
Heavy & Tractor-Trailer Truck Drivers	256	107	0.4	High School/GED
HelpersProduction Workers	53	124	2.3	Less than HS
Home Health Aides	19	109	5.7	Less than HS
Janitors & Cleaners	33	116	3.5	Less than HS
Laborers & Freight, Stock, & Material Movers, Hand	58	109	1.9	Less than HS
Light Truck or Delivery Services Drivers	13	108	8.3	High School/GED
Maintenance & Repair Workers, General	7	99	14.1	High School/GED
Medical Secretaries	9	139	15.4	High School/GED
Nursing Aides, Orderlies, & Attendants	92	156	1.7	Postsecondary
Office Clerks, General	26	317	12.2	High School/GED
Packers & Packagers, Hand	13	122	9.4	Less than HS
Personal Care Aides	10	173	17.3	Less than HS
Registered Nurses	635	104	0.2	Associates
Retail Salespersons	380	118	0.3	Less than HS
Sales Managers	40	152	3.8	Bachelor's
Sales Representatives, Wholesale & Manufacturing	9	126	14.0	High School/GED
Secretaries & Administrative Assistants	14	94	6.7	High School/GED
Security Guards	55	100	1.8	High School/GED
Stock Clerks & Order Fillers	48	176	3.7	Less than HS
Waiters & Waitresses	27	115	4.3	Less than HS

Labor Shortages

Despite the state's high unemployment rate, many Rhode Island employers report that they are having difficulty finding qualified workers to fill many of the positions they have available. During the third quarter of 2013 the number of posted vacancies exceeded the number of unemployed workers for 110 occupations, indicating potential labor shortages for those occupations. Our labor supply and demand data indicates that there are not enough experienced unemployed workers available to meet the strong demand employers have for occupations such Occupational Therapists, Computer Programmers and Substitute Teachers.

This quarter there was a continued demand for substitute teachers due to numerous postings that continue to remain unfilled.

Below is the list of the top 30 occupations with the greatest number of postings per claimants. (Only occupations with five or more active postings and 3 or more claimants are included.)

Top Thirty Occupations with Potential Shortages - Third Quarter 2013				
Occupational Title	Postings*	Claimants**	Postings per Claimant	Educational Requirement
Advertising & Promotions Managers	107	22	4.9	Bachelor's
Clinical, Counseling, & School Psychologists	27	10	2.7	Doctoral/Professional
Computer Programmers	173	7	24.7	Bachelor's
Computer System Analyst	85	30	2.8	Bachelor's
Database Administrator	25	7	3.6	Bachelor's
Demonstrators & Product Promoters	90	11	8.2	High School/GED
Dietitians & Nutritionists	13	6	2.2	Bachelor's
Fiberglass Laminators and Fabricators	29	5	5.8	High School/GED
Financial Analysts	36	11	3.3	Bachelor's
First-Line Supervisors of Correctional Officers	63	3	21.0	High School/GED
Heavy & Tractor-Trailer Truck Drivers	256	107	2.4	High School/GED
Insurance Sales Agents	69	27	2.6	High School/GED
Management Analysts	94	21	4.5	Bachelor's
Mechanical Engineers	22	10	2.2	Bachelor's
Merchandise Displayers & Window Trimmers	67	21	3.2	High School/GED
Nonfarm Animal Caretakers	26	9	2.9	Less than HS
Personal Financial Advisors	36	14	2.6	Bachelor's
Pharmacists	32	14	2.3	Doctoral/Professional
Pharmacy Technicians	96	23	4.2	High School/GED
Photographic Process Workers	54	7	7.7	High School/GED
Physical Therapist Assistants	14	4	3.5	Associate's
Physical Therapists	81	9	9.0	Doctoral/Professional
Physician Assistants	21	7	3.0	Master's
Real Estate Sales Agents	25	4	6.3	High School/GED
Registered Nurses	635	104	6.1	Associate's
Retail Salespersons	380	118	3.2	Less than HS
Subsitute Secondary School Teachers	501	29	17.3	Bachelor's
Substance Abuse & Behavioral Disorder Counselors	19	9	2.11	High School/GED
Surgical Technologists	11	5	2.2	Postsecondary
Textile Bleaching & Dyeing Machine Operators/Tend	ders 20	7	2.9	High School/GED

^{*} Jobs posted during the 90 day period ending September 30, 2013 and still open on September 30, 2013. EmployRI aggregates postings for a variety of job boards. Software is in place that is designed to eliminate duplicate postings.

^{**} Individuals receiving unemployment insurance payments for the week ending September 14, 2013. Claimants select the occupational code which best describes their current position upon registering for benefits.

