



Rhode Island Employment Trends and Workforce Issues



2015

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Labor Market Information Unit**

Cover: *Temple to Music, Roger Williams Park, Providence, RI*

Rhode Island Employment Trends and Workforce Issues

Rhode Island Department of Labor & Training Labor Market Information Unit

**1511 Pontiac Ave.
Cranston, RI 02920
(401) 462-8740
www.dlt.ri.gov/lmi
dlt.lmi@dlt.ri.gov**

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Rhode Island Employment by Size of Firm

The Rhode Island economy is characterized by a large number of small companies employing a small number of workers. In March 2016, there were 33,209 private businesses in the state employing 404,181 workers.

Nearly half the employers (49.9%) in the state have between one and four employees; however, they employ just 7.6 percent of the workforce. The largest employers, those with 1,000 or more employees, numbered 32 (0.1%) and employed 16.6 percent of Rhode Island's private sector workforce.

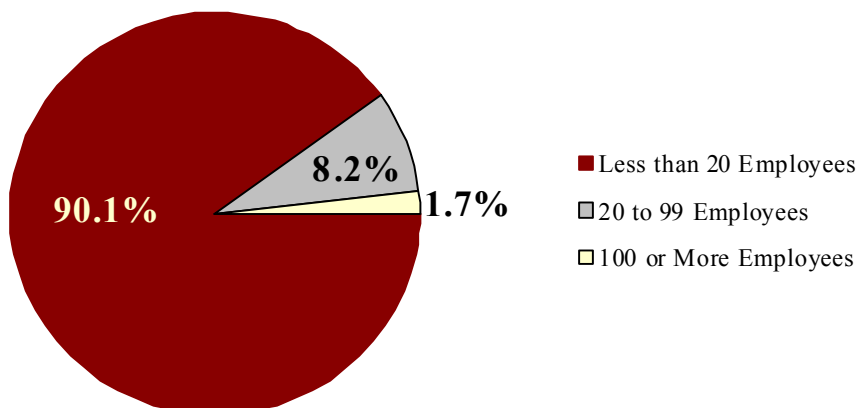
- Smaller employers, those with less than 20 employees, represented 90.1 percent of all employers in the state and employed one quarter (24.5%) of the workforce.
- Mid-sized companies (20 to 99 workers) employed 26.9 percent of the private sector employment and accounted for 8.2 percent of the firms.
- There are just 585 (1.7%) firms in the state employing 100 or more workers. Together, these firms employ nearly half (48.6%) of the state's private sector employees.

The state's 32 largest firms (1,000 or more employees) are found in the Health Care & Social Assistance (8), Finance & Insurance (7), Private Education (5), Retail Trade (5), Transportation & Warehousing (2), Management of Companies & Enterprises (2), Manufacturing (1), Administrative & Waste Services (1) and Arts, Entertainment & Recreation (1) sectors.

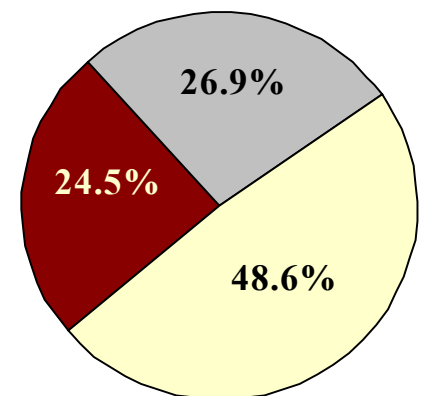
Size Class	Employers*		Employment	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Total:	33,209	100.0%	404,181	100.0%
Zero	5,944	17.9%	0	0.0%
1-4	16,563	49.9%	30,836	7.6%
5-9	4,579	13.8%	30,230	7.5%
10-19	2,821	8.5%	38,026	9.4%
20-49	2,032	6.1%	61,250	15.2%
50-99	685	2.1%	47,471	11.7%
100-249	404	1.2%	61,704	15.3%
250-499	106	0.3%	36,767	9.1%
500-999	43	0.1%	30,757	7.6%
1000+	32	0.1%	67,140	16.6%

*Based on size of firm

Percentage of Employers by Size Class
March 2016



Percent of Employment by Size Class
March 2016



*Firm refers to the entire business entity. It may have one or more establishments (locations) within the state.

It is important to note that changes in size class data are influenced by the switching of employers from one size class to another as well as by new firms coming into the state.

Rhode Island Private Covered Employers Size Class by Industry March 2016

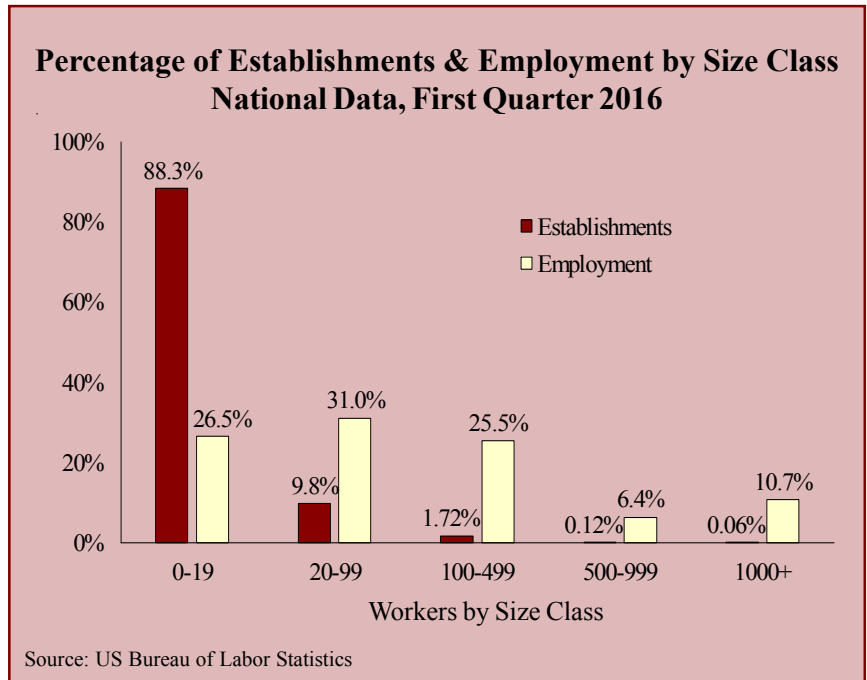
Major Industry	Firms/ Employees	Total	Total Number of Employees									
			0	1-4	5-9	10-19	20-49	50-99	100-249	250-499	500-999	1000+
Total	# of Firms	33,209	5,944	16,563	4,579	2,821	2,032	685	404	106	43	32
	# of Employees	404,181	0	30,836	30,230	38,026	61,250	47,471	61,704	36,767	30,757	67,140
Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing & Hunting	# of Firms	161	46	84	15	2	4					
	# of Employees	520	0	171	105	*	99					
Mining	# of Firms	18	4	5	2	4	3					
	# of Employees	187	0	10	*	66	100					
Utilities	# of Firms	32	6	10	4	6	4	1			1	
	# of Employees	1,063	0	19	27	80	124	*			*	
Construction	# of Firms	3,532	888	1,816	440	226	127	26	9			
	# of Employees	16,051	0	3,582	2,832	2,954	3,558	1,907	1,218			
Manufacturing	# of Firms	1,569	134	515	287	231	232	92	58	15	4	1
	# of Employees	40,376	0	1,146	1,915	3,258	7,174	6,553	8,997	5,042	*	*
Wholesale Trade	# of Firms	2,889	511	1,749	286	169	122	30	19	3		
	# of Employees	16,458	0	2,756	1,877	2,224	3,642	2,149	2,636	1,174		
Retail Trade	# of Firms	2,962	360	1,394	570	279	211	82	39	15	7	5
	# of Employees	48,264	0	3,033	3,809	3,765	6,410	5,451	5,944	5,675	4,639	9,538
Transportation & Warehousing	# of Firms	692	130	346	84	54	50	14	11		1	2
	# of Employees	8,845	0	616	568	707	1,574	992	1,602		*	*
Information	# of Firms	746	234	361	63	36	29	11	7	4	1	
	# of Employees	6,122	0	544	407	476	823	736	839	*	*	
Finance & Insurance	# of Firms	1,349	228	754	166	77	59	25	20	9	4	7
	# of Employees	29,485	0	1,333	1,087	1,013	1,830	1,826	3,045	3,276	2,801	13,274
Real Estate & Rental & Leasing	# of Firms	1,009	176	569	137	71	37	14	3	2		
	# of Employees	5,981	0	1,076	920	965	1,097	893	379	*		
Professional & Technical Services	# of Firms	4,836	1,114	2,777	480	252	138	52	16	5	2	
	# of Employees	24,687	0	4,576	3,125	3,351	4,152	3,616	2,486	1,734	*	
Managemt. of Companies & Enterprises	# of Firms	214	49	114	19	14	6	3	4	2	1	2
	# of Employees	10,131	0	165	127	197	189	264	700	*	*	*
Administrative & Waste Services	# of Firms	2,644	824	1,139	276	174	135	44	40	9	2	1
	# of Employees	25,365	0	2,059	1,812	2,376	4,052	3,219	6,543	2,782	*	*
Educational Services	# of Firms	588	129	231	74	43	63	24	15	1	3	5
	# of Employees	19,564	0	399	475	589	2,006	1,515	2,285	*	*	9,911
Health Care & Social Assistance	# of Firms	3,329	223	1,710	572	338	206	122	107	30	13	8
	# of Employees	81,265	0	3,379	3,806	4,521	6,259	8,503	16,281	10,328	9,451	18,737
Arts, Entertainment, & Recreation	# of Firms	583	114	232	82	79	53	12	10			1
	# of Employees	7,739	0	432	542	1,021	1,606	783	*			*
Accommodation & Food Services	# of Firms	2,629	332	658	493	533	450	116	35	9	3	
	# of Employees	44,275	0	1,585	3,357	7,403	13,380	7,863	5,418	2,957	2,312	
Other services, (except Public)	# of Firms	3,187	371	1,935	524	223	103	17	11	2	1	
	# of Employees	17,548	0	3,735	3,393	2,915	3,175	1,132	1,660	*	*	
Unclassified Establishments	# of Firms	240	71	164	5							
	# of Employees	255	0	220	35							

* Not shown due to the possibility of data being identified with an individual employer.
Data subject to revision. Numbers may not add due to rounding variations.
Based on size of firm.

National Employment by Size of Establishment*

Nationally, small establishments comprise an overwhelming majority of the nation's businesses. In 2016, 88.3 percent of the establishments in the US had fewer than 20 workers. Establishments employing between 20 and 99 workers accounted for 9.8 percent of US establishments, and those employing over 100 workers accounted for only 1.9 percent of establishments nationwide.

- Small establishments (fewer than 20 workers) dominate the economies of all states, ranging from a high of 91.4 percent in Montana to 84.6 percent in Ohio.
- In 2016, 89.1 percent of Rhode Island establishments employed less than 20 workers, ranking the state 13 in terms of its percentage of small establishments.
- The New England states all share a similar percentage of small establishments, with the greatest percentage found in Maine (90.6%) and lowest in Connecticut (88.4%).
- In Rhode Island, 28.8 percent of the state's jobs are in small establishments, compared to 26.5 percent nationally.



- The states with the greatest percentages of large establishments (100 employees or more) are Tennessee (2.67%), Ohio (2.65%) and Indiana (2.57%) compared to a US average of 1.90 percent. Wyoming (0.75%) and Montana (0.81%) have the smallest percentages of large establishments.
- Rhode Island (1.63%), ranked 35th in the nation in the percentage of large establishments within each state. Included among the 14 states ranked below Rhode Island are New Hampshire (1.57%), Vermont (1.33%) and Maine (1.27%), while Massachusetts (1.93%) and Connecticut (1.90%) ranked higher.
- In Rhode Island, 39.1 percent of the jobs are in large establishments compared to 42.6 percent nationally.
- While the percentage of establishments is skewed towards the smaller size classes, the distribution of employment is more balanced. Nationally, 26.5 percent of employees are found in establishments of the smallest size class (zero to 19 employees), 31.0 percent are found in establishments employing 20 to 99 workers and 42.6 percent of employees work in an establishment with greater than 100 workers.
- Over 15 percent of establishments and 11.9 percent of employment in the US is located in California, followed by Florida (6.9% of establishments, 6.1% of employment), New York (6.7% of establishments, 6.4% of employment) and Texas (6.5% of establishments, 8.3% of employment). Alaska (0.21%) has the lowest percentage of establishments, while Wyoming (0.17%) has the lowest percentage of employment.

*Establishment refers to the separate location of firms with multiple locations, i.e. supermarkets, banks, department stores. The total employment level of a multi-establishment company (firm) is not available for all states from the Bureau of Labor Statistics. Therefore, the state comparisons are done by size of establishment.

