

Monthly Update

Month Ending: August 31, 2019

Unemployment Insurance

Initial Claims – 3,149 initial claims were processed during the month of August, a decrease of 932 (-22.8%) from the previous month, and a decrease of 644 (-17.0%) from a year ago. Of the 2,072 monetary determinations issued in August 137 (6.6%) were monetarily ineligible.

Weeks Claimed – 34,088 weeks claimed were processed during the month of August, a decrease of 9,789 (-22.3%) from the previous month and a decrease of 2,078 (-5.7%) from a year ago. There were 32,310 payments made in August, which resulted in payments totaling \$10.6 million. There were 1,994 (6.2%) partial payments issued in August 2019 compared to 2,304 (6.7%) last year. The average weekly benefit payment was \$329. The number of weekly benefit payments is averaging 15.0 weeks per claim.

Workshare – 19 initial claims were processed for Workshare benefits this month, a decrease of 138 (-87.9%) from the previous month and a decrease of 111 (-85.4%) from August 2018. It is estimated that 4 layoffs were averted this month as a result of Rhode Island’s Workshare program.

First and Final Claims – 1,526 first payments and 536 final payments were issued in August 2019. The current exhaustion duration ratio is 27.4 percent.

Non-monetary Determinations – 1,718 non-monetary determinations were issued during the month of August 2019. Of the 1,718 determinations, 1,013 (59.0%) were separation issues and 705 (41.0%) were non-separation issues. Denials were issued for 416 (41.1%) separation issues and 638 (90.5%) non-separation issues.

Appeals – 232 appeal decisions were processed with the Board of Review in August 2019. Of the 232 processed, 186 (80.2%) were filed by UI applicants and 46 (19.8%) were filed by employers. The Board upheld the director’s decision in nearly two-thirds of the cases.

	Current Month	Previous Month	Year Ago	Percent Change From		Year to Date	
				Previous Month	Year Ago	2019	2018
Initial Claims	3,149	4,081	3,793	-22.8%	-17.0%	36,915	38,347
Monetary Determinations	2,072	2,805	2,532	-26.1%	-18.2%	24,571	24,817
Monetary Ineligible	137	157	200	-12.7%	-31.5%	1,345	1,486
Weeks Claimed	34,088	43,877	36,166	-22.3%	-5.7%	322,223	339,742
Number of Payments	32,310	40,496	34,301	-20.2%	-5.8%	300,425	313,173
Amount of Payments	\$10,618,556	\$13,445,078	\$11,088,791	-21.0%	-4.2%	\$107,252,154	\$108,605,557
Average Payment	\$329	\$332	\$323	-1.0%	1.7%	\$357	\$347
Partial Payments	1,994	2,262	2,304	-11.8%	-13.5%	16,957	18,809
Average Duration (12 Months)	15.0	15.0	15.1	0.1%	-0.5%	15.0	15.1
Exhaustion Ratio (12 Months)	27.4	27.5	27.4	-0.5%	-0.2%	27.4	27.4
First Payments	1,526	3,061	1,711	-50.1%	-10.8%	19,892	20,893
Final Payments	536	742	555	-27.8%	-3.4%	5,133	5,327
Workshare Initial Claims	19	157	130	-87.9%	-85.4%	914	865
Workshare Equivalency	4	35	34	-88.6%	-88.2%	220	230
Workshare Continued Claims	1,598	2,563	1,350	-37.7%	18.4%	13,853	12,646

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