



Rhode Island Department of Labor and Training

Quarterly Census of Rhode Island Employment & Wages

Third Quarter 2006 Analysis



Rhode Island total employment averaged 482,305 in the third quarter of 2006, an increase of 2,671 (+0.6%) jobs from the third quarter of 2005. Private sector employment accounted for 2,075 new positions, while the government sector added 596 jobs. Government employment posted gains at the local (+548) and federal (+51) level, while state government reported a loss of 3 jobs.

Private Sector Analysis

The Health Care & Social Assistance sector experienced a gain of 1,451 (+2.0%) positions in the third quarter of 2006 when compared to the third quarter of 2005. The Ambulatory Health Care Services (+775) and Hospitals (+327) sub-sectors were responsible for 75.9 percent of the job growth within the Health Care sector. Employment in the Construction sector grew by 1,097 (+4.7%), representing the second largest employment gain among the nineteen private industry sectors. The Specialty Trade Contractors sub-sector increased by 1,087 positions from the third quarter of 2005. Finance & Insurance (+676), Management of Companies & Enterprises (+641) and Education (+612) also experienced significant employment growth during this period.

Job losses were reported in six of the nineteen private industry sectors. A significant employment decline was reported in the Manufacturing sector, which lost 2,291 (-4.2%) positions in the third quarter of 2006 when compared to the third quarter of 2005. Miscellaneous Manufacturing (-675) and Transportation Equipment Manufacturing (-418) were the two Manufacturing sub-sectors which reported the largest employment declines. Retail Trade (-858), Accommodation & Food Services (-165), Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing & Hunting (-39), Other Services (-23), and Transportation & Warehousing (-9) were the remaining private sectors to experience job losses during this period.

Overall, Health Care & Social Assistance (74,533) was the largest private employment sector in the third quarter of 2006. Despite the employment declines, Manufacturing (51,965), Retail Trade (51,367) and Accommodation & Food Services (45,502) represented the second, third and fourth largest private employment sectors, respectively.

Private sector employees earned over \$4 billion in wages during the third quarter of 2006, an increase of \$174 million (+4.5%) from the third quarter of 2005. The average weekly wage in the private sector increased by \$28, from \$702 earned in the third quarter of 2005 to \$730 earned in the third quarter of 2006, a 4.0 percent increase.

Employees in the Professional & Technical Services sector earned an average weekly wage of \$1,574, the highest weekly wage among the nineteen private industry sectors. The Utilities (\$1,439), Management of Companies Enterprises (\$1,287), Information (\$1,072), and Finance & Insurance (\$1,017) sectors also reported significant weekly earnings.

