



FACT SHEET

National Institute for Labor Relations Research

5211 Port Royal Road, Suite 510 • Springfield, VA 22151 • Phone: (703) 321-9606 • Fax: (703) 321-7342 • research@nilrr.org • www.nilrr.org

October 2004

Right to Work States Benefit From Faster Growth, Higher Real Purchasing Power – 2004 Update

Percentage Growth in Non-Farm Private-Sector Employees (1993-2003)	Right to Work States	24.1%
	Forced-Unionism States.	14.2%
	National Average	17.7%
<small>Source: Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS)</small>		
Average After-Tax Weekly Pay, Adjusted for Cost of Living (2001)	Right to Work States	\$469
	Forced-Unionism States	\$444
	National Average	\$453
<small>BLS; Bureau of National Affairs (BNA); AFT/AFL-CIO; Tax Foundation</small>		
Percentage Growth in Construction Employment (1993-2003)	Right to Work States	49%
	Forced-Unionism States.	43%
	National Average	45%
<small>BLS</small>		
Share of Households Who Own Their Own Homes (2003)	Right to Work States	70%
	Forced-Unionism States.	67%
	National Average	68%
<small>Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census (BOC)</small>		
Percentage Growth in Manufacturing Establishments (1982-2001)	Right to Work States	+7.0%
	Forced-Unionism States.	- 4.9%
	National Average	- 1.5%
<small>BOC</small>		
Cost of Living-Adjusted Average Per Capita Personal Income In Metro Areas (2002)	Right to Work States	\$25,900
	Forced-Unionism States.	\$22,926
	National Average	\$24,104
<small>Cities Ranked and Rated by Bert Sperling and Peter Sander</small>		
Percentage Growth in Patents Annually Granted (1993-2003)	Right to Work States	74%
	Forced-Unionism States.	64%
	National Average	65%
<small>U.S. Patent and Trademark Office</small>		
Percentage Growth in Real Personal Income (1993-2003)	Right to Work States	37%
	Forced-Unionism States.	26%
	National Average	29%
<small>Department of Commerce, Bureau of Economic Analysis (BEA); BLS</small>		

(continued on page 2)

(page 2)

Aggregate Poverty Rate, Adjusted for Cost of Living (1999-2001 average)	Right to Work States	12.3%
	Forced-Unionism States.	12.6%
	National Average	12.5%
<small>Study by Charles Nelson and Kathleen Short for BOC</small>		
Aggregate Child (Aged 5-17) Poverty Rate, Adjusted for Cost of Living (1999-2001)	Right to Work States	12.8%
	Forced-Unionism States.	13.3%
	National Average	13.1%
<small>BOC study by Nelson and Short</small>		
New Privately-Owned Single-Unit Housing Authorized Per 1000 Residents (2002)	Right to Work States	6.3
	Forced-Unionism States.	3.6
	National Average	4.6
<small>BOC</small>		
Percentage Growth in Real Value Added By Manufacture Per Production Worker (1991-2001)	Right to Work States	17.1%
	Forced-Unionism States.	8.4%
	National Average	11.1%
<small>BOC, BLS</small>		
Percentage Growth in Number of People Covered by Private Health Insurance (1993-2003)	Right to Work States	13.6%
	Forced-Unionism States.	5.9%
	National Average	8.5%
<small>BOC</small>		
Percentage Growth in Number of Children Covered by Private Health Insurance (1993-2003)	Right to Work States	7.1%
	Forced-Unionism States.	1.4%
	National Average	3.1%
<small>BOC</small>		

Figures that compare years prior to Idaho's implementation of the 21st state Right to Work law in 1986 or Oklahoma's adoption of the 22nd Right to Work law in 2001 with more recent years exclude Idaho and/or Oklahoma.

To obtain more detailed information about how any or all of the above comparative economic data were derived, contact Stan Greer – e-mail stg@nrtw.org or call 703-321-9606.