



# Rhode Island Department of Labor and Training

## Quarterly Census of Rhode Island Employment & Wages

Fourth Quarter 2009 Analysis



Rhode Island total employment averaged 449,852 in the fourth quarter of 2009, a decrease of 18,093 (-3.9%) jobs from the fourth quarter of 2008. Private sector employment suffered a loss of 17,214 (-4.2%) jobs, while the Government payroll was cut by 878 (-1.4%) jobs. State government reported a gain of 187 (+1.2%), positions while federal government added 139 (+1.4%) jobs. Local government experienced a large loss of 1,204 (-3.2%) positions during the period.

### Private Sector Analysis

Manufacturers cut 5,753 (-12.3%) positions in the fourth quarter 2009 when compared to the same quarter a year ago. The hardest hit Manufacturing sub-sectors were Miscellaneous Manufacturing, which shed 1,599 (-19.0%) jobs, followed by Fabricated Metal Product Manufacturing (-892). Overall, sixteen of the nineteen private industry sectors reported job losses during this period, including Construction (-3,053), Retail Trade (-2,226), Accommodation & Food Services (-1,291) and Finance & Insurance (-1,127). Construction lost 15.3 percent of its workforce when compared to third quarter 2008, the largest loss on a percentage basis, followed by Manufacturing (-12.3%).

Despite the dismal economic news, two sectors did add employment to their payrolls in the fourth quarter 2009. The Health Care & Social Assistance sector added 771 (+1.0 %) positions from the fourth quarter of 2008. The remaining private sector to report job growth during this period was Educational Services (+38). The Utilities sector employment remained even.

Overall, Health Care & Social Assistance (77,669) represented the largest private employment sector in the fourth quarter of 2009. Retail Trade (47,868) represented the second largest private employment sector, followed by Manufacturing (41,062), Accommodation & Food Services (40,693) and Finance & Insurance (23,267).

Private sector employees earned over \$4.3 billion in wages during the fourth quarter of 2009, a decrease of over \$77 million (-4.2%) from the fourth quarter of 2008. The average weekly wage in the private sector increased by \$22, from \$850 in the fourth quarter of 2008 to \$872 in the fourth quarter of 2009, a 2.6 percent increase.

Employees in the Management of Companies & Enterprises sector earned an average weekly wage of \$1,694 during the fourth quarter of 2009. Workers in Utilities (\$1,586), Finance & Insurance (\$1,527), Professional & Technical Services (\$1,354), Wholesale Trade (\$1,287), Information (\$1,208), Construction (\$1,114) and Manufacturing (\$1,002) also earned an average weekly wage in excess of one thousand dollars.

