



# Quarterly Census of RI Employment and Wages

## 2002-2003 Comparison



Rhode Island total employment (472,558) increased by 4,107 jobs in 2003, a 0.8 percent increase from total employment in 2002. Private sector employment accounted for over 89 percent of the employment gain, by adding 3,663 jobs, compared to the Government sector (federal, state, and local) which added 444 jobs. The Private sector (407,742) represents 86.3 percent of total covered employment, while the Government (64,816) represents 13.7 percent of total covered employment.

Health Care & Social Assistance (70,053) was the leading employment sector in Rhode Island in 2003, followed by Government (64,816), Manufacturing (58,410), Retail Trade (53,064) and Accommodation & Food Services (41,712). Together, these five sectors (288,055) combined for over 60 percent of the state's total employment.

Health Care & Social Assistance (+1,905) led all sectors in employment growth, up 2.8 percent from its 2002 level. The Construction sector (+1,472) received a boost from the Specialty Trade Contractors sub-sector, which increased by 1,107 positions from last years total. Accommodation & Food Services reported an addition of 1,208 jobs, a 3 percent increase from 2002.

Manufacturing (-3,749) employment dropped for the nineteenth straight year, down 6 percent from its 2002 total. Miscellaneous Manufacturing (-1,035), Fabricated Metal Product Manufacturing (-786) and Printing & Related Support Activities (-398) experienced the largest employment declines within the Manufacturing sector. Administrative & Waste Services (-536), Information (-123) and Mining (-40) were the only other sectors to lose employment in 2003.

Rhode Island workers earned wages in excess of \$17.2 billion in 2003, a 5.6 percent increase from wages paid in 2002. Private sector wages grew in excess of \$787 million (+5.9%), while Government wages increased by \$119 million (+4.2%). The average annual Private wage in 2003 was \$34,860, an increase of \$1,634 (+4.9) from the \$33,226 earned in 2002. This was the largest percentage gain in Private sector wages since 1998. Government (\$46,074) wages were up \$1,533, a 3.5 percent increase from last year.

Workers in the Management of Companies & Enterprise sector earned an average annual wage of \$83,801, a \$19,959 (+31.3%) increase from last year. Bonus earnings throughout the course of the year contributed to the substantial wage increase. Utilities (\$70,204), Finance & Insurance (\$53,885), Information (\$52,770) and Professional & Technical Services (\$52,631) round out the top five sectors in average annual wages.

Accommodation & Food Services (\$14,099) and Arts, Entertainment & Recreation (\$20,548) reported the lowest annual wage, reflecting the seasonal and part time nature of these sectors.

### Quarterly Census of Rhode Island Employment and Wages 2003 Statewide Employment by NAICS

	Number of Units	Average Employment	Total Wages	Average Annual Wage
<b>Total Employment</b>	34,504	472,558	\$17,200,007,014	\$36,396
<b>Total Private Only</b>	33,812	407,742	\$14,213,661,442	\$34,860
<b>Total Government</b>	693	64,816	\$2,986,345,572	\$46,074

*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 methods.*

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## 2003 Statewide Annual Average

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