Private Industry - Establishments*, First Quarter 2016

Total All Industries	Total Percent of US Estab.	0-19 Workers Percent of Estab.	20-99 Workers Percent of Estab.	100-499 Workers Percent of Estab.	500-999 Workers Percent of Estab.	1,000+ Workers Percent of Estab.
US Total	100.0%	88.3%	9.8%	1.72%	0.12%	0.06%
Alabama	1.2%	86.5%	11.5%	1.78%	0.12%	0.05%
Alaska	0.2%	88.7%	9.4%	1.70%	0.07%	0.06%
Arizona	1.6%	87.0%	10.5%	2.13%	0.20%	0.10%
Arkansas	0.9%	88.8%	9.6%	1.41%	0.11%	0.06%
California	15.2%	91.0%	7.6%	1.28%	0.09%	0.05%
Colorado	2.0%	88.4%	9.9%	1.47%	0.09%	0.05%
Connecticut	1.2%	88.4%	9.7%	1.75%	0.09%	0.06%
Delaware	0.3%	89.3%	8.8%	1.66%	0.09%	0.08%
District of Columbia	0.4%	88.8%	9.0%	2.00%	0.15%	0.08%
Florida	6.9%	89.6%	8.7%	1.54%	0.10%	0.04%
Georgia	3.1%	88.3%	9.7%	1.81%	0.12%	0.06%
Hawaii	0.4%	86.8%	11.3%	1.70%	0.15%	0.04%
Idaho	0.6%	89.7%	9.0%	1.18%	0.08%	0.03%
Illinois	4.3%	89.2%	8.7%	1.83%	0.14%	0.08%
Indiana	1.7%	85.0%	12.4%	2.31%	0.18%	0.08%
Iowa	1.0%	87.2%	10.8%	1.75%	0.12%	0.06%
Kansas	0.9%	87.4%	10.5%	1.86%	0.11%	0.06%
Kentucky	1.2%	87.7%	10.3%	1.84%	0.13%	0.06%
Louisiana	1.3%	86.4%	11.7%	1.76%	0.12%	0.05%
Maine	0.5%	90.6%	8.1%	1.17%	0.07%	0.03%
Maryland	1.8%	87.3%	10.8%	1.80%	0.08%	0.05%
Massachusetts	2.5%	88.8%	9.2%	1.74%	0.12%	0.07%
Michigan	2.5%	87.0%	10.5%	2.28%	0.17%	0.10%
Minnesota	1.6%	86.0%	11.6%	2.21%	0.16%	0.09%
Mississippi	0.7%	87.7%	10.5%	1.62%	0.12%	0.05%
Missouri	2.0%	88.1%	10.1%	1.64%	0.12%	0.06%
Montana	0.5%	91.4%	7.8%	0.77%	0.02%	0.02%
Nebraska	0.7%	88.8%	9.6%	1.41%	0.11%	0.06%
Nevada	0.9%	88.0%	10.1%	1.70%	0.15%	0.10%
New Hampshire	0.5%	89.1%	9.3%	1.43%	0.10%	0.03%
New Jersey	2.8%	88.7%	9.4%	1.75%	0.11%	0.07%
New Mexico	0.6%	88.1%	10.4%	1.48%	0.06%	0.03%
New York	6.7%	89.6%	8.7%	1.51%	0.13%	0.07%
North Carolina	2.8%	86.9%	11.1%	1.77%	0.12%	0.06%
North Dakota	0.3%	87.9%	10.6%	1.41%	0.06%	0.03%
Ohio	3.0%	84.6%	12.8%	2.41%	0.15%	0.09%
Oklahoma	1.1%	87.7%	10.6%	1.56%	0.08%	0.04%
Oregon	1.5%	89.4%	9.2%	1.30%	0.07%	0.03%
Pennsylvania	3.6%	86.3%	11.4%	2.03%	0.15%	0.07%
Rhode Island	0.4%	89.1%	9.3%	1.49%	0.08%	0.06%
South Carolina	1.3%	87.0%	11.0%	1.87%	0.12%	0.06%
South Dakota	0.3%	88.7%	9.9%	1.27%	0.08%	0.02%
Tennessee	1.6%	85.1%	12.3%	2.41%	0.17%	0.08%
Texas	6.5%	84.9%	12.5%	2.30%	0.16%	0.08%
Utah	1.0%	87.8%	10.3%	1.65%	0.12%	0.06%
Vermont	0.2%	89.9%	8.8%	1.17%	0.12%	0.04%
Virginia	2.7%	88.2%	10.1%	1.62%	0.10%	0.05%
Washington	2.5%	89.8%	8.6%	1.47%	0.07%	0.05%
West Virginia	0.5%	88.4%	10.0%	1.37%	0.08%	0.05%
Wisconsin	1.7%	85.9%	11.7%	2.12%	0.16%	0.06%
Wyoming	0.3%	91.3%	8.0%	0.71%	0.03%	0.02%

Source: US Bureau of Labor Statistics

*Based on location of worksite. Firms often have multiple establishments (locations) situated within and across states.

Private Industry - Employment*, First Quarter 2016

Total All Industries	Total Percent of US Empl.	0-19 Workers Percent of Empl.	20-99 Workers Percent of Empl.	100-499 Workers Percent of Empl.	500-999 Workers Percent of Empl.	1,000+ Workers Percent of Empl.
US Total	100.0%	26.5%	31.0%	25.5%	6.4%	10.7%
Alabama	1.3%	29.1%	33.2%	25.2%	6.1%	6.3%
Alaska	0.2%	30.0%	30.6%	27.2%	3.9%	8.3%
Arizona	1.9%	21.6%	27.8%	26.7%	9.1%	14.9%
Arkansas	0.8%	29.3%	31.6%	23.0%	6.3%	9.9%
California	11.9%	28.3%	30.9%	24.1%	6.0%	10.9%
Colorado	1.8%	29.1%	34.1%	24.0%	5.6%	7.3%
Connecticut	1.2%	27.9%	30.7%	25.3%	4.9%	11.2%
Delaware	0.3%	24.9%	29.1%	26.6%	4.9%	14.5%
District of Columbia	0.4%	19.6%	27.6%	29.5%	8.1%	15.3%
Florida	6.1%	28.8%	30.9%	25.5%	6.1%	8.6%
Georgia	3.0%	24.6%	31.2%	27.2%	6.6%	10.4%
Hawaii	0.4%	26.7%	33.5%	24.2%	7.7%	7.9%
Idaho	0.5%	33.3%	33.6%	21.3%	5.2%	6.6%
Illinois	4.2%	22.3%	28.4%	27.2%	7.7%	14.5%
Indiana	2.2%	23.4%	30.4%	26.7%	7.6%	11.8%
Iowa	1.1%	28.5%	31.4%	25.3%	5.9%	9.0%
Kansas	0.9%	26.9%	31.3%	26.5%	5.8%	9.5%
Kentucky	1.3%	25.7%	30.7%	27.1%	6.4%	10.0%
Louisiana	1.4%	28.5%	34.8%	23.8%	6.0%	6.9%
Maine	0.4%	33.9%	32.0%	21.5%	5.2%	7.4%
Maryland	1.8%	27.1%	33.8%	25.8%	4.2%	9.0%
Massachusetts	2.5%	25.5%	29.3%	25.6%	6.3%	13.4%
Michigan	3.0%	22.9%	27.2%	28.2%	7.3%	14.4%
Minnesota	2.0%	22.9%	30.2%	26.9%	7.2%	12.8%
Mississippi	0.7%	29.3%	32.0%	24.1%	6.7%	7.9%
Missouri	1.9%	27.1%	31.6%	24.8%	6.3%	10.2%
Montana	0.3%	42.0%	35.7%	16.4%	1.8%	4.1%
Nebraska	0.7%	29.9%	30.8%	22.9%	6.1%	10.4%
Nevada	0.9%	25.3%	28.2%	22.4%	7.0%	17.1%
New Hampshire	0.5%	31.8%	32.2%	23.9%	5.9%	6.3%
New Jersey	2.8%	27.6%	29.7%	26.1%	5.8%	10.8%
New Mexico	0.5%	30.8%	34.7%	24.0%	3.3%	7.2%
New York	6.4%	26.6%	28.0%	24.1%	7.3%	14.0%
North Carolina	3.0%	26.1%	33.5%	24.8%	6.4%	9.3%
North Dakota	0.3%	32.4%	35.7%	22.6%	3.8%	5.5%
Ohio	3.8%	23.7%	31.7%	27.4%	6.3%	10.9%
Oklahoma	1.1%	30.1%	34.4%	24.5%	4.6%	6.3%
Oregon	1.3%	32.9%	33.2%	22.5%	4.8%	6.6%
Pennsylvania	4.2%	25.8%	31.1%	26.2%	6.9%	10.0%
Rhode Island	0.3%	28.8%	32.1%	23.2%	5.1%	10.8%
South Carolina	1.4%	26.4%	32.5%	26.0%	6.3%	8.8%
South Dakota	0.3%	33.2%	33.5%	21.8%	4.9%	6.6%
Tennessee	2.1%	23.3%	29.7%	27.5%	7.2%	12.3%
Texas	8.3%	24.1%	31.4%	27.3%	6.9%	10.2%
Utah	1.0%	27.5%	32.0%	24.9%	6.6%	9.1%
Vermont	0.2%	33.9%	31.7%	19.3%	7.6%	7.5%
Virginia	2.6%	27.4%	33.4%	25.4%	5.4%	8.4%
Washington	2.2%	28.0%	30.6%	24.5%	4.6%	12.3%
West Virginia	0.5%	33.2%	33.3%	21.6%	4.7%	7.3%
Wisconsin	2.0%	24.7%	31.8%	27.4%	7.5%	8.7%
Wyoming	0.2%	44.1%	35.2%	15.3%	2.5%	3.0%

Source: US Bureau of Labor Statistics

6 *Based on location of worksite. Firms often have multiple establishments (locations) situated within and across states.

The Employment Situation - 2015 Recap

Rhode Island's 36,426 business establishments employed an average of 470,019 workers in 2015 and paid nearly \$23.8 billion in wages.

Private sector employment averaged 411,036 in 2015, representing 87.5 percent of the state's employment.

- Within the private sector, Health Care & Social Assistance (80,277) employed the most workers, accounting for 19.5 percent of the state's private sector employment.
- The Retail Trade (48,053), Accommodation & Food Services (47,264) and Manufacturing (41,150) sectors account for one-third of the state's private sector workforce.
- Administrative & Waste Services (27,141), Finance & Insurance (24,645), and Professional & Technical Services (23,877) all employed over 20,000 workers.

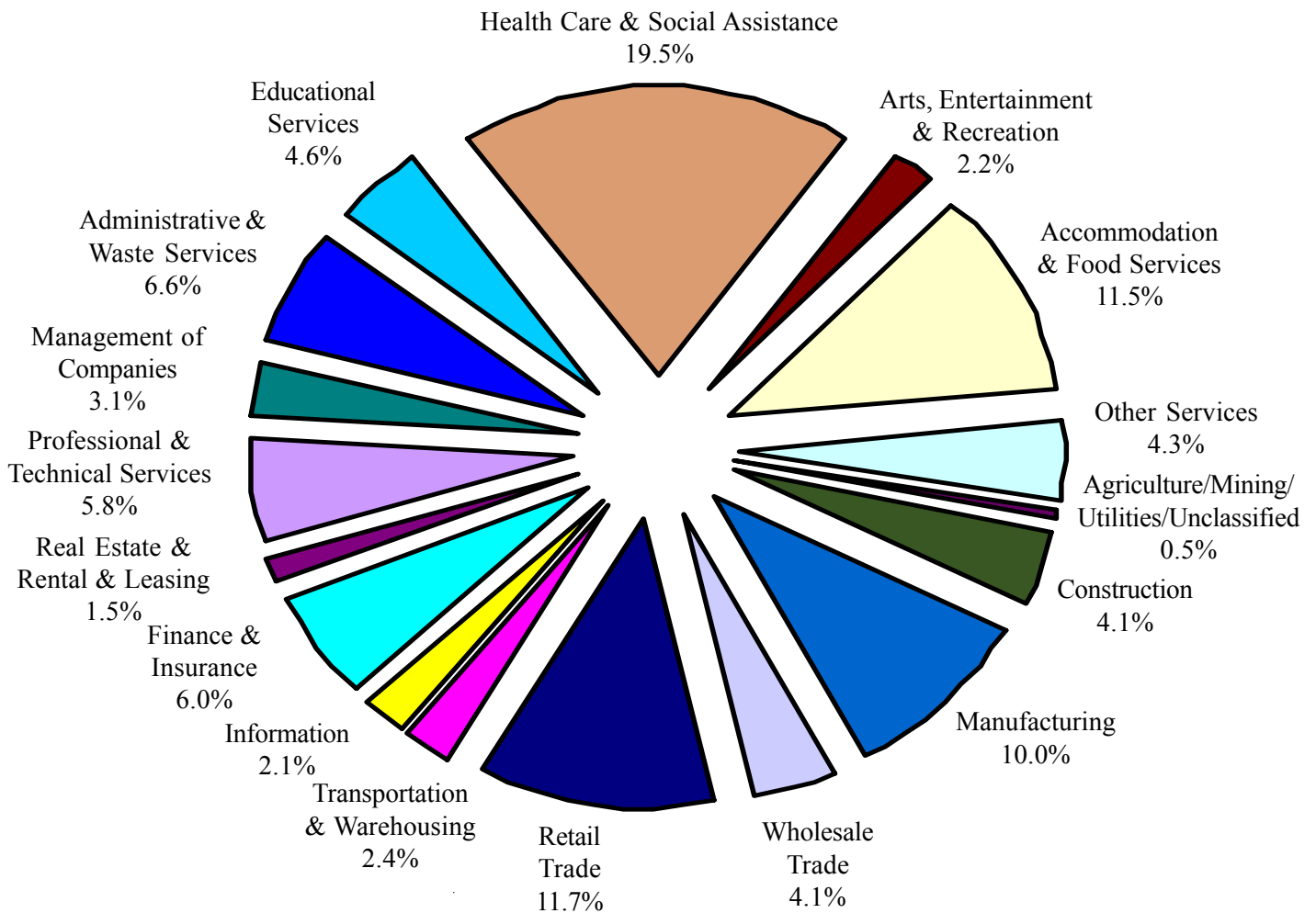
In 2015, the public sector employed 58,983 workers, accounting for 12.5 percent of the state's employment. More than half (32,578) of the public sector workers were employed in local governments, followed by the state (15,946) and federal (10,458) segments. *(The pie chart on the next page provides a breakout of Rhode Island's private sector employment by major industry group.)*

