



## Rhode Island Department of Labor and Training

# Monthly Update

Month Ending: August 31, 2020

### *Unemployment Insurance*

**Initial Claims** – 14,183 initial claims were processed during the month of August, a decrease of 1,233 (-8.0%) from the previous month, and an increase of 11,034 (350.4%) from a year ago. Of the 14,183 initial claims processed in August, 11,211 were due to COVID-19. Of the 9,626 monetary determinations issued in August, 5,585 (58.0%) were monetarily ineligible

**Weeks Claimed** – 236,372 weeks claimed were processed during the month of August, a decrease of 21,722 (-8.4%) from the previous month and an increase of 202,284 (593.4%) from a year ago. There were 225,015 payments made in August, which resulted in payments totaling \$68.5 million. There were 21,454 (9.5%) partial payments issued in August 2020 compared to 1,994 (6.2%) last year. The average weekly benefit payment was \$304. The number of weekly benefit payments is averaging 13.3 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 August, 4,899 initial PEUC claims were filed. There were 25,161 payments made which resulted in payments totaling \$7.5 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 August 714 initial EB claims were filed. There were 3,804 payments made which resulted in payments totaling \$1.4 million.

**Pandemic Unemployment Assistance (PUA)** – we began processing PUA claims week ending April 11, 2020. In August 91,859 PUA initial claims and 274,642 continued claims were processed.

**Workshare** – 254 initial claims were processed for Workshare benefits this month, a decrease of 1,095 from the previous month and an increase of 235 from August 2019. It is estimated that 137 layoffs were averted this month as a result of Rhode Island's Workshare program.

**First and Final Claims** – 5,412 first payments and 5,288 final payments were issued in August 2020. The current exhaustion duration ratio is 59.1 percent.

**Non-monetary Determinations** – 2,092 non-monetary determinations were issued during the month of August 2020. Of the 2,092 determinations, 1,165 (55.7%) were separation issues and 927 (44.3%) were non-separation issues. Denials were issued for 641 (55.0%) separation issues and 720 (77.7%) non-separation issues.

**Appeals** – 306 appeal decisions were processed with the Board of Review in August 2020. Of the 306 processed, 272 (88.9%) were filed by UI applicants and 34 (11.1%) 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: August 31, 2020

	Current Month	Previous Month	Year Ago	Percent Change From		Year to Date	
				Previous Month	Year Ago	2020	2019
<b>Initial Claims</b>	14,183	15,416	3,149	-8.0%	350.4%	227,631	36,915
<b>COVID-19</b>	11,211	12,350	-	-9.2%	-	198,199	-
<b>Monetary Determinations</b>	9,626	12,334	2,072	-22.0%	364.6%	155,432	24,571
<b>Monetary Ineligible</b>	5,585	4,126	137	35.4%	3976.6%	31,757	1,345
<b>Weeks Claimed</b>	236,372	258,094	34,088	-8.4%	593.4%	1,748,006	322,223
<b>Number of Payments</b>	225,015	250,597	32,310	-10.2%	596.4%	1,688,151	300,425
<b>Amount of Payments</b>	\$68,456,761	\$75,605,248	\$10,618,556	-9.5%	544.7%	\$530,939,737	\$107,252,154
<b>Average Payment</b>	\$304	\$302	\$329	0.8%	-7.4%	\$315	\$357
<b>Partial Payments</b>	21,454	28,386	1,994	-24.4%	975.9%	123,743	16,957
<b>Average Duration (12 Months)</b>	13.3	12.3	15.0	8.5%	-11.0%	13.3	15.0
<b>Exhaustion Ratio (12 Months)</b>	59.1	40.3	27.4	46.6%	115.6%	59.1	27.4
<b>First Payments</b>	5,412	6,603	1,526	-18.0%	254.7%	126,914	19,892
<b>Final Payments</b>	5,288	2,522	536	109.7%	886.6%	13,279	5,133
<b>PUA Initial Claims</b>	91,859	43,637	-	110.5%	-	205,425	-
<b>PUA Weeks Claimed</b>	274,642	222,475	-	23.4%	-	921,743	-
<b>PEUC Initial Claims</b>	4,899	2,276	-	115.2%	-	11,405	-
<b>PEUC Weeks Claimed</b>	25,911	13,980	-	85.3%	-	61,175	-
<b>PEUC Number of Payments</b>	25,161	13,389	-	87.9%	-	59,609	-
<b>PEUC Amount of Payments</b>	7,531,290	4,581,840	-	64.4%	-	19,412,818	-
<b>EB Initial Claims</b>	714	246	-	-	-	960	-
<b>EB Weeks Claimed</b>	3,818	670	-	-	-	4,488	-
<b>EB Number of Payments</b>	3,804	584	-	-	-	4,388	-
<b>EB Amount of Payments</b>	1,354,640	216,583	-	-	-	1,571,223	-
<b>Workshare Initial Claims</b>	254	1,349	19	-81.2%	1236.8%	5,482	914
<b>Workshare Initial Claims Equivalency</b>	137	434	4	-68.4%	3325.0%	1,931	220
<b>Workshare Weeks Claimed</b>	24,724	27,959	1,598	-11.6%	1447.2%	77,765	13,853
<b>Workshare Weeks Claimed Equivalency</b>	7,877	8,698	371	-9.4%	2023.2%	24,036	3,193