

***Insurance Times:*** RI's disability tax to increase by 12% in 2002  
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PROVIDENCE, R.I. (AP) — The maximum tax that Rhode Island workers pay under the state's Temporary Disability Insurance program will increase by 12 percent next year.

Starting in January, the tax will increase to \$660 from \$588, a hike of about \$1.38 a week.

The amount subject to tax will also be raised, to \$44,000 from \$42,000.

The tax is used to pay benefits to insured workers who become unemployed by a disability that is not work related.

State officials say the raise is needed to pay for an increase in benefits payments.

Most people who work in Rhode Island, including those who live out-of-state, pay the tax.

Those exempt from paying it are federal, state and some municipal employees, as well as partners and non-incorporated self-employed workers.