Annual Average Employment for 2015

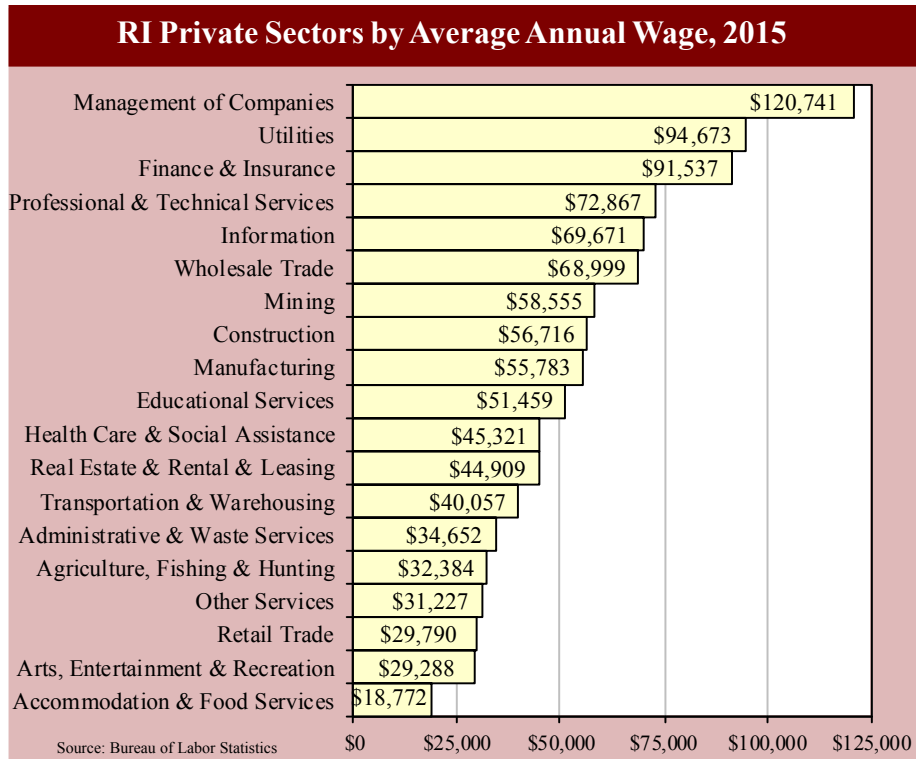
Total Employment	470,019
Private Sector Employment	411,036
Health Care & Social Assistance	80,277
Retail Trade	48,053
Accommodation & Food Services	47,264
Manufacturing	41,150
Administrative & Waste Services	27,141
Finance & Insurance	24,645
Professional & Technical Services	23,877
Educational Services	18,970
Other Services	17,702
Construction	17,011
Wholesale Trade	16,922
Management of Companies & Enterprise	12,558
Transportation & Warehousing	9,801
Arts, Entertainment & Recreation	8,960
Information	8,609
Real Estate, Rental & Leasing	6,017
Utilities	1,082
Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing & Hunting	752
Mining	201
Government Employment	58,983
Federal Government	10,458
State Government	15,946
Local Government	32,578

Private sector wages accounted for 84.2 percent of the \$23.8 billion in wages paid in 2015. Private sector workers averaged \$48,736, while pay for public sector workers averaged \$63,656. The 2015 average annual wage for all workers was \$50,608.

Rhode Island Private Employment, 2015



- The highest wages were paid in the Management of Companies (\$120,741), Utilities (\$94,673), and Finance & Insurance (\$91,537) sectors.
- In addition, seven sectors; Professional & Technical Services (\$72,867), Information (\$69,671), Wholesale Trade (\$68,999), Mining (\$58,555), Construction (\$56,716), Manufacturing (\$55,783) and Educational Services (\$51,459), paid over the 2015 average annual private sector wage of \$48,736.
- Within the public sector, federal employees working in Rhode Island earned the highest annual average wage (\$78,234), followed by state (\$67,684) and local (\$57,006) government segments.



- Nine sectors had average annual wages below the private sector average (\$48,736), including Health Care & Social Assistance (\$45,321), the state’s largest sector.
- The lowest wages were paid in Accommodation & Food Services (\$18,772), Arts, Entertainment & Recreation (\$29,288) and Retail Trade (\$29,790) sectors due, in part, to the seasonal and part-time nature of these sectors.
- The remaining sectors paying average wages below the private sector average in 2015 were Real Estate & Rental & Leasing (\$44,909), Transportation & Warehousing (\$40,057), Administrative & Waste Services (\$34,652), Agriculture, Fishing & Hunting (\$32,384) and Other Services (\$31,227).

The 2015 average annual wage in Rhode Island’s private sector (\$48,736) was 7.8 percent less than the national average wage of \$52,874. Within New England, Rhode Island reported the fourth highest average annual wage, trailing Massachusetts (\$67,337), Connecticut (\$66,282) and New Hampshire (\$53,134).

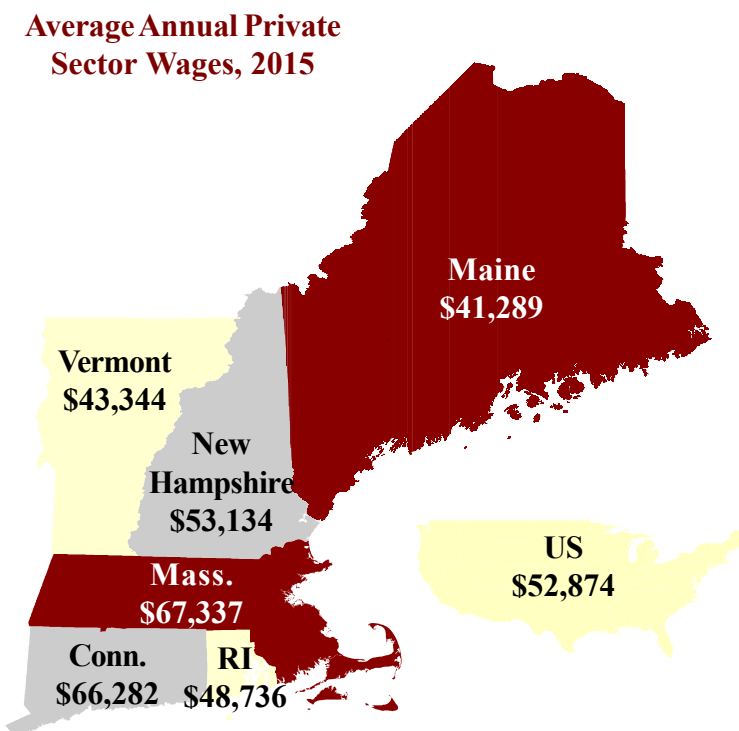
Average annual wages earned by Rhode Island workers were below the national average in nearly all economic sectors and most often ranked fourth in New England, trailing Connecticut, Massachusetts and New Hampshire.

Rhode Island workers were paid average annual wages above the national average in three economic sectors: Management of Companies, Educational Services, Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing & Hunting and Retail Trade.

When compared to Rhode Island, Massachusetts paid higher annual average wages in all sectors, while Connecticut paid higher annual average wages in all sectors except Arts, Entertainment & Recreation. Rhode Island paid higher annual average wages than New Hampshire in just three sectors: Management of Companies, Arts, Entertainment & Recreation and Mining.

Management of Companies was the highest paying sector in Rhode Island, paying workers an average of \$120,741, more than the \$116,745 earned nationally. In New England, only Connecticut (\$162,472) and Massachusetts (\$140,198) had a higher annual average wage in this sector.

Nationally, employees of Management of Companies earned the highest average wage, as was the case in Rhode Island and New Hampshire (\$106,636). Finance & Insurance was the highest paying sector in Connecticut (\$165,534) and Massachusetts (\$145,791), while Utilities was the highest paying sector in Vermont (\$123,110) and Maine (\$79,077).



Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics

Rhode Island workers in Health Care & Social Assistance, the state's largest economic sector, earned an average annual wage of \$45,321, approximately 4.2 percent less than the national average (\$47,295). Regionally, Massachusetts (\$53,656) paid the highest wage to workers in this sector, followed by New Hampshire (\$51,973) and Connecticut (\$50,390).

Rhode Island workers earned an annual average wage higher than their Maine counterparts in every sector except

Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing & Hunting. Vermont workers earned an annual average wage higher than Rhode Island workers in the Utilities, Accommodation & Food Services, Other Services, Administrative & Waste Services, Professional & Technical Services and Manufacturing sectors.

In every New England state and nationally, Accommodation & Food Services workers earned the lowest average annual wage among all industry sectors.



Average Annual Private Sector Wages by Industry Sector, 2015

	US	RI	CT	ME	MA	NH	VT
Total Private	\$52,874	\$48,736	\$66,282	\$41,289	\$67,337	\$53,134	\$43,344
Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing & Hunting	\$31,979	\$32,384	\$32,577	\$37,690	\$54,670	\$35,388	\$31,610
Mining, Quarrying, & Oil & Gas Extraction	\$102,468	\$58,555	\$71,555	\$58,263	\$65,205	\$57,886	\$57,288
Utilities	\$101,476	\$94,673	\$116,862	\$79,077	\$111,811	\$103,065	\$123,110
Construction	\$57,016	\$56,716	\$64,230	\$45,775	\$71,139	\$57,254	\$46,948
Manufacturing	\$64,305	\$55,783	\$80,505	\$53,917	\$86,072	\$66,870	\$55,967
Wholesale Trade	\$73,347	\$68,999	\$92,733	\$60,754	\$91,596	\$90,579	\$59,031
Retail Trade	\$29,739	\$29,790	\$32,965	\$26,369	\$31,331	\$30,722	\$29,406
Transportation & Warehousing	\$49,936	\$40,057	\$47,342	\$40,018	\$46,753	\$42,172	\$39,289
Information	\$95,038	\$69,671	\$99,252	\$47,703	\$108,036	\$82,762	\$56,255
Finance & Insurance	\$100,282	\$91,537	\$165,534	\$67,831	\$145,791	\$95,130	\$73,211
Real Estate & Rental & Leasing	\$53,995	\$44,909	\$69,464	\$39,355	\$73,112	\$50,842	\$39,628
Professional & Technical Services	\$89,769	\$72,867	\$99,116	\$64,886	\$119,004	\$87,074	\$73,697
Management of Companies & Enterprises	\$116,745	\$120,741	\$162,472	\$73,297	\$140,198	\$106,636	\$86,173
Administrative & Waste Services	\$37,273	\$34,652	\$44,068	\$34,540	\$44,291	\$45,190	\$36,063
Educational Services	\$47,986	\$51,459	\$62,601	\$42,487	\$64,887	\$53,497	\$42,954
Health Care & Social Assistance	\$47,295	\$45,321	\$50,390	\$44,326	\$53,656	\$51,973	\$43,667
Arts, Entertainment, & Recreation	\$36,106	\$29,288	\$27,950	\$23,251	\$37,069	\$21,675	\$22,738
Accommodation & Food Services	\$19,416	\$18,772	\$20,596	\$18,662	\$22,380	\$19,375	\$20,843
Other Services	\$35,118	\$31,227	\$32,678	\$30,699	\$35,437	\$35,382	\$32,728

Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics for US and other New England states. Wages are preliminary and subject to change.

- Rhode Island’s private sector employment averaged 411,036 in 2015, accounting for less than half a percent (0.3%) of the nation’s private sector workforce and ranking it 43rd among all states.
- Health Care & Social Assistance, Retail Trade, Accommodation & Food Services and Manufacturing are the four largest private industry sectors in the nation, as well as in all New England states except Massachusetts.
- Nationally, these four sectors account for half (50.1%) of the country’s private sector workforce. In New England, Vermont (59.4%) has the highest percentage of private sector workers in these sectors, followed by Maine (57.9%), New Hampshire (55.6%), Rhode Island (52.7%), Connecticut (51.1%) and Massachusetts (49.8%).
- Health Care & Social Assistance, Rhode Island’s largest private economic sector, accounts for 19.5 percent of the state’s private sector employment, significantly greater the nation’s share (15.5%) and fifth highest in the country, trailing only West Virginia (20.8%), Maine (20.4%), Massachusetts (20.0%) and Vermont (19.7%).
- Retail Trade, Rhode Island’s second largest economic sector, employs 11.7 percent of the state’s private sector workforce, less than the national average (13.2%) and the smallest share in New England.
- The Manufacturing sector accounts for 10.0 percent of Rhode Island’s private sector employment, below the national share (10.4%) and trailing all other New England states except Massachusetts (8.3%).
- Private Educational Service accounts for 4.6 percent of the state’s private sector employment, twice the national share (2.3%) and tied with Massachusetts (4.6%) as the largest share among the 50 states.

