



Quarterly Census of RI Employment and Wages

Third Quarter Analysis 2003-2004



Total employment increased in Rhode Island by 3,597 (+0.8%) jobs in the third quarter of 2004 when compared to the third quarter of 2003. Private sector employment accounted for 4,044 new jobs while the Government sector lost 447 positions. Employment dropped in two of the three government divisions, Federal (-213) and State (-298), while Local government added 64 jobs. In all, 477,353 workers were employed in Rhode Island during the third quarter of 2004.

The Administrative & Waste Services sector added 2,207 (+9.2%) jobs between the third quarter of 2003 and third quarter of 2004, the most of all twenty industry sectors. Activities performed in this sector include: office administration; hiring and placement of personnel; clerical services; security and surveillance; cleaning; and waste disposal services. The Health Care & Social Services sector continued to surge, adding 1,537 positions during this period, with 678 more jobs reported in the Nursing and Residential Care Facilities sub-sector. Professional, Scientific & Technical Services (+830), Accommodation & Food Services (+819) and Management of Companies & Enterprise (+755) rounded out the top five sectors in employment gains.

The Health Care & Social Services (71,521) sector employed the most workers in the third quarter of 2004, followed by Government (58,642), Manufacturing (56,447), Retail Trade (52,709) and Accommodation & Food Services (45,887). At the other end of the spectrum, the Mining (198), Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing & Hunting (956) and Utilities (1,073) sectors employed the fewest workers.

The Manufacturing sector lost 702 (-1.2%) jobs between the third quarter of 2003 and third quarter of 2004. The Construction (-467), Retail Trade (-260), Transportation & Warehousing (-250) and Information (-242) sectors also reported sizable employment drops. Utilities (-96) lost the most workers on a percentage basis during this period, losing -8.2% of its workforce.

A total of over \$4.3 billion in wages was paid during the third quarter of 2004, an increase of over \$223 million (+5.4%) from last year's third quarter total of \$4.1 billion. Private sector wages grew in excess of \$182 million (+5.2%), with the average weekly wage increasing by \$27 to \$675, a 4.2 percent increase.

In all, five sectors, Management of Companies & Enterprise (\$1,318), Utilities (\$1,285), Information (\$1,065) Finance & Insurance (\$1,013) and Professional, Scientific & Technical Services (\$1,013) earned an average weekly wage in excess of a thousand dollars. The Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing & Hunting (+29.3%) sector experienced the largest weekly wage increase on a percentage basis, up \$141 to \$622. The Utilities (-\$45) sector was the only sector to report a loss in their average weekly wage. *Quarterly bonuses and exercised stock options are included in the calculation and therefore may impact the average weekly wage.*

	No. of Units	Third Quarter 2004				Average Employment	Total Wages	Taxable Wages	Contributions
		July	August	Sept					
Total	35,199	472,691	474,294	484,804	477,353	4,391,405,948	795,882,654	27,092,678	
Private	34,519	417,986	419,449	418,698	418,711	3,674,505,432	793,557,987	27,034,480	
State	108	17,702	17,520	17,931	17,718	220,988,204	39,226	664	
Local	427	27,310	27,371	38,235	30,972	329,462,668	2,285,441	57,534	
Federal	145	9,963	9,954	9,940	9,952	166,449,644	0	0	
Total Government	680	54,975	54,845	66,106	58,642	716,900,516	2,324,667	58,198	
Total UI Covered	35,054	462,728	464,340	474,864	467,401	4,224,956,304	795,882,654	27,092,678	

Product of: [Rhode Island Department of Labor and Training, Labor Market Information](#)
 Employment changes may be influenced by non-economic code changes resulting from NAICS revisions and/or changes in employers' reporting method.

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