



Rhode Island Department of Labor and Training

Monthly Update

Month Ending: December 31, 2020

Unemployment Insurance

Initial Claims – 25,819 initial claims were processed during the month of December, an increase of 10,781 (71.7%) from the previous month, and an increase of 16,416 (174.6%) from a year ago. Of the 25,819 initial claims processed in December, 17,143 were due to COVID-19. Of the 18,963 monetary determinations issued in December, 4,847 (25.6%) were monetarily ineligible

Weeks Claimed – 82,179 weeks claimed were processed during the month of December, an increase of 9,980 (13.8%) from the previous month and an increase of 41,128 (100.2%) from a year ago. There were 70,659 payments made in December, which resulted in payments totaling \$25.4 million. There were 8,925 (12.6%) partial payments issued in December 2020 compared to 2,101 (5.8%) last year. The average weekly benefit payment was \$360. The number of weekly benefit payments is averaging 14.0 weeks per claim.

Pandemic Emergency Unemployment Compensation (PEUC) – provides up to 13 weeks of federally funded benefits to eligible individuals who exhausted their Unemployment Insurance claim. Rhode Island began processing PEUC claims May 7, 2020. During the month of December, 3,260 initial PEUC claims were filed. There were 71,803 payments made which resulted in payments totaling \$21.8 million.

Extended Benefits (EB) - EB provides up to 20 additional weeks of benefits to eligible individuals who exhaust their UI and PEUC claims. Rhode Island began taking EB claims week ending July 25th. During the month of December 2,917 initial EB claims were filed. There were 23,906 payments made which resulted in payments totaling \$7.0 million.

Pandemic Unemployment Assistance (PUA) – we began processing PUA claims week ending April 11, 2020. In December 17,746 PUA initial claims and 175,732 continued claims were processed.

Workshare – 150 initial claims were processed for Workshare benefits this month, a decrease of 10 from the previous month and an increase of 123 from December 2019. It is estimated that 81 layoffs were averted this month as a result of Rhode Island's Workshare program.

First and Final Claims – 7,850 first payments and 2,845 final payments were issued in December 2020. The current exhaustion duration ratio is 32.6 percent.

Non-monetary Determinations – 1,133 non-monetary determinations were issued during the month of December 2020. Of the 1,133 determinations, 694 (61.3%) were separation issues and 439 (38.7%) were non-separation issues. Denials were issued for 350 (50.4%) separation issues and 414 (94.3%) non-separation issues.

Appeals – 516 appeal decisions were processed with the Board of Review in December 2020. Of the 516 processed, 475 (92.1%) were filed by UI applicants and 41 (7.9%) were filed by employers. The Board upheld the director's decision in more than two-thirds of the cases.

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

Monthly Claims Summary

Month Ending: December 31, 2020

	Current Month	Previous Month	Year Ago	Percent Change From		Year to Date	
				Previous Month	Year Ago	2020	2019
Initial Claims	25,819	15,038	9,403	71.7%	174.6%	294,070	55,962
COVID-19	17,143	11,835	-	44.9%	-	247,391	-
Monetary Determinations	18,963	11,270	5,153	68.3%	268.0%	206,510	36,056
Monetary Ineligible	4,847	3,342	375	45.0%	1192.5%	50,622	2,207
Weeks Claimed	82,179	72,199	41,051	13.8%	100.2%	2,134,967	436,304
Number of Payments	70,659	62,444	35,953	13.2%	96.5%	2,030,082	402,961
Amount of Payments	\$25,444,118	\$21,867,657	\$13,226,916	16.4%	92.4%	\$644,290,718	\$145,207,764
Average Payment	\$360	\$350	\$368	2.8%	-2.1%	\$317	\$360
Partial Payments	8,925	8,852	2,101	0.8%	324.8%	167,946	23,653
Average Duration (12 Months)	14.0	14.2	14.9	-1.4%	-6.1%	14.0	14.9
Exhaustion Ratio (12 Months)	32.6	32.2	26.9	1.2%	21.1%	32.6	26.9
First Payments	7,850	5,123	2,897	53.2%	171.0%	145,056	27,114
Final Payments	2,845	3,506	659	-18.9%	331.7%	41,285	7,494
PUA Initial Claims	17,746	13,190	-	34.5%	-	298,673 *	-
PUA Weeks Claimed	175,732	192,527	-	-8.7%	-	1,687,112 *	-
PEUC Initial Claims	3,260	3,659	-	-10.9%	-	39,209	-
PEUC Weeks Claimed	73,087	94,169	-	-22.4%	-	345,847	-
PEUC Number of Payments	71,803	92,726	-	-22.6%	-	338,876	-
PEUC Amount of Payments	21,762,043	27,398,395	-	-20.6%	-	101,397,280	-
EB Initial Claims	2,917	1,630	-	-	-	7,304	-
EB Weeks Claimed	24,346	13,952	-	-	-	56,518	-
EB Number of Payments	23,906	13,638	-	-	-	55,484	-
EB Amount of Payments	6,986,425	4,350,950	-	-	-	17,596,098	-
Workshare Initial Claims	150	160	27	-6.3%	455.6%	6,140	1,094
Workshare Initial Claims Equivalency	81	83	7	-2.4%	1057.1%	2,248	269
Workshare Weeks Claimed	11,140	11,461	485	-2.8%	2196.9%	130,118	16,173
Workshare Weeks Claimed Equivalency	2,884	2,992	123	-3.6%	2244.7%	38,574	3,802

* Revised