Percentage of Average Annual Private Sector Employment by Industry Sector, 2015

	US	RI	CT	ME	MA	NH	VT
Total Private	118,301,597	411,036	1,428,336	500,733	2,998,326	552,244	254,077
Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing & Hunting	1.1%	0.2%	0.3%	1.3%	0.2%	0.4%	1.3%
Mining, Quarrying, & Oil & Gas Extraction	0.6%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.1%	0.3%
Utilities	0.5%	0.3%	0.4%	0.3%	0.3%	0.4%	0.6%
Construction	5.4%	4.1%	4.1%	5.3%	4.6%	4.4%	6.0%
Manufacturing	10.4%	10.0%	11.1%	10.1%	8.3%	12.2%	12.2%
Wholesale Trade	5.0%	4.1%	4.4%	4.0%	4.1%	5.0%	3.7%
Retail Trade	13.2%	11.7%	12.9%	16.3%	11.8%	17.2%	14.9%
Transportation & Warehousing	3.9%	2.4%	3.1%	3.1%	2.6%	2.4%	2.6%
Information	2.3%	2.1%	2.3%	1.5%	2.9%	2.2%	1.8%
Finance & Insurance	4.8%	6.0%	7.6%	4.5%	5.6%	5.2%	3.4%
Real Estate & Rental & Leasing	1.8%	1.5%	1.4%	1.3%	1.5%	1.2%	1.2%
Professional & Technical Services	7.3%	5.8%	6.7%	5.0%	9.8%	6.1%	5.6%
Management of Companies & Enterprises	1.9%	3.1%	2.3%	1.8%	2.2%	1.6%	0.9%
Administrative & Waste Services	7.4%	6.6%	6.2%	6.0%	5.9%	6.3%	4.3%
Educational Services	2.3%	4.6%	4.0%	2.5%	4.6%	3.5%	3.9%
Health Care & Social Assistance	15.5%	19.5%	18.4%	20.4%	20.0%	15.9%	19.7%
Arts, Entertainment, & Recreation	1.8%	2.2%	1.9%	1.7%	1.9%	2.0%	1.6%
Accommodation & Food Services	10.9%	11.5%	8.7%	11.0%	9.8%	10.4%	12.6%
Other Services	3.6%	4.3%	4.3%	3.5%	3.8%	3.6%	3.5%

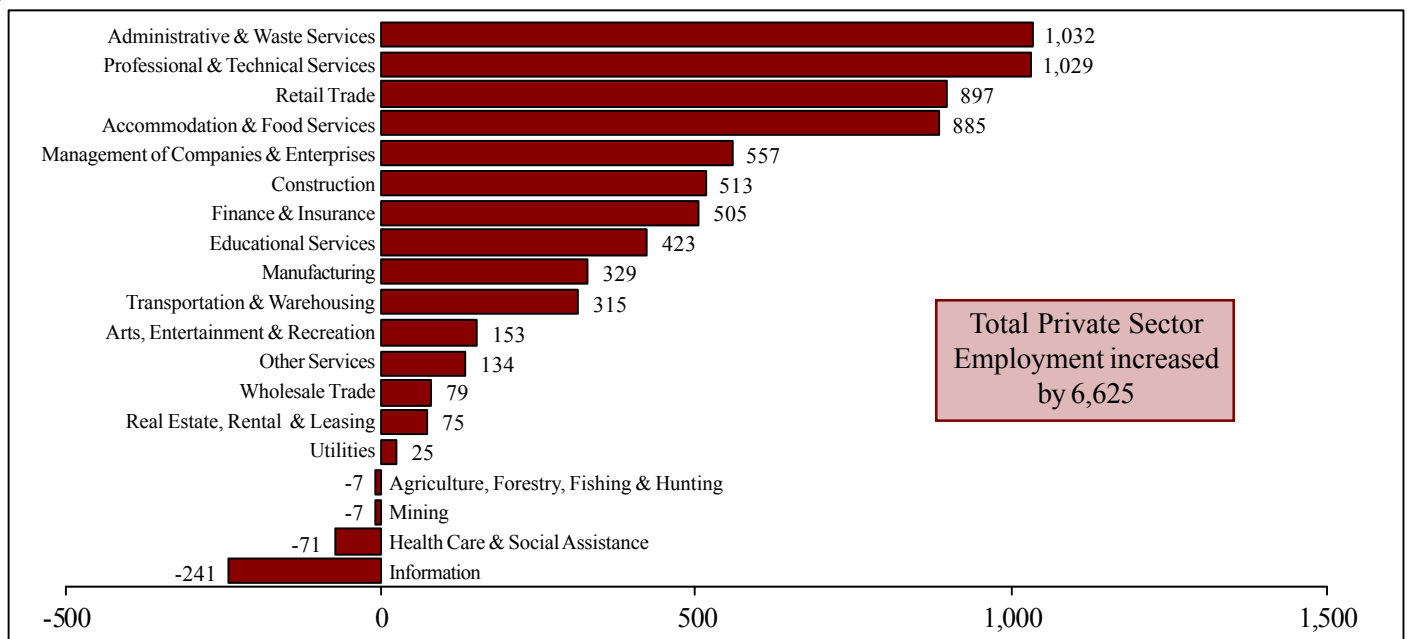
Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics for US and other New England states. Wages are preliminary and subject to change.

Job Gains Reported in 2015

Average employment increased by 6,625 (+1.6%) jobs in Rhode Island's private sector between 2014 and 2015. The largest increases were reported in Administrative & Waste Services (+1,032), Professional & Technical Services (+1,029), Retail Trade (+897), Accommodation & Food Services (+885), Management of Companies & Enterprises (+557), Construction (+513) and Finance & Insurance (+505).

- Employment in the Administrative & Waste Services sector increased by 1,032 (+4.0%) jobs due to increases in both Administrative & Support Services (+976; +4.0%) and Waste Management & Redemption Services (+56; +3.5%).
- The Manufacturing sector added 329 (+0.8%) jobs in 2015, with job gains reported in 11 of the 21 industries within the sector. Transportation & Equipment Manufacturing (+369), Paper Manufacturing (+299), Food Manufacturing (+94) and Beverage & Tobacco Product Manufacturing (+74) added the most jobs. Fabricated Metal Product Manufacturing (-313), Chemical Manufacturing (-108) and Computer & Electronic Product Manufacturing (-89) reported the largest job losses.
- Within the Construction sector, Specialty Trade Contractors (+367) and Construction of Buildings (+200) reported job gains while Heavy & Civil Engineering Construction lost 53 jobs, resulting in a net gain of 513 (+3.1%) jobs for the sector.
- Sizeable employment gains in the Health & Personal Care Stores (+221), Motor Vehicle & Parts Dealers (+131) and Food & Beverage Stores (+127) industries helped propel job growth within the Retail Trade sector (+897).
- Losses in Nursing & Residential Care Facilities (-268) and Ambulatory & Support Services (-29) employment countered the gains in Social Assistance (+115) and Hospitals (+111), resulting in a loss of 71 (-0.1%) jobs in Health Care & Social Assistance.
- Three other sectors reported job declines over the year; Information (-241), Mining (-7) and Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing & Hunting (-7). Declines in the Telecommunications (-308) and Publishing Industries, except Internet (-84) fueled the employment drop in the Information sector.

Percentage Change in Average Annual Employment by Industry Sector, 2014-2015



Rhode Island Average Annual Job Changes 2014 - 2015

	Average Employment		Total Change		2015 Average Annual Wage
	2015	2014	Net	Percent	
Total Private Only	411,036	404,411	6,625	1.6%	\$48,736
Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing & Hunting	752	759	-7	-0.9%	\$32,384
111 Crop production	483	501	-18	-3.6%	\$28,564
112 Animal production	142	137	5	3.6%	\$24,105
114 Fishing, hunting and trapping	79	77	2	2.6%	\$70,169
Mining	201	208	-7	-3.4%	\$58,555
212 Mining, except oil and gas	198	202	-4	-2.0%	\$58,502
Utilities	1,082	1,057	25	2.4%	\$94,673
221 Utilities	1,082	1,057	25	2.4%	\$94,673
Construction	17,011	16,498	513	3.1%	\$56,716
236 Construction of buildings	4,232	4,032	200	5.0%	\$59,574
237 Heavy and civil engineering construction	1,794	1,847	-53	-2.9%	\$75,849
238 Specialty trade contractors	10,985	10,618	367	3.5%	\$52,490
Manufacturing	41,150	40,821	329	0.8%	\$55,783
311 Food manufacturing	3,277	3,183	94	3.0%	\$35,070
312 Beverage and tobacco product manufacturing	361	287	74	25.8%	\$44,893
313 Textile mills	2,101	2,041	60	2.9%	\$42,879
314 Textile product mills	565	568	-3	-0.5%	\$39,938
315 Apparel manufacturing	27	33	-6	-18.2%	\$31,605
316 Leather and allied product manufacturing	127	123	4	3.3%	\$30,434
321 Wood product manufacturing	432	427	5	1.2%	\$47,372
322 Paper manufacturing	1,450	1,151	299	26.0%	\$49,391
323 Printing and related support activities	1,722	1,686	36	2.1%	\$44,018
324 Petroleum and coal products manufacturing	52	45	7	15.6%	\$78,069
325 Chemical manufacturing	3,036	3,144	-108	-3.4%	\$94,236
326 Plastics and rubber products manufacturing	2,437	2,479	-42	-1.7%	\$54,895
327 Nonmetallic mineral product manufacturing	620	629	-9	-1.4%	\$56,269
331 Primary metal manufacturing	1,477	1,524	-47	-3.1%	\$56,056
332 Fabricated metal product manufacturing	5,375	5,688	-313	-5.5%	\$51,310
333 Machinery manufacturing	1,867	1,848	19	1.0%	\$58,492
334 Computer and electronic product manufacturing	3,213	3,302	-89	-2.7%	\$74,055
335 Electrical equipment and appliance mfg.	1,190	1,225	-35	-2.9%	\$76,512
336 Transportation equipment manufacturing	4,777	4,408	369	8.4%	\$58,155
337 Furniture and related product manufacturing	1,320	1,361	-41	-3.0%	\$48,417
339 Miscellaneous manufacturing	5,723	5,669	54	1.0%	\$49,233
Wholesale Trade	16,922	16,843	79	0.5%	\$68,999
423 Merchant wholesalers, durable goods	8,374	8,405	-31	-0.4%	\$61,999
424 Merchant wholesalers, nondurable goods	5,268	5,193	75	1.4%	\$62,942
425 Electronic markets and agents and brokers	3,281	3,244	37	1.1%	\$96,572
Retail Trade	48,053	47,156	897	1.9%	\$29,790
441 Motor vehicle and parts dealers	5,724	5,593	131	2.3%	\$47,416
442 Furniture and home furnishings stores	1,179	1,210	-31	-2.6%	\$35,941
443 Electronics and appliance stores	1,119	1,022	97	9.5%	\$49,304
444 Building material and garden supply stores	3,571	3,575	-4	-0.1%	\$35,463
445 Food and beverage stores	12,065	11,938	127	1.1%	\$22,845
446 Health and personal care stores	4,798	4,577	221	4.8%	\$38,958
447 Gasoline stations	1,869	1,808	61	3.4%	\$23,631
448 Clothing and clothing accessories stores	4,261	4,210	51	1.2%	\$21,862
451 Sporting goods, hobby, book and music stores	1,425	1,435	-10	-0.7%	\$20,155
452 General merchandise stores	7,595	7,498	97	1.3%	\$21,410
453 Miscellaneous store retailers	2,653	2,574	79	3.1%	\$22,977
454 Nonstore retailers	1,795	1,717	78	4.5%	\$46,660

Rhode Island Average Annual Job Changes 2014 - 2015

	Average Employment		Total Change		2015 Average Annual Wage
	2015	2014	Net	Percent	
Transportation & Warehousing	9,801	9,486	315	3.3%	\$40,057
481 Air transportation	315	331	-16	-4.8%	\$44,405
483 Water transportation	177	181	-4	-2.2%	\$51,078
484 Truck transportation	2,322	2,264	58	2.6%	\$49,874
485 Transit and ground passenger transportation	2,600	2,472	128	5.2%	\$24,512
487 Scenic and sightseeing transportation	160	164	-4	-2.4%	\$28,476
488 Support activities for transportation	1084	972	112	11.5%	\$41,499
492 Couriers and messengers	1,823	1,764	59	3.3%	\$42,311
493 Warehousing and storage	1,282	1,291	-9	-0.7%	\$46,924
Information	8,609	8,850	-241	-2.7%	\$69,671
511 Publishing industries, except Internet	1,758	1,842	-84	-4.6%	\$77,096
512 Motion picture and sound recording industries	742	694	48	6.9%	\$31,873
515 Broadcasting, except Internet	637	631	6	1.0%	\$56,953
517 Telecommunications	2,233	2,541	-308	-12.1%	\$79,830
518 ISPs, search portals, and data processing	2,633	2,552	81	3.2%	\$77,746
519 Other information services	607	590	17	2.9%	\$35,199
Finance & Insurance	24,645	24,140	505	2.1%	\$91,537
522 Credit intermediation and related activities	9,761	9,728	33	0.3%	\$66,613
523 Securities, commodity contracts, investments	5,425	5,118	307	6.0%	\$157,884
524 Insurance carriers and related activities	9,454	9,287	167	1.8%	\$79,189
525 Funds, trusts, and other financial vehicles	6	7	-1	-14.3%	\$92,664
Real Estate, Rental & Leasing	6,017	5,942	75	1.3%	\$44,909
531 Real estate	4,464	4,381	83	1.9%	\$46,287
532 Rental and leasing services	1,497	1,497	0	0.0%	\$39,927
533 Lessors of nonfinancial intangible assets	56	64	-8	-12.5%	\$68,256
Professional & Technical Services	23,877	22,848	1,029	4.5%	\$72,867
541 Professional and technical services	23,877	22,848	1,029	4.5%	\$72,867
Management of Companies & Enterprise	12,558	12,001	557	4.6%	\$120,741
551 Management of companies and enterprises	12,558	12,001	557	4.6%	\$120,741
Administrative & Waste Services	27,141	26,109	1,032	4.0%	\$34,652
561 Administrative and support services	25,496	24,520	976	4.0%	\$33,519
562 Waste management & redemption services	1,645	1,589	56	3.5%	\$52,204
Educational Services	18,970	18,547	423	2.3%	\$51,459
611 Educational services	18,970	18,547	423	2.3%	\$51,459
Health Care & Social Assistance	80,277	80,348	-71	-0.1%	\$45,321
621 Ambulatory health care services	25,790	25,819	-29	-0.1%	\$54,401
622 Hospitals	23,396	23,285	111	0.5%	\$59,447
623 Nursing and residential care facilities	18,267	18,535	-268	-1.4%	\$30,472
624 Social assistance	12,824	12,709	115	0.9%	\$22,440
Arts, Entertainment & Recreation	8,960	8,807	153	1.7%	\$29,288
711 Performing arts and spectator sports	1,227	1,243	-16	-1.3%	\$41,687
712 Museums, historical sites, zoos, and parks	858	822	36	4.4%	\$28,965
713 Amusements, gambling, and recreation	6,876	6,742	134	2.0%	\$27,112
Accommodation & Food Services	47,264	46,379	885	1.9%	\$18,772
721 Accommodation	4,453	4,353	100	2.3%	\$27,582
722 Food services and drinking places	42,811	42,026	785	1.9%	\$17,856
Other Services Except Public Administration	17,702	17,568	134	0.8%	\$31,227
811 Repair and maintenance	4,198	4,126	72	1.7%	\$41,724
812 Personal and laundry services	5,419	5,185	234	4.5%	\$25,125
813 Membership associations and organizations	7,445	7,615	-170	-2.2%	\$29,917
814 Private households	639	643	-4	-0.6%	\$29,324

Recession and Recovery

The Rhode Island economy has endured two economic downturns since 2006, one being the “Rhode Island Recession” and the other being the “Great Recession.” The Great Recession refers to the well-known recession that plagued the nation between December 2007 and June 2009. This 18-month recession marked the longest economic downturn after the Great Depression of the 1930’s. The Rhode Island Recession, marks the period between the state’s total nonfarm peak employment level established in December 2006, through the lowest nonfarm employment level since the peak, which was reported in August 2009. Each of these “recessions”, account for two different economic outcomes, both impacting Rhode Island employment.

A total of 36,300 (-8.4%) private sector jobs were lost during the Rhode Island Recession, of which 27,400 (-6.5%) private sector jobs were lost during the Great Recession. A summary of the two recessions is found below.

Rhode Island Recession (December 2006 – August 2009)

Rhode Island’s total nonfarm employment level reached an all-time high of 495,700 in December 2006. Exactly one year from the peak level, Rhode Island’s private employment sector had fallen by 6,900 (-1.6%) jobs. The economy continued to stumble until eventually reaching a low point in August 2009, when total nonfarm employment fell to 455,900. A total of twelve private employment sectors combined to lose 38,800 jobs during the Rhode Island Recession:

- Manufacturing (-10,800)
- Construction (-6,600)
- Financial Activities (-5,200)
- Retail Trade (-5,100)
- Professional & Business Services (-4,900)
- Accommodation & Food Services (-2,000)
- Wholesale Trade (-1,200)
- Other Services (-1,200)
- Information (-900)
- Transportation & Utilities (-700)
- Mining & Logging (-100)
- Arts, Entertainment & Recreation (-100)

Health Care & Social Assistance and Educational Services were the only private employment sectors to report job gains during the Rhode Island Recession, gaining 1,800 jobs and 700 jobs, respectively. As a result of these employment gains, private sector job losses during the Rhode Island Recession totaled 36,300.

	Rhode Island Recession December 2006 - August 2009 (in thousands)				Rhode Island Recovery Period August 2009 - December 2015 (in thousands)		
	Dec. 2006	Aug. 2009	Numeric Change	Percent Change	Dec. 2015	Job Change Aug 09-Dec 15	Percent of Jobs Recovered from Aug 09
Total Nonfarm	495.7	455.9	-39.8	-8.0%	488.5	32.6	81.9%
Total Private	430.8	394.5	-36.3	-8.4%	428.5	34.0	93.7%
Natural Resources & Mining	0.3	0.2	-0.1	-33.3%	0.2	0.0	0.0%
Construction	23.2	16.6	-6.6	-28.4%	18.4	1.8	27.3%
Manufacturing	51.8	41.0	-10.8	-20.8%	41.6	0.6	5.6%
Wholesale Trade	17.1	15.9	-1.2	-7.0%	16.6	0.7	58.3%
Retail Trade	52.0	46.9	-5.1	-9.8%	47.8	0.9	17.6%
Transportation & Utilities	11.0	10.3	-0.7	-6.4%	12.2	1.9	271.4%
Information	10.9	10.0	-0.9	-8.3%	8.7	-1.3	-144.4%
Financial Activities	36.0	30.8	-5.2	-14.4%	33.2	2.4	46.2%
Professional & Business Services	57.1	52.2	-4.9	-8.6%	64.3	12.1	246.9%
Educational Services	22.2	22.9	0.7	3.2%	23.8	0.9	128.6%
Health Care & Social Assistance	75.2	77.0	1.8	2.4%	81.1	4.1	227.8%
Arts, Entertainment & Recreation	7.8	7.7	-0.1	-1.3%	9.4	1.7	1,700.0%
Accommodation & Food Services	43.0	41.0	-2.0	-4.7%	47.9	6.9	345.0%
Other Services	23.2	22.0	-1.2	-5.2%	23.3	1.3	108.3%
Government	64.9	61.4	-3.5	-5.4%	60	-1.4	-40.0%

Rhode Island Recession Recovery Period (August 2009 – December 2015)

Through December 2015, employment recovery from the Rhode Island Recession is ongoing as 34,000 or 93.7 percent of private sector jobs have been recovered, 2,300 jobs short of 36,300 private sector jobs lost. (See table on page 15.)

Of those sectors still recuperating lost employment from the Rhode Island Recession, the Wholesale Trade sector has recovered just over 58 percent of the jobs it lost between December 2006 and August 2009, while the Financial Activities sector has regained 46.2 percent of its lost jobs. The Retail Trade sector has regained 17.6 percent or 900 of the jobs lost, followed by the Construction (27.3%) and Manufacturing (5.6%) sectors. The Manufacturing sector has regained only 600 of the 10,800 jobs it had lost.

Between August 2009 and December 2015, the Accommodation & Food Services, Arts, Entertainment & Recreation, Other Services, Professional & Business Services and Transportation & Utilities sectors, have recovered all of their employment which was lost during the Rhode Island Recession.

The Information sector was the only employment sector continuing to report job losses during the recovery period, shedding an additional 1,300 jobs on top of the 900 jobs lost during the recession.

The Great Recession (December 2007 – June 2009)

During the nation's Great Recession, private sector employment in Rhode Island fell by 27,400, a 6.5 percent decrease. A total of eleven employment sectors experienced job declines during the Great Recession, while Educational Services (+700) and Health Care & Social Assistance (+700) added employment. Private employment losses were reported from the following sectors:

- Manufacturing (-8,200)
- Construction (-4,300)
- Retail Trade (-3,600)
- Professional & Business Services (-3,500)
- Financial Activities (-2,600)
- Accommodation & Food Services (-1,800)
- Wholesale Trade (-1,300)
- Transportation & Utilities (-1,200)
- Other Services (-1,000)
- Arts, Entertainment & Recreation (-900)
- Information (-400)

	Great Recession December 2007 - June 2009 (in thousands)				Rhode Island Recovery Period June 2009 - December 2015 (in thousands)		
	Dec. 2007	June 2009	Numeric Change	Percent Change	Dec. 2015	Job Change June 09-Dec 15	Percent of Jobs Recovered from June 09
Total Nonfarm	487.8	458.8	-29.0	-5.9%	488.5	29.7	102.4%
Total Private	423.9	396.5	-27.4	-6.5%	428.5	32.0	116.8%
Natural Resources & Mining	0.2	0.2	0.0	0.0%	0.2	0.0	0.0%
Construction	21.3	17.0	-4.3	-20.2%	18.4	1.4	32.6%
Manufacturing	49.5	41.3	-8.2	-16.6%	41.6	0.3	3.7%
Wholesale Trade	17.3	16.0	-1.3	-7.5%	16.6	0.6	46.2%
Retail Trade	50.8	47.2	-3.6	-7.1%	47.8	0.6	16.7%
Transportation & Utilities	11.2	10.0	-1.2	-10.7%	12.2	2.2	183.3%
Information	10.8	10.4	-0.4	-3.7%	8.7	-1.7	-425.0%
Financial Activities	33.9	31.3	-2.6	-7.7%	33.2	1.9	73.1%
Professional & Business Services	55.6	52.1	-3.5	-6.3%	64.3	12.2	348.6%
Educational Services	22.4	23.1	0.7	3.1%	23.8	0.7	100.0%
Health Care & Social Assistance	76.2	76.9	0.7	0.9%	81.1	4.2	600.0%
Arts, Entertainment & Recreation	8.5	7.6	-0.9	-10.6%	9.4	1.8	200.0%
Accommodation & Food Services	43.1	41.3	-1.8	-4.2%	47.9	6.6	366.7%
Other Services	23.1	22.1	-1.0	-4.3%	23.3	1.2	120.0%
Government	63.9	62.3	-1.6	-2.5%	60.0	-2.3	-143.8%

Recovery Period (June 2009 – December 2015)

The Rhode Island private employment sector has recovered all of its lost jobs stemming from the Great Recession. A total of 32,000 jobs have been added between June 2009 and December 2015; an increase of 4,600 jobs from the 27,400 jobs lost during the national downturn.

A total of five private sectors fueled the recovery and surpassed all of their job declines which were lost during the Great Recession. Those sectors include; Accommodation & Food Services, Arts, Entertainment & Recreation, Other Services, Professional & Business Services and Transportation & Utilities.

Five Rhode Island private employment sectors are still reeling to recover all of the jobs lost during the Great Recession. The Financial Activities and Wholesale Trade sectors have recovered 73.1 percent and 46.2 percent of their lost jobs, respectively. The Construction sector has recovered one-third of its lost employment, while the Retail Trade sector has recouped 16.7 percent. The Manufacturing sector has recovered only 3.7 percent or 300 of the 8,200 jobs lost between December 2007 and June 2009.

The Information sector is the only sector that has yet to recover any of the jobs it had lost during the Great Recession. In all, a total of 2,100 jobs have been lost in the Information sector, 400 of which were lost during the Great Recession and another 1,700 jobs which were lost during the June 2009 and December 2015 recovery period.

Great Recession – A Regional and National Comparison

Since the Great Recession encompassed the entire nation during the same time period, a national and regional comparison can be drawn. The United States as a whole, lost over 7.6 million private sector jobs, a 6.5 percent decrease.

Between December 2007 and June 2009, the New England region as a whole lost 4.8 percent of its private sector workforce, shedding over 291,600 jobs. Among the regional states, Rhode Island lost the most private sector employment on a percentage basis, losing 6.5 percent of its private sector workforce. Connecticut lost 5.5 percent of its private sector workforce during the Great Recession, followed by Vermont (-5.0%), Maine (-4.9%), New Hampshire (-4.8%) and Massachusetts (-4.1%).

Since December 2015, all regional states with the exception of Connecticut and Maine, have recovered all of their private sector jobs which were lost during the Great Recession. Connecticut has regained 88.8 percent or 70,800 jobs since the recession ended in June 2009; 8,900 jobs shy of the 79,700 jobs lost during the national downturn. Maine was still 4,700 jobs shy of the 25,500 jobs lost during the Great Recession. The nation as a whole has regained all of the 7.6 million jobs that were lost during the recession.

New England / National Comparison Private Sector							
	Great Recession December 2007 - June 2009 (in thousands)				National Recovery Period June 2009 - December 2015 (in thousands)		
	Dec. 2007	June 2009	Numeric Change	Percent Change	Dec. 2015	Job Change June 09-Dec 15	Percent of Jobs Recovered from June 09
Connecticut	1,451.4	1,371.7	-79.7	-5.5%	1,442.5	70.8	88.8%
Maine	516.2	490.7	-25.5	-4.9%	511.5	20.8	81.6%
Massachusetts	2,883.9	2,764.3	-119.6	-4.1%	3,063.4	299.1	250.1%
New Hampshire	557.1	530.4	-26.7	-4.8%	571.7	41.3	154.7%
Rhode Island	423.9	396.5	-27.4	-6.5%	428.5	32	116.8%
Vermont	254.6	241.9	-12.7	-5.0%	257.6	15.7	123.6%
New England	6,087.1	5,795.5	-291.6	-4.8%	6,275.2	479.7	164.5%
United States	116,037	108,444	-7,593	-6.5%	121,106	12,662	166.8%

Comparison with Recent Rhode Island Recessions

Prior to this current recession, Rhode Island and the nation have weathered four other recessions since the early 1970s. Based on the number and percent of job losses, the recent Rhode Island recession ranks as the second worst that Rhode Island has experienced since the early 1970s, behind only the 1989-1992 recessionary period.

- Rhode Island lost a total of 39,800 jobs over 32 months from its peak employment of 495,700 in December 2006 to its low point of 455,900 in August 2009. This represents an 8.0 percent decline in total jobs at RI businesses. Rhode Island's unemployment rate peaked at 11.3 percent during this period.
- During the 1989-1992 recession, Rhode Island lost a total of 50,900 jobs over two and a half years from its peak employment of 467,100 in June 1989 to its low point of 416,200 in December 1991. This represented a 10.9 percent decline in total jobs at RI businesses. Rhode Island's unemployment rate peaked at 8.9 percent during that recession.
- It took the Rhode Island economy until September 1999, almost eight years (93 months), to recover all of the jobs lost during the 1989-1992 recession.
- In the 76 months (August 2009 - December 2015) following the end of the Rhode Island Recession, Rhode Island has regained 32,600 or 81.9 percent of the total jobs (39,800) lost during the Rhode Island Recession.

RI Job Losses During Recessions Seasonally Adjusted Data (As of December 2015)

Recession Period	RI Job Losses During Recessions				RI's Peak Unemployment Rate	Job Losses High to Low Months Duration	Recovery Number of Months to Recoup Jobs
	Peak Job Count	Lowest Job Count	Numerical Change	Percent Change			
1974-1975 June '74	370,500	344,800	-25,700	-6.9%	13.0%	10	19 Nov. '76
1981-1982 April '81	404,500	384,100	-20,400	-5.0%	9.5%	20	13 Jan. '84
1989-1992 June '89	467,100	416,200	-50,900	-10.9%	8.9%	30	93 Sept. '99
2001-2003 Feb. '01	482,000	475,700	-6,300	-1.3%	5.3%	9	14 Jan. '03
2007-2010 Dec. '06	495,700	455,900	-39,800	-8.0%	11.3%	32	??? ???

NOTE: The latest national recession began in December 2007 and officially ended in June 2009.