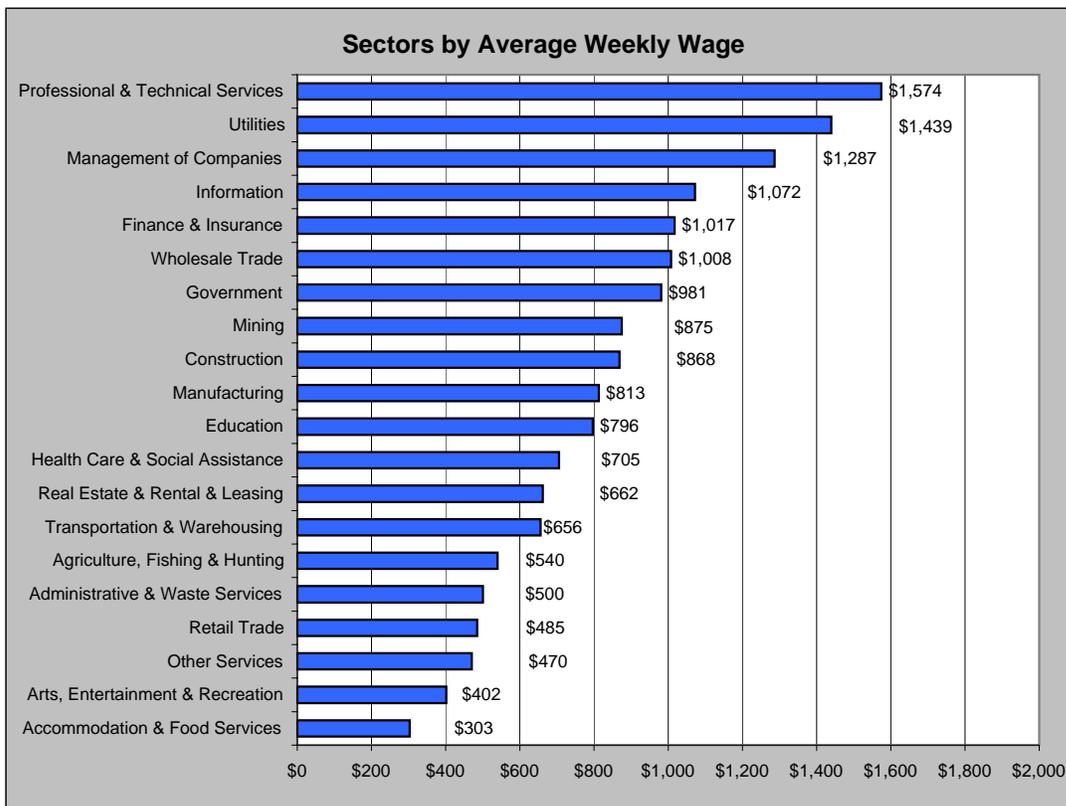
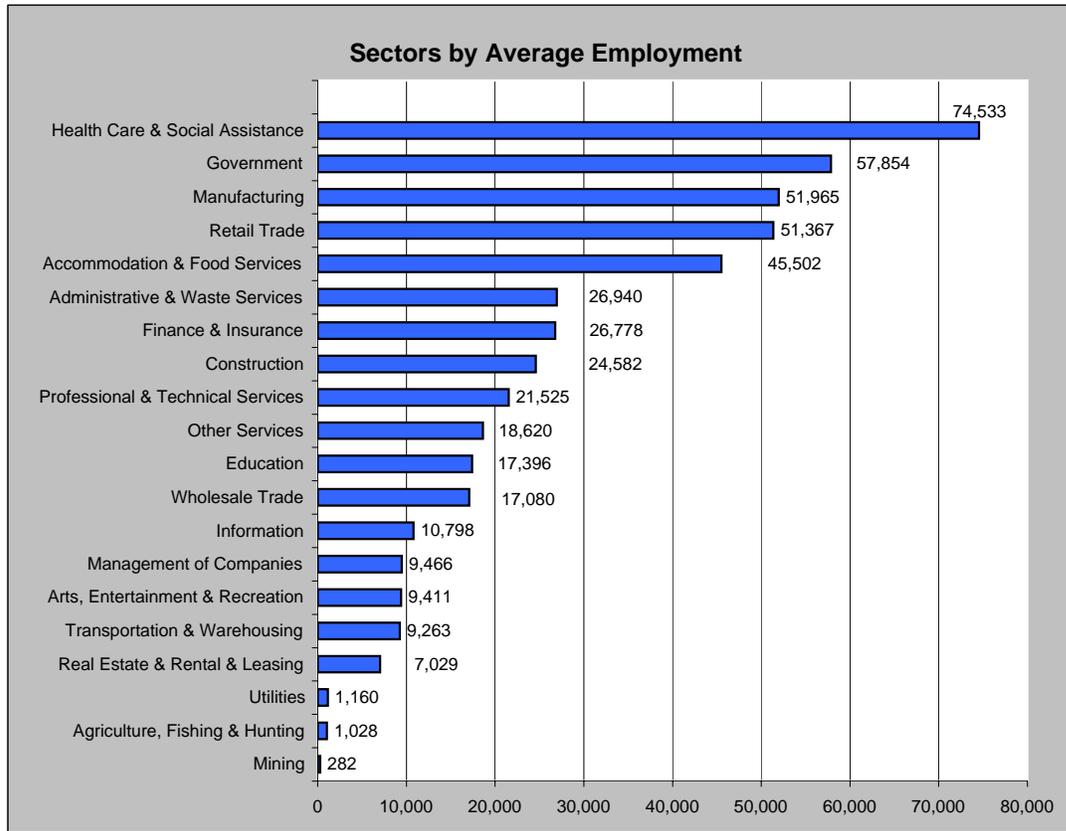
The Professional & Technical Services sector experienced the largest weekly wage increase, with the average weekly wage increasing by \$546 in the third quarter of 2006 when compared to the third quarter of 2005. *Quarterly bonuses and exercised stock options are included in the calculation and therefore may impact the average weekly wage and weekly wage increase.* The weekly wage in the Utilities sector grew by \$167, representing the second largest weekly wage increase. Management of Companies & Enterprises (+\$54), Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing & Hunting (+\$30) and Transportation & Warehousing (+\$26) complete the top five sectors in weekly wage growth during this period.

Third Quarter 2006

	No. of Units	July	August	September	Average Employment	Total Wages	Taxable Wages	Contributions
Total	36,024	476,589	479,137	491,188	482,305	4,767,068,642	910,523,199	32,012,666
Private	35,341	422,157	424,662	426,532	424,450	4,029,035,384	908,265,667	31,964,293
State	107	17,262	17,200	17,133	17,198	221,571,806	56,944	998
Local	425	27,251	27,311	37,621	30,728	344,059,641	2,200,588	47,375
Federal	151	9,919	9,964	9,902	9,928	172,401,811	0	0
Total Government	683	54,432	54,475	64,656	57,854	738,033,258	2,257,532	48,373
Total UI Covered	35,873	466,670	469,173	481,286	472,376	4,594,666,831	910,523,199	32,012,666

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A 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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Auxiliary aids & services are available upon request to individuals with disabilities. TDD: (401) 462-8006

Source: Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages, developed through a cooperative program between the State of Rhode Island and the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics