



# Rhode Island Department of Labor and Training

## Quarterly Census of Rhode Island Employment & Wages

### Fourth Quarter 2008 City/Town Analysis



Rhode Island total employment averaged 467,945 in the fourth quarter of 2008, a decrease of 14,295 (-3.0%) jobs from the fourth quarter of 2007. Private sector employment suffered a loss of 13,360 (-3.2%) jobs, while the Government payroll was cut by 935 (-1.5%) jobs. State government reported a loss of 954, positions while local government lost 165 jobs. Federal government experienced a modest gain of 184 positions during the period.

#### City/Town Analysis - Private sector

Private sector employment in Warwick experienced a loss of 2,265 (-4.7%) positions between the fourth quarter of 2007 and fourth quarter of 2008, the largest employment decline among all Rhode Island communities. Finance & Insurance lost 599 (-16.8%) jobs from the fourth quarter 2007, followed by the Retail Trade sector, which declined by 420 (-4.7%) positions. Providence (-1,779), Pawtucket (-1,229), Cranston (-1,194) and Lincoln (-999) also reported sizable employment declines during this period.

Scituate (-11.7%), Little Compton (-11.4%) and West Greenwich (-10.7%) experienced the largest employment decline on a percentage basis.

Smithfield added 256 (+2.0%) private sector jobs between the fourth quarter of 2007 and fourth quarter of 2008, the largest employment gain among Rhode Island's thirty-nine cities and towns. Significant employment gains within the town were noted in the Finance & Insurance (+531) and Accommodation & Food Services (+40) sectors.

North Kingstown experienced the second largest employment increase, adding 42 (+0.3%) private sector jobs from the fourth quarter of 2007. The Retail Trade sector added 116 jobs during this period. Additional cities and towns to report employment gains during this period were Hopkinton (+21), Burrillville (+7) and Narragansett (+6).

Private sector employees earned almost \$4.5 billion in wages during the fourth quarter of 2008, an increase of \$106.6 million (+2.4%) from the fourth quarter of 2007. The average weekly wage in the private sector increased by \$47, from \$803 in the fourth quarter of 2007 to \$850 in the fourth quarter of 2008, a 5.8 percent increase.

Employees working in Smithfield earned an average weekly wage of \$1,535 in the fourth quarter of 2008, the highest private sector weekly wage among all Rhode Island cities and towns. West Greenwich (\$1,155), Portsmouth (\$1,009), Cumberland (\$962) and Providence (\$962) also reported sizable weekly earnings. *Quarterly bonuses and exercised stock options are included in the calculation and therefore may impact the average weekly wage.*

#### Top Ten Cities and Towns by Average Employment – Private Sector Fourth Quarter 2008

<u>Municipality</u>	<u>Establishments</u>	<u>Average Employment</u>	<u>Total Wages</u>	<u>Average Weekly Wage</u>
<b>Providence</b>	5,541	96,909	\$1,211,970,230	\$962
<b>Warwick</b>	3,304	46,125	\$445,696,578	\$743
<b>Cranston</b>	2,560	28,273	\$275,255,989	\$749
<b>Pawtucket</b>	1,568	22,732	\$231,653,234	\$784
<b>East Providence</b>	1,489	20,242	\$218,163,795	\$829
<b>Woonsocket</b>	839	13,648	\$139,510,010	\$786
<b>North Kingstown</b>	1,045	13,498	\$145,726,264	\$830
<b>Smithfield</b>	824	13,060	\$260,668,522	\$1,535
<b>Lincoln</b>	776	13,008	\$144,996,265	\$857
<b>Newport</b>	1,262	12,837	\$123,358,767	\$739

**Rhode Island Department of Labor & Training**  
**Quarterly Census of Employment & Wages - Private Sector**  
**RI City and Town - Fourth Quarter 2008**

<u>Municipality</u>	<u>Establishments</u>	<u>Average Employment</u>	<u>Total Wages</u>	<u>Average Weekly Wage</u>
Rhode Island	35,171	405,158	\$4,476,077,982	\$850
Barrington	461	2,380	19,773,844	\$639
Bristol	617	6,514	58,360,493	\$689
Burrillville	291	2,421	21,428,771	\$681
Central Falls	231	2,118	17,693,919	\$643
Charlestown	235	1,470	13,383,278	\$700
Coventry	747	6,892	55,256,413	\$617
Cranston	2,560	28,273	275,255,989	\$749
Cumberland	882	7,846	98,161,194	\$962
East Greenwich	744	6,445	66,073,686	\$789
East Providence	1,489	20,242	218,163,795	\$829
Exeter	184	1,145	9,210,371	\$619
Foster	97	353	2,660,752	\$580
Glocester	194	1,150	8,716,627	\$583
Hopkinton	208	1,089	9,887,453	\$698
Jamestown	212	970	9,475,387	\$751
Johnston	1,080	10,130	109,373,108	\$831
Lincoln	776	13,008	144,996,265	\$857
Little Compton	137	468	4,082,140	\$671
Middletown	765	10,024	100,633,169	\$772
Narragansett	472	3,097	23,554,511	\$585
Newport	1,262	12,837	123,358,767	\$739
New Shoreham	202	532	4,861,709	\$703
North Kingstown	1,045	13,498	145,726,264	\$830
North Providence	720	6,906	57,763,008	\$643
North Smithfield	376	3,485	31,504,940	\$695
Pawtucket	1,568	22,732	231,653,234	\$784
Portsmouth	522	5,474	71,815,171	\$1,009
Providence	5,541	96,909	1,211,970,230	\$962
Richmond	143	1,137	8,186,128	\$554
Scituate	250	890	6,695,425	\$579
Smithfield	824	13,060	260,668,522	\$1,535
South Kingstown	1,021	9,809	95,684,272	\$750
Tiverton	394	2,120	18,644,403	\$677
Warren	389	3,709	32,041,296	\$665
Warwick	3,304	46,125	445,696,578	\$743
Westerly	875	8,492	77,264,714	\$700
West Greenwich	193	2,943	44,183,214	\$1,155
West Warwick	608	7,600	74,078,467	\$750
Woonsocket	839	13,648	139,510,010	\$786
Statewide *	2,713	7,210	\$128,630,465	\$1,372

\* Statewide - employment in multiple towns, at unknown locations, or outside RI.

Data compiled July 2009 at the RI DLT Labor Market Information office.

The data is subject to revisions & variations in sequences of rounding & averaging.

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

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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