Private Sector Job Change by Wage Class

Recovery Period August 2009 - December 2015

Wage Categories

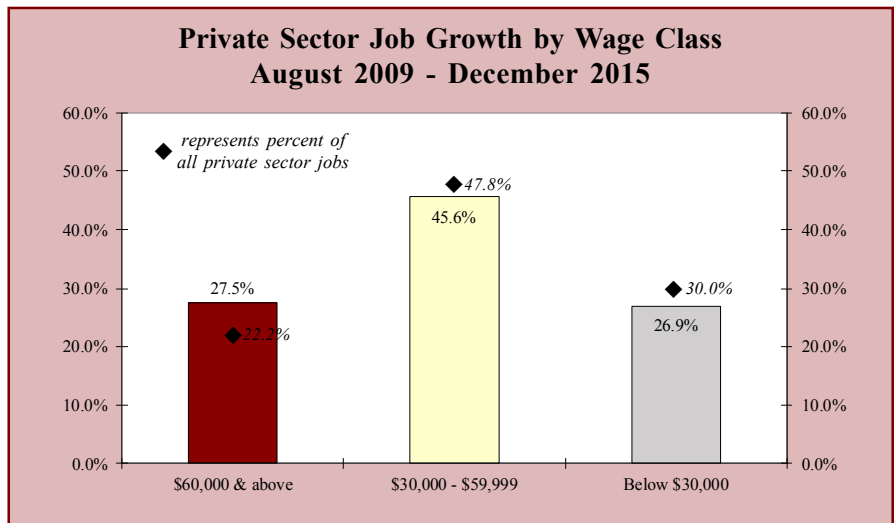
\$60,000 & above

\$30,000 – \$59,999

Less than \$30,000

Between August 2009 (the low employment level during the Rhode Island Recession) and December 2015, thirteen private employment sectors added jobs in Rhode Island totaling 35,300 jobs, while one private employment sector reported job declines totaling 1,300 jobs. The net job gain during this period was 34,000 jobs.

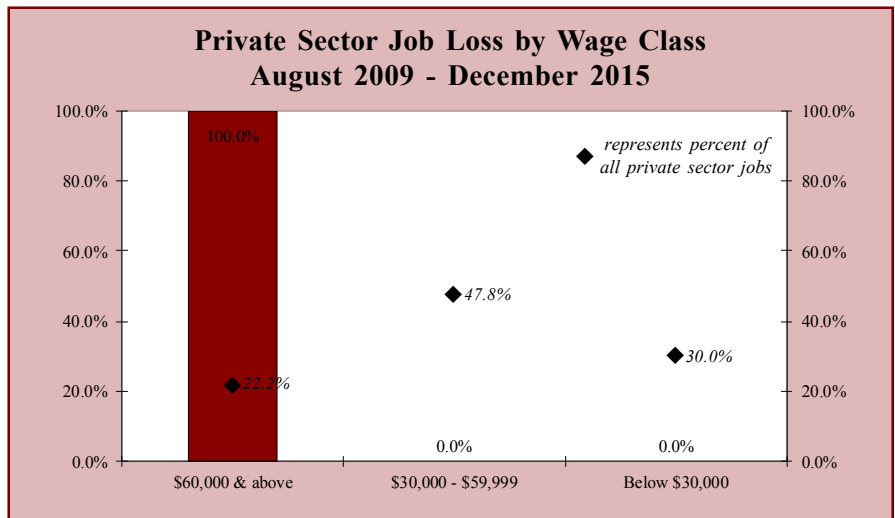
Of the 35,300 jobs added between August 2009 and December 2015, just over 45 percent or 16,100 of the jobs were added by employment sectors averaging an annual wage between \$30,000 and \$59,999. The Administrative & Waste Services sector added 5,500 of the 16,100 jobs, the largest gain among those sectors earning between \$30,000 and \$59,999. Employment in the Health Care & Social Assistance sector grew by 4,100 during this period, while employment in Transportation & Utilities grew by 1,900. Employment growth from those remaining sectors earning an annual wage between \$30,000 and \$59,999 was also noted in the Other Services (+1,800), Educational Services (+1,300), Construction (+900) and Manufacturing (+600) sectors.



The 2014* average annual wage of the seven sectors earning between \$30,000 and \$59,999 and which added jobs between August 2009 and December 2015 was \$45,010.

Those sectors earning between \$30,000 and \$59,999 represented 47.8 percent of total private employment in December 2015 and accounted for 45.6 percent of the jobs added since August 2009.

A total of 9,700, or 27.5 percent, of the 35,300 jobs added between August 2009 and December 2015 were generated within employment sectors earning wages \$60,000 and above. Among those sectors earning wages \$60,000 and above, the Professional & Managerial Services sector grew by 6,600 jobs, followed by the Financial Activities (+2,400) and Wholesale Trade (+700) sectors. In all, the three sectors earning \$60,000 and above and which added jobs during this period, averaged an annual wage of \$81,504 in 2014.



Those employment sectors earning \$60,000 and above represented 22.2 percent of total private employment in December 2015 and accounted for 27.5 percent of the jobs added since August 2009.

The Information (-1,300) sector was the lone employment sector to shed employment during this period. Employment within this sector averaged an annual wage of \$68,258 in 2014.

Among the 35,300 jobs added during the recovery period, nearly 27 percent or 9,500 jobs were added from sectors earning an annual wage below \$29,999. The three sectors which added jobs and earned below \$29,999, averaged an annual wage of \$23,562 in 2014. Accommodations & Food Services employment increased by 6,900, while employment gains were also reported in the Arts, Entertainment & Recreation (+1,700) and Retail Trade (+900) sectors.

Private Job Growth by Wage Class							
August 2009 - December 2015							
Net Job Change: 34,000							
	Numeric	Percent	2015		Numeric	Percent	2015
	Change	Change	Annual		Change	Change	Annual
			Wage				Wage
TOTAL JOBS CREATED	35,300	100.0%	\$48,312	TOTAL JOBS LOST	-1,300	-100.0%	\$69,671
\$60,000 & above	9,700	27.5%	\$82,718	\$60,000 & above	-1,300	-100.0%	\$69,671
Professional & Managerial Services	6,600	68.1%	\$89,367	Information	-1,300	-100.0%	\$69,671
Financial Activities	2,400	24.7%	\$82,387				
Wholesale Trade	700	7.2%	\$68,999				
\$30,000 - \$59,999	16,100	45.6%	\$46,276	\$30,000 - \$59,999	0	0.0%	
Administrative & Waste Services	5,500	34.2%	\$34,652				
Health Care & Social Assistance	4,100	25.5%	\$45,321				
Transportation & Utilities	1,900	11.7%	\$45,487				
Other Services	1,800	11.2%	\$56,716				
Educational Services	1,300	8.1%	\$31,227				
Construction	900	5.6%	\$51,459				
Manufacturing	600	3.7%	\$55,783				
Less than \$30,000	9,500	26.9%	\$24,753	Less than \$30,000	0	0.0%	
Accommodation & Food Services	6,900	72.6%	\$18,772				
Retail Trade	1,700	17.9%	\$29,288				
Arts, Entertainment & Recreation	900	9.5%	\$29,790				

Those sectors earning wages below \$29,999, represented 30.0 percent of total private sector employment in December 2015 and accounted for 26.9 percent of the jobs added.

When combined, the thirteen sectors which added jobs between August 2009 and December 2015, averaged an annual wage of \$47,010 in 2014, while the only sector (Information) which lost employment averaged \$68,258.

Employment within the Mining & Logging sector remained unchanged during this period.

*Annual wages are based on the 2015 Quarterly Census of Employment & Wages program; a Bureau of Labor Statistics program which produces annual wages at the state level.

Current Labor Force Data

During 2015, Rhode Island's labor force continued to show positive growth in the number of employed individuals as well as declines in the number of people unemployed, yet still trailed its pre-recessionary levels established in 2006.

- Rhode Island's unemployment rate is 1.1 percentage points above the 2006 pre-recession average. The number of employed residents is down 23,000 and the number of unemployed residents is up 4,900 from the 2006 levels. In 2015, the state's labor force is down 18,000 from 2006.
- The US annual average unemployment rate in 2006 was 4.6 percent, three-tenths of a percentage point lower than the Rhode Island rate of 4.9 percent. Rhode Island, along with Massachusetts (4.9%), had the highest annual rate in New England and tied for the twelfth highest rate in the country in 2006.
- Since 2009, the height of the recession in Rhode Island, the state has gained back 16,400 employed residents and has 29,200 fewer residents considered unemployed. The unemployment rate has dropped 5 percentage points, from the 11.0 percent average recorded in 2009 to 6.0 percent in 2015. The labor force in 2015 is down 12,700 from the peak of the recession in 2009.
- Rhode Island's annual average unemployment rate of 11.0 percent in 2009 was one and seven-tenths higher than the US average of 9.3 percent. The state had the highest rate in New England and was tied for the sixth highest rate in the nation.
- Over the year, the number of employed residents is up 8,200 while the number of unemployed is down 9,600. The state's average unemployment rate is down 1.7 percentage points from the 2014 average. The labor force continues to decrease, with 1,400 less Rhode Islanders either with a job or looking for a job in 2015 than in the prior year.
- The US annual average unemployment rate in 2015 was 5.3 percent, seven-tenths of a percentage point below the Rhode Island rate of 6.0 percent. Rhode Island had the highest rate in New England and was tied for the tenth highest rate in the country.

Rhode Island Annual Average Labor Force Statistics

Year	Labor Force	Employment	Unemployment	Unemployment Rate	State Rank*
2006	572,600	544,400	28,200	4.9	12
2009	567,300	505,000	62,300	11.0	6
2014	556,000	513,200	42,700	7.7	2
2015	554,600	521,400	33,100	6.0	10
Change					
2006-2015	-18,000	-23,000	4,900	1.1	
2009-2015	-12,700	16,400	-29,200	-5.0	
2014-2015	-1,400	8,200	-9,600	-1.7	

*Ranked highest annual average rate to lowest.

Characteristics of the Insured Unemployed

A total of 7,209 individuals were eligible to collect regular Unemployment Insurance (UI) benefits in September 2015, down 1,192 (-14.2%) from the 8,401 collecting these benefits in September 2014. In all, 27.4 percent of Rhode Island's unemployed workers were eligible to collect unemployment benefits in September 2015, up from 22.2 percent in September 2014.

Claimants were more likely to be female (53.5%) than male (46.5%).

Of the 7,209 individuals collecting Unemployment Insurance benefits, approximately 29 percent faced long-term unemployment (defined as collecting unemployment insurance for 15 weeks or more).

Male (27.4%) claimants were less likely to be among the long-term unemployed than their female counterparts (30.5%).

Selected Characteristics of the Insured Unemployed - September 2015

	Total Claimants Sept 2015	As a Percent of Total	less than 5 weeks	5-14 weeks	15 weeks or longer	Total Claimants Sept 2014
Total	7,209	100.0%	26.9%	44.0%	29.1%	8,401
Male	3,352	46.5%	29.7%	42.9%	27.4%	4,023
Female	3,857	53.5%	24.5%	45.0%	30.5%	4,378
Age	7,209	100.0%	26.9%	44.0%	29.1%	8,401
Under 22	115	1.6%	27.8%	47.8%	23.5%	170
22 - 24	393	5.5%	30.0%	44.3%	25.4%	445
25 - 34	1,604	22.2%	27.2%	44.0%	28.7%	1,907
35 - 44	1,390	19.3%	25.5%	46.5%	28.1%	1,787
45 - 54	1,715	23.8%	26.9%	45.0%	28.2%	1,922
55 - 59	815	11.3%	29.1%	41.2%	29.8%	918
60 - 64	673	9.3%	27.9%	41.0%	31.1%	732
65 or over	504	7.0%	22.2%	41.7%	36.1%	520
Education	7,209	100.0%	26.9%	44.1%	29.1%	8,401
11th grade or less	761	10.6%	30.1%	43.2%	26.7%	914
High School Graduate	2,710	37.6%	28.2%	43.6%	28.2%	3,204
Some College	1,758	24.4%	25.5%	43.7%	30.8%	2,057
Bachelor's Degree	741	10.3%	25.8%	43.9%	30.4%	848
Beyond Bachelor's	1,135	15.7%	23.9%	46.3%	29.8%	1,282
Information Not Available	104	1.4%	33.7%	45.2%	22.1%	96

Nearly two-thirds (65.3%) of the insured unemployed were concentrated in the prime working age years of 25 to 54, representing a significantly larger percentage of the unemployed than of the population aged 16+ (53.6%). The likelihood that a claimant faced long-term unemployment increased with age.

Nearly 38 percent of the insured unemployed were high school graduates (including GED), representing a significantly larger percentage of the insured unemployed than of the unemployed population (22.7%).

Approximately 26 percent of the insured unemployed had a bachelor's degree or higher, representing a larger percentage of the insured unemployed than of the unemployed population (19.2%).