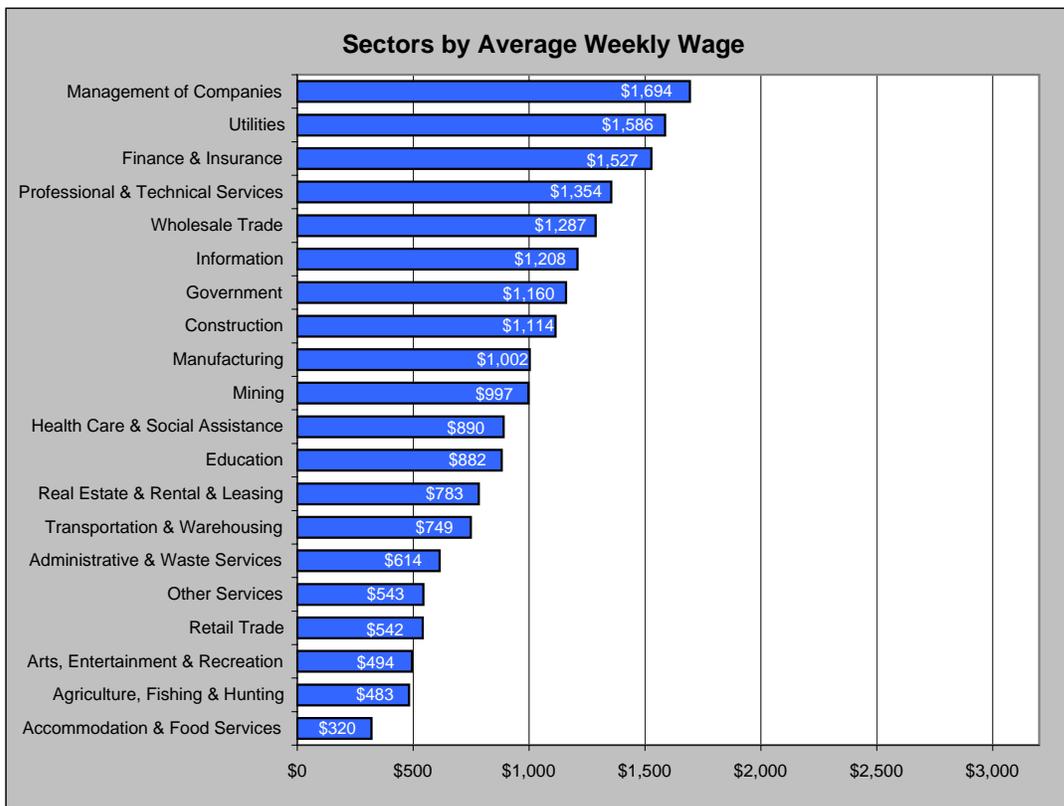
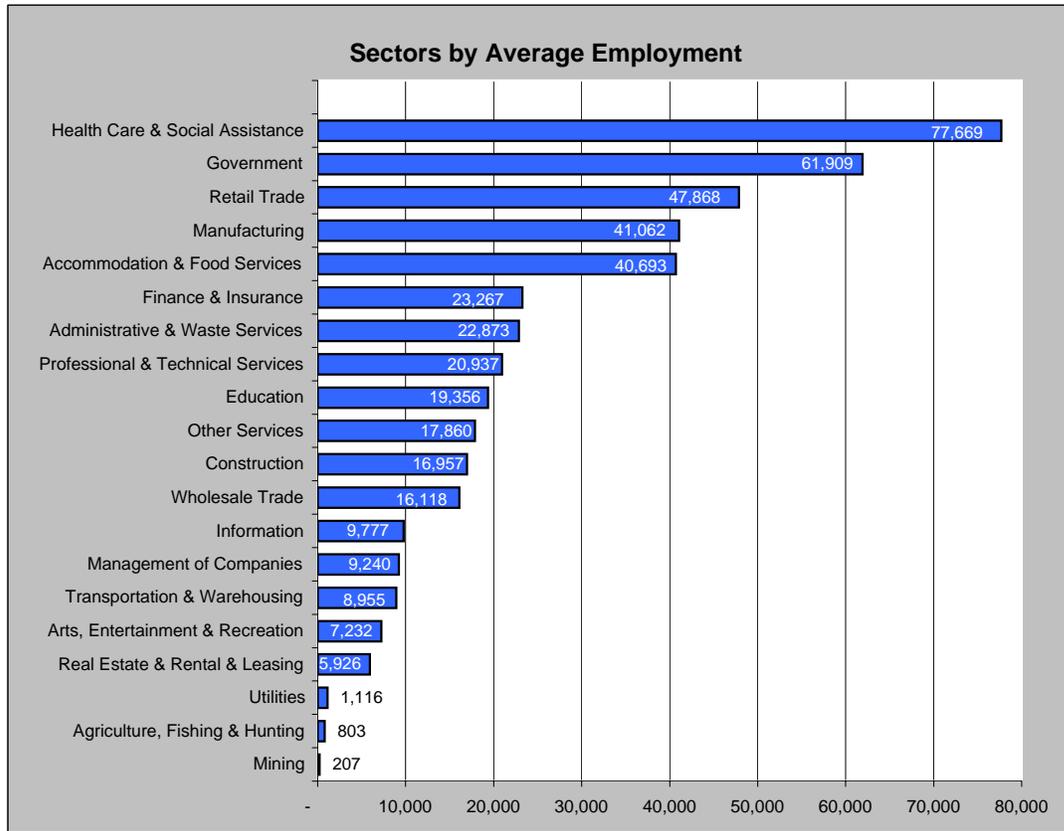
The Information & Mining sector's each experienced the largest average weekly wage increase, with wages increasing by \$97 in the fourth quarter of 2009 when compared to the fourth quarter of 2008. Mining (+10.8%) also represented the largest wage increase on a percentage basis. Health Care & Social Assistance (+\$60), Manufacturing (+\$54), and Retail Trade (+\$33) complete the top five sectors in average weekly earnings growth during this period. *Quarterly bonuses and exercised stock options are included in the calculation and therefore may impact the average weekly wage.*

### Fourth Quarter 2009

	No. of Units	October	November	December	Average Employment	Total Wages	Taxable Wages	Contributions
<b>Total</b>	<b>35,295</b>	<b>451,652</b>	<b>449,443</b>	<b>448,462</b>	<b>449,852</b>	<b>5,331,710,689</b>	<b>608,835,489</b>	<b>21,267,724</b>
<b>Private</b>	<b>34,586</b>	<b>389,731</b>	<b>387,477</b>	<b>386,623</b>	<b>387,944</b>	<b>4,398,495,593</b>	<b>607,453,832</b>	<b>21,234,659</b>
<b>State</b>	<b>107</b>	<b>16,040</b>	<b>15,722</b>	<b>15,706</b>	<b>15,823</b>	<b>242,670,885</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>Local</b>	<b>414</b>	<b>35,613</b>	<b>36,031</b>	<b>35,997</b>	<b>35,880</b>	<b>488,850,693</b>	<b>1,381,657</b>	<b>33,065</b>
<b>Federal</b>	<b>188</b>	<b>10,268</b>	<b>10,213</b>	<b>10,136</b>	<b>10,206</b>	<b>201,693,518</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>Total Government</b>	<b>709</b>	<b>61,921</b>	<b>61,966</b>	<b>61,839</b>	<b>61,909</b>	<b>933,215,096</b>	<b>1,381,657</b>	<b>33,065</b>
<b>Total UI Covered</b>	<b>35,107</b>	<b>441,384</b>	<b>439,230</b>	<b>438,326</b>	<b>439,647</b>	<b>5,130,017,171</b>	<b>608,835,489</b>	<b>21,267,724</b>

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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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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