



Rhode Island Department of Labor and Training

Monthly Update

Month Ending: March 31, 2020

Unemployment Insurance

Initial Claims – 83,796 initial claims were processed during the month of March, an increase of 79,041 (1662.3%) from the previous month, and an increase of 80,629 (2545.9%) from a year ago. Of the 83,796 initial claims processed in March, 78,061 were due to COVID-19. Of the 52,544 monetary determinations issued in March 4,130 (7.9%) were monetarily ineligible.

Weeks Claimed – 105,829 weeks claimed were processed during the month of March, an increase of 60,036 (131.1%) from the previous month and an increase of 59,380 (127.8%) from a year ago. There were 100,251 payments made in March, which resulted in payments totaling \$34.8 million. There were 3,968 (4.0%) partial payments issued in March 2020 compared to 2,297 (5.2%) last year. The average weekly benefit payment was \$347. The number of weekly benefit payments is averaging 8.2 weeks per claim.

Workshare – 111 initial claims were processed for Workshare benefits this month, a decrease of 188 from the previous month and an increase of 31 from March 2019. It is estimated that 28 layoffs were averted this month as a result of Rhode Island's Workshare program.

First and Final Claims – 30,611 first payments and 759 final payments were issued in March 2020. The current exhaustion duration ratio is 27.3 percent.

Non-monetary Determinations – 1,434 non-monetary determinations were issued during the month of March 2020. Of the 1,434 determinations, 901 (62.8%) were separation issues and 533 (37.2%) were non-separation issues. Denials were issued for 341 (37.8%) separation issues and 524 (98.3%) non-separation issues.

Appeals – 293 appeal decisions were processed with the Board of Review in March 2020. Of the 293 processed, 239 (81.6%) were filed by UI applicants and 54 (18.4%) were filed by employers. The Board upheld the director's decision in more than two-thirds of the cases.

	Current Month	Previous Month	Year Ago	Percent Change From		Year to Date	
				Previous Month	Year Ago	2020	2019
Initial Claims	83,796	4,755	3,167	1662.3%	2545.9%	94,403	14,888
COVID-19	78,061						
Monetary Determinations	52,544	3,023	2,135	1638.1%	2361.1%	60,538	11,056
Monetary Ineligible	4,130	243	138	1599.6%	2892.8%	4,551	543
Weeks Claimed	105,829	45,793	46,449	131.1%	127.8%	197,845	145,321
Number of Payments	100,251	42,788	44,592	134.3%	124.8%	184,506	135,390
Amount of Payments	\$34,817,863	\$16,346,202	\$16,617,909	113.0%	109.5%	\$66,634,140	\$49,781,336
Average Payment	\$347	\$382	\$373	-9.1%	-6.8%	\$361	\$368
Partial Payments	3,968	2,027	2,297	95.8%	72.7%	8,744	7,103
Average Duration (12 Months)	8.2	15.0	14.8	-45.4%	-44.6%	8.2	14.8
Exhaustion Ratio (12 Months)	27.3	26.7	27.0	2.1%	1.0%	27.3	27.0
First Payments	30,611	2,717	1,926	1026.6%	1489.4%	38,281	10,233
Final Payments	759	478	601	58.8%	26.3%	1,717	1,760
Workshare Initial Claims	111	299	80	-62.9%	38.8%	462	156
Workshare Equivalency	28	82	20	-65.9%	40.0%	121	53
Workshare Continued Claims	1,805	580	1,437	211.2%	25.6%	2,900	3,714

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