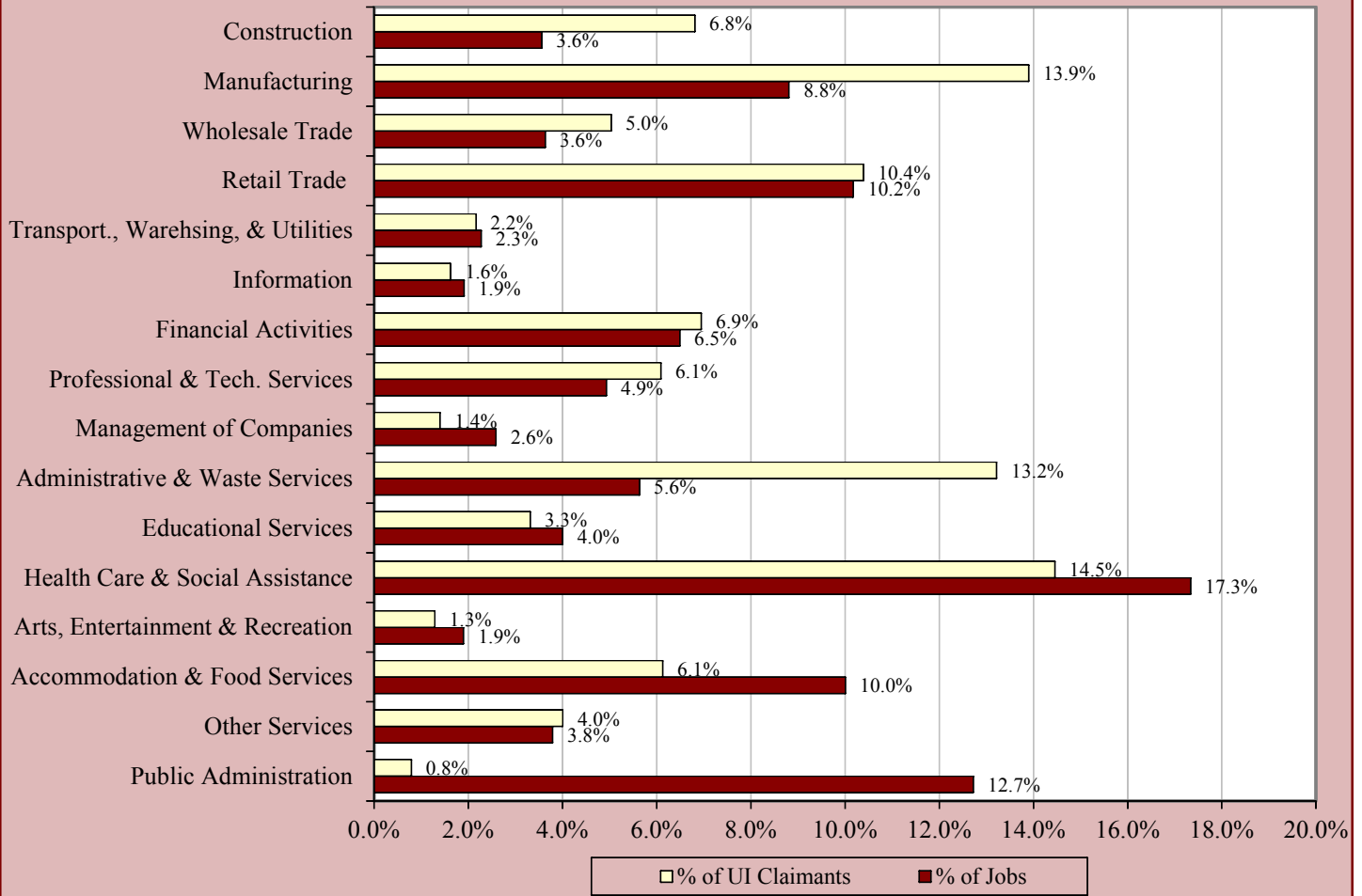
Industry sectors with the highest percentages of long-term unemployed include Information, Finance & Insurance, Real Estate, Wholesale Trade and Professional & Technical Services. Over 35 percent of the individuals previously employed in these sectors had been unemployed for 15 weeks or longer.

Individuals previously employed in Office & Administrative Support (18.1%) occupations represented the largest percentage of claims, followed by Production workers (13.6%). Office & Administrative Support workers are employed in all sectors of the economy while Production workers are primarily found in the Manufacturing sector.

Occupations with the highest percentages of long-term unemployed include Life, Physical & Social Sciences, Architecture & Engineering and Healthcare Support. Over 39 percent of the individuals previously employed in these sectors had been unemployed for 15 weeks or longer.

Selected Industries & Occupations of the Insured Unemployed - September 2015							
	Total Claimants Sept 2015	As a Percent of Total	RI Employment Total	less than 5 weeks	5-14 weeks	15 weeks or longer	Total Claimants Sept 2014
Industry	7,209	100.0%	463,375	26.9%	44.0%	29.1%	8,401
Agriculture/Forestry	6	0.1%	759	16.7%	16.7%	66.7%	10
Mining	11	0.2%	208	54.5%	45.5%	0.0%	2
Utilities	6	0.1%	1,057	0.0%	100.0%	0.0%	4
Construction	491	6.8%	16,498	42.6%	39.1%	17.9%	700
Manufacturing	1,002	13.9%	40,821	33.6%	40.4%	25.9%	905
Wholesale Trade	363	5.0%	16,843	22.3%	42.4%	35.3%	383
Retail Trade	749	10.4%	47,156	27.6%	41.0%	31.4%	857
Transportation & Warehousing	150	2.1%	9,486	24.0%	60.7%	15.3%	202
Information	117	1.6%	8,850	19.7%	35.0%	45.3%	91
Finance & Insurance	365	5.1%	24,140	18.6%	44.9%	36.4%	476
Real Estate	136	1.9%	5,942	25.7%	39.0%	36.0%	150
Professional & Tech. Services	439	6.1%	22,848	20.7%	44.2%	35.1%	540
Management of Companies	101	1.4%	12,001	17.8%	47.5%	34.7%	96
Administrative & Waste Services	953	13.2%	26,109	29.6%	46.4%	24.0%	972
Educational Services	239	3.3%	18,547	25.5%	56.5%	18.0%	271
Health Care & Social Assistance	1,042	14.5%	80,348	22.7%	45.1%	32.2%	1,381
Arts, Entertainment & Recreation	93	1.3%	8,807	34.4%	37.6%	28.0%	115
Accommodation & Food Services	442	6.1%	46,379	18.6%	49.1%	32.4%	585
Other Services	289	4.0%	17,568	26.3%	40.1%	33.6%	373
Public Administration	57	0.8%	58,964	24.6%	47.4%	28.1%	63
Information Not Available	158	2.2%	42	27.2%	45.6%	27.2%	225
Occupation	7,209	100.0%	463,930	26.9%	44.1%	29.1%	8,401
Management	771	10.7%	21,430	22.6%	45.0%	32.3%	914
Business & Financial Operations	283	3.9%	23,770	19.4%	45.6%	35.0%	337
Computer & Mathematical	172	2.4%	13,420	22.7%	40.7%	36.6%	182
Architecture & Engineering	84	1.2%	7,300	19.0%	41.7%	39.3%	100
Life, Physical & Social Science	49	0.7%	2,830	28.6%	28.6%	40.8%	79
Community & Social Services	146	2.0%	9,170	20.5%	43.2%	36.3%	140
Legal	34	0.5%	3,530	17.6%	52.9%	29.4%	49
Education, Training & Library	179	2.5%	32,600	27.9%	58.1%	14.0%	280
Arts, Design, Ent., Sports & Media	142	2.0%	6,140	33.1%	37.3%	30.3%	159
Healthcare Practitioner & Technical	234	3.2%	30,770	25.6%	44.9%	29.9%	288
Healthcare Support	209	2.9%	19,770	20.6%	40.2%	39.2%	338
Protective Service	71	1.0%	11,730	16.9%	52.1%	31.0%	91
Food Preparation & Serving Related	351	4.9%	48,530	20.8%	46.7%	32.5%	441
Building & Grounds Cleaning & Maint.	147	2.0%	14,930	24.5%	46.3%	29.3%	164
Personal Care & Service	153	2.1%	14,040	28.1%	35.3%	36.6%	249
Sales & Related	436	6.0%	45,330	22.7%	43.1%	34.2%	548
Office & Administrative Support	1,306	18.1%	75,110	23.4%	44.9%	31.9%	1,385
Farming, Fishing & Forestry	7	0.1%	140	14.3%	71.4%	14.3%	18
Construction & Extraction	212	2.9%	15,580	35.8%	46.7%	17.5%	294
Installation, Maintenance & Repair	211	2.9%	14,650	23.7%	42.7%	33.2%	240
Production	980	13.6%	30,190	34.9%	43.7%	21.4%	919
Transportation & Material Moving	458	6.4%	22,950	24.9%	48.7%	26.4%	528
Military Specific	12	0.2%	n/a	16.7%	50.0%	33.3%	10
Information Not Available	562	7.8%	n/a	44.8%	36.7%	18.7%	648

Comparison of RI Unemployment Insurance Claimants and Total Jobs By Major Industry Sector - September 2015



- The proportion of claimants from the Administrative & Waste Services (13.2%) and Manufacturing (13.9%) sectors were significantly higher than the respective proportion of total jobs in September 2015. Combined, these sectors represented 27.1 percent of the UI claimants in September, but they accounted for only 14.4 percent of the total jobs. In general, this is an indication of a worker surplus of individuals with work experience in these sectors.
- The Transportation, Warehousing & Utilities, Retail Trade and Other Services sectors had similar proportions of claimants as jobs.
- Conversely, two sectors – Public Administration and Accommodation & Food Services – represented a significantly smaller proportion of UI claimants in September 2015 than their respective proportion of total jobs.
- Only 6.9 percent of the UI claimants in September 2015 were from the Public Administration and Accommodation & Food Services sectors, but they accounted for 22.7 percent of the total jobs. In general, this indicates that there was a tighter labor supply for individuals with work experience in these sectors.

Online Job Postings are Up Over the Year

The Conference Board's Help-Wanted Online Data Series (HWOL) is a relatively new economic indicator which when combined with unemployment data provides detailed monthly data on labor demand (vacancies) for the US and the 50 states. The October figures reflect the sum of the number of unduplicated online job ads for each day from mid-September to mid-October.

In October 2015, The Conference Board reported that national online advertised job postings were up 5.4 percent compared to October 2014. Job postings in the New England region increased 3.7 percent over the October 2014 - October 2015 period. Rhode Island's on-line total job postings numbered 20,800 in October 2015, an increase of 2.0 percent compared to October 2014. Around New England, job postings were up 10.6 percent in Connecticut and 9.2 percent in Massachusetts. Maine (-20.7%), New Hampshire (-11.4%) and Vermont (-6.0%) each saw a decrease in job postings in October 2015 compared to October 2014.

State Levels of Total Ads and New Ads Seasonally Adjusted

	Total Ads (Thousands) ¹			New Ads (Thousands) ²		
	Oct-14	Oct-15	Change	Oct-14	Oct-15	Change
Connecticut	70.9	78.4	10.6%	34.5	37.2	7.8%
Maine	30.0	23.8	-20.7%	14.1	11.4	-19.1%
Massachusetts	156.4	170.8	9.2%	79.8	84.4	5.8%
New Hampshire	29.9	26.5	-11.4%	16.4	11.9	-27.4%
Rhode Island	20.4	20.8	2.0%	12.1	12.4	2.5%
Vermont	13.3	12.5	-6.0%	6.8	6.6	-2.9%
United States	5,171.6	5,452.5	5.4%	2,622.2	2,647.8	1.0%

Source: The Conference Board

¹ Total ads are unduplicated ads appearing during the reference period. This figure includes ads from previous months that have been reposted as well as new ads. Total ads appear only once per defined geographic area.

² New ads are unduplicated ads which did not appear during the previous reference period. An online help wanted ad is counted as "New" only in the month it first appears and only once per defined geographic area.

Nationally, there were 3.48 job postings per 10 persons in the labor force in October 2015. Rhode Island had 3.74 online job postings per 100 persons in the labor force, trailing Massachusetts (4.79) and Connecticut (4.13). Massachusetts (+0.42), Connecticut (+0.38) and Rhode Island (+0.04) posted increases in the Total Ad Rate from last October, while Maine (-0.84), New Hampshire (-0.47) and Vermont (-0.22) had a drop in their Total Ad Rates over the year.

A comparison of the number of unemployed persons in relation to the number of online job postings provides a measure of supply/demand ratio. A ratio greater than one (less favorable for workers) indicates that the number of unemployed workers exceeds the number of on-line job ads. A ratio of less than one (more favorable for workers) means that there are fewer unemployed workers than on-line job postings.

State Labor Supply/Labor Demand Indicators Seasonally Adjusted

	Total Ad Rates (%) ¹		Unemp. Rate ²	Unemployed Oct-15 (Thousands)	Total Ads Oct-15 (Thousands)	Oct-15 Supply/ Demand Rate ³
	Oct-14	Oct-15				
Connecticut	3.75	4.13	5.1%	97.0	78.4	1.24
Maine	4.31	3.47	4.3%	29.1	23.8	1.22
Massachusetts	4.37	4.79	4.6%	164.0	170.8	0.96
New Hampshire	4.04	3.57	3.3%	24.4	26.5	0.92
Rhode Island	3.70	3.74	5.3%	29.4	20.8	1.41
Vermont	3.81	3.59	3.7%	12.8	12.5	1.02
United States	3.31	3.48	5.0%	7,908.0	5,452.5	1.45

Source: The Conference Board

¹ Total ad rate is calculated as a percent of the most currently available Bureau of Labor Statistics civilian labor force data. Ad rates represent the number of ads per 100 persons in the civilian labor force.

² Unemployment data are from the Bureau of Labor Statistics Current Population Survey and Local Area Unemployment Statistics programs, October 2015.

³ Supply/Demand rate is the number of unemployed divided by the number of total ads for the designated month.

Rhode Island had 1.41 unemployed persons per online job ad in October indicating that the demand for jobs in Rhode Island was greater than the supply of jobs in October.

Rhode Island had 1.41 unemployed persons per online job ad in October, down from 2.06 in October 2014.

Nationally, there were 1.45 unemployed persons for every online job advertisement in October 2015, down from 1.77 in October 2014.

Rhode Island's Supply/Demand ratio (1.41) was much higher than the rest of New England but below the US level (1.45). New Hampshire (0.92), Massachusetts (0.96) and Vermont (1.02) fared the best among New England states.

