

# Monthly Update

Month Ending: April 30, 2019

## Unemployment Insurance

**Initial Claims** – 6,298 initial claims were processed during the month of April, an increase of 3,131 (98.9%) from the previous month, and an increase of 969 (18.2%) from a year ago. The monthly increase was largely the result of school vacation. It is not uncommon to see a rise in claims year over year when there has been a labor dispute that results in a work stoppage in the month in question. Of the 3,582 monetary determinations issued in April 109 (3.0%) were monetarily ineligible.

**Weeks Claimed** – 43,396 weeks claimed were processed during the month of April, a decrease of 3,053 (-6.6%) from the previous month and a decrease of 1,238 (-2.8%) from a year ago. There were 40,444 payments made in April, which resulted in payments totaling \$14.6 million. There were 2,311 (5.7%) partial payments issued in April 2019 compared to 2,373 (5.8%) last year. The average weekly benefit payment was \$360. The number of weekly benefit payments is averaging 14.8 weeks per claim.

**Workshare** – 54 initial claims were processed for Workshare benefits this month, a decrease of 26 (-32.5%) from the previous month and a decrease of 82 (-60.3%) from April 2018. It is estimated that 13 layoffs were averted this month as a result of Rhode Island’s Workshare program.

**First and Final Claims** – 1,913 first payments and 862 final payments were issued in April 2019. The current exhaustion duration ratio is 27.0 percent.

**Non-monetary Determinations** – 1,713 non-monetary determinations were issued during the month of April 2019. Of the 1,713 determinations, 997 (58.2%) were separation issues and 716 (41.8%) were non-separation issues. Denials were issued for 395 (39.6%) separation issues and 695 (97.1%) non-separation issues.

**Appeals** – 280 appeal decisions were processed with the Board of Review in April 2019. Of the 280 processed, 199 (71.1%) were filed by UI applicants and 81 (28.9%) 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	6,298	3,167	5,329	98.9%	18.2%	21,186	21,416
Monetary Determinations	3,582	2,135	2,576	67.8%	39.1%	14,638	14,087
Monetary Ineligible	109	138	146	-21.0%	-25.3%	652	821
Weeks Claimed	43,396	46,449	44,634	-6.6%	-2.8%	188,717	203,313
Number of Payments	40,444	44,592	40,962	-9.3%	-1.3%	175,834	186,782
Amount of Payments	\$14,560,654	\$16,617,909	\$14,259,817	-12.4%	2.1%	\$64,341,990	\$66,322,599
Average Payment	\$360	\$373	\$348	-3.4%	3.4%	\$366	\$355
Partial Payments	2,311	2,297	2,373	0.6%	-2.6%	9,414	10,524
Average Duration (12 Months)	14.8	14.8	15.3	0.3%	-3.0%	14.8	15.3
Exhaustion Ratio (12 Months)	27.0	27.0	28.8	0.1%	-6.2%	27.0	28.8
First Payments	1,913	1,926	1,948	-0.7%	-1.8%	12,146	12,703
Final Payments	862	601	841	43.4%	2.5%	2,622	2,863
Workshare Initial Claims	54	80	136	-32.5%	-60.3%	210	427
Workshare Equivalency	13	20	43	-35.0%	-69.8%	66	115
Workshare Continued Claims	1,775	1,437	1,773	23.5%	0.1%	5,489	6,156

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