Age Demographics of RI Industries

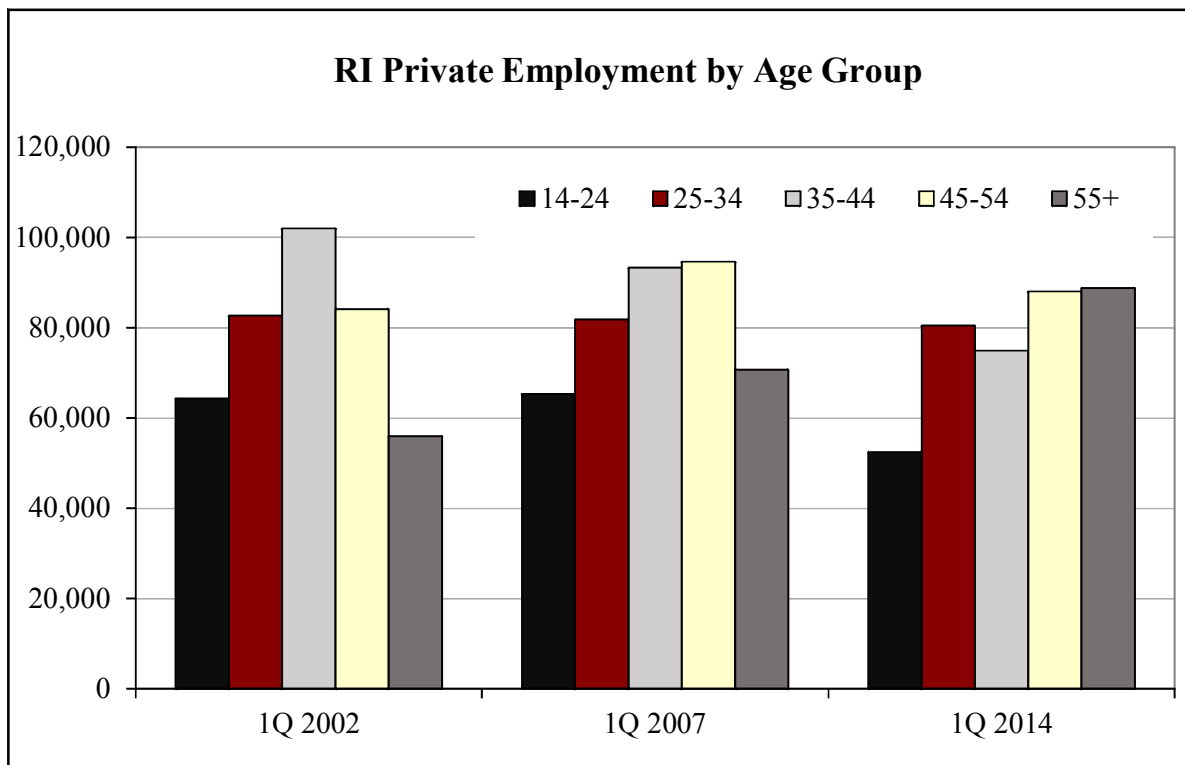
The Census Bureau's *Longitudinal Employer-Household Dynamics* (LEHD) program generates statistics for different demographic groups. One area of the program tracks employment by age group which is broken down into eight different age categories. For this publication, we have narrowed down the age categories to five categories; 14-24, 25-34, 35-44, 45-54 and 55+.

According to the LEHD, the age of Rhode Island's private sector workforce appears to be on the rise while the younger age groups seems to be declining.

Between 2002 and 2014, Rhode Island's age groups of 14-24, 25-34 and 35-44, all reported a decrease in the number of private sector workers. Age group 35-44 reported a notable decrease in the percentage of workers during this period. This age group represented 26.2 percent of the private sector workforce in 2002 which fell to 19.5 percent in 2014. Meanwhile, age groups 45-54 and 55+ both reported an increase in the percentage of workers between 2002 and 2014. A notable increase was reported in age group 55+ which represented 23.1 percent of private sector employment in 2014, up from the 14.4 percent it represented in 2002.

Percent of Private Employment		
Age Group	1Q 2002	1Q 2014
14-24	16.5%	13.6%
25-34	21.3%	20.9%
35-44	26.2%	19.5%
45-54	21.6%	22.9%
55+	14.4%	23.1%

In comparison, the neighboring state of Connecticut shared a similar story as Rhode Island in age group demographics. The two older age groups of 45-54 and 55+ both reported in increase in the percentage of workers between 2002 and 2014. Age group 55+ had the larger jump in the percentage of workers, increasing from 15.2 percent of Connecticut's private sector employment in 2002, to 23.8 percent in 2014. The middle age group and younger age groups of 35-44, 25-34 and 14-24, all had a smaller percentage of workers in 2014 than in 2002. The noticeable decrease occurred amongst the middle age group of 35-44 which represented 19.5 percent of Connecticut's private sector workforce in 2014, down from the 27.1 percent it represented in 2002.

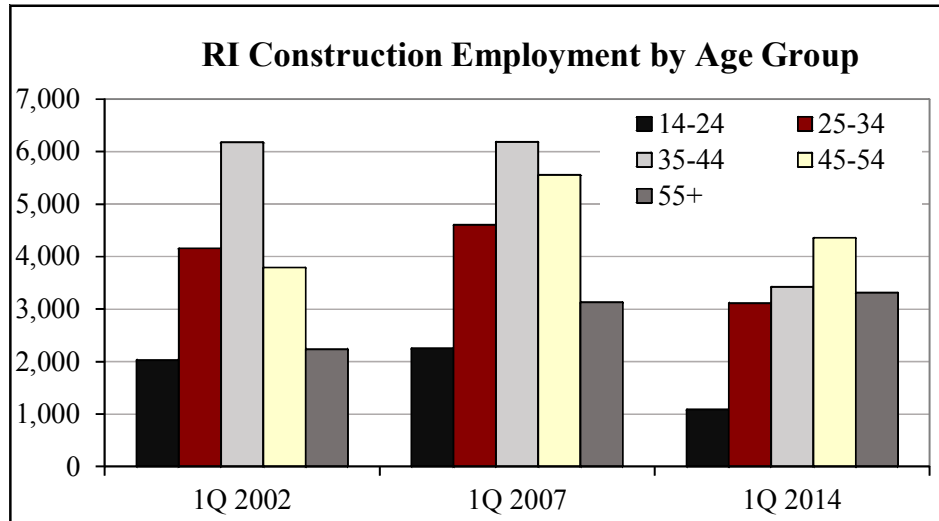


*The LEHD program gathers demographic data on a state-by-state basis, and not on the national level. Massachusetts recently just started providing the LEHD program with data so historical data is not available. Since LEHD data is not available nationally, a workforce by age comparison cannot be conducted. Without Massachusetts historic data, a New England comparison is not accessible.

Construction

LEHD data reflects that the percentage of younger age construction workers in Rhode Island is shrinking, while the percentage of older workers appears to be increasing. Between 2002 and 2014, the two older age groups of 45-54 and 55+, both experienced an increase in the percentage of construction workers within their respective age groups, while the two youngest age groups 14-24 and 25-34, both reported a decrease in the percentage of construction workers within their age groups. The percentage of construction workers in age group 35-44 also reported a decrease. This age group represented 22.4 percent of the construction workforce in 2014, which was down from the 33.6 percent it represented in 2002.

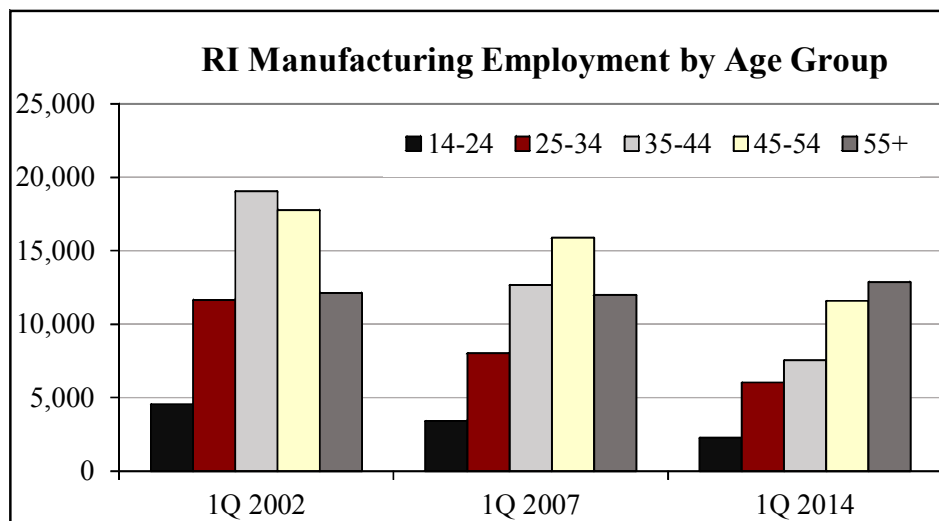
Percent of Construction Employment		
Age Group	1Q 2002	1Q 2014
14-24	11.1%	7.1%
25-34	22.6%	20.4%
35-44	33.6%	22.4%
45-54	20.6%	28.5%
55+	12.1%	21.7%



Manufacturing

Based on the LEHD data, the percentage of older manufacturing workers in Rhode Island increased between 2002 and 2014, while the percentage of younger workers decreased. Among the five age groups, age groups 45-54 and 55+, both age groups experienced growth in the percentage of manufacturing workers. Age group 55+ represented nearly 32 percent of the manufacturing workforce in 2014 which was quite higher than the 18.6 percent it made up in 2002. The younger age groups of 14-24, 25-34 and 35-44 all reported a smaller percentage of manufacturing workers in 2014 than reported in 2002.

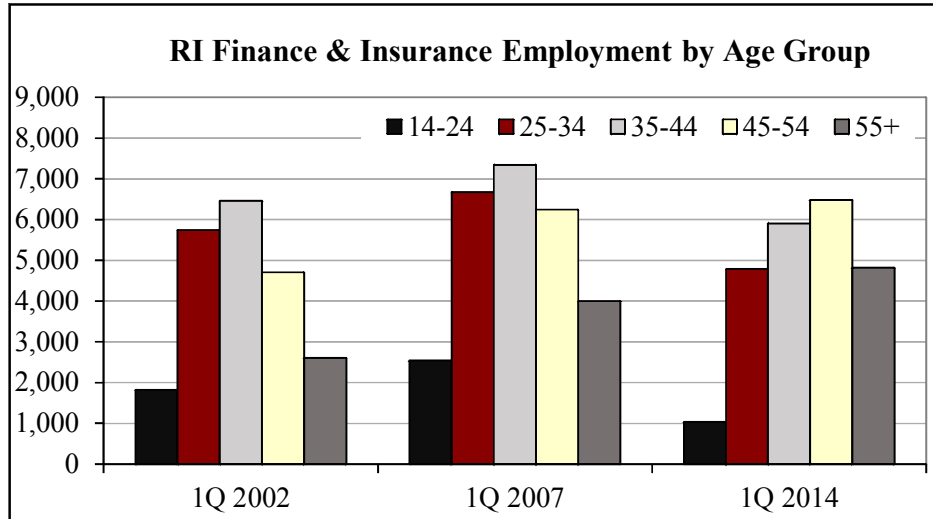
Percent of Manufacturing Employment		
Age Group	1Q 2002	1Q 2014
14-24	7.0%	5.6%
25-34	17.9%	15.0%
35-44	29.2%	18.7%
45-54	27.3%	28.8%
55+	18.6%	31.9%



Finance & Insurance

In 2014, the percentage of Rhode Island workers age 55+ in the Financial Activities sector equaled 20.9 percent, up from the 12.2 percent this age group represented in 2002. An increase in the number of workers holds true for age group 45-54 which accounted for 28.1 percent of the sectors workforce in 2014, up from the 22.1 percent it accounted for in 2002. Meanwhile, LEHD reported that the younger age groups of 14-24, 25-34 and 35-44, all reported a smaller percentage of workers in 2014 than in 2002, an indication that the Financial Activities sector is aging.

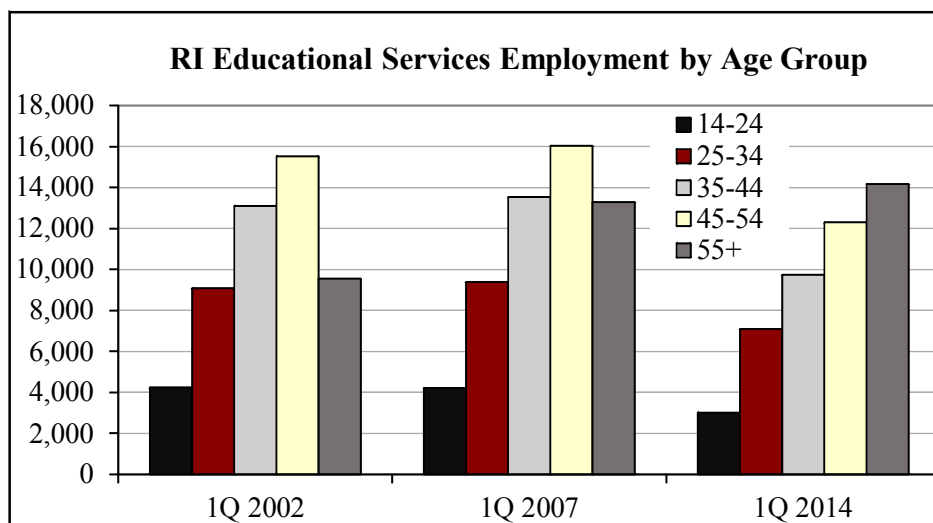
Percent of Finance & Insurance Employment		
Age Group	1Q 2002	1Q 2014
14-24	8.6%	4.5%
25-34	26.9%	20.8%
35-44	30.3%	25.7%
45-54	22.1%	28.1%
55+	12.2%	20.9%



Educational Services

According to LEHD data, age group 55+ was the only age group in the Educational Services sector to have a greater percentage of workers in 2014 than in 2002. In 2014, those aged 55+ represented 30.6 percent of the Educational Services workforce compared to the 18.6 percent it represented in 2002. The four remaining age groups in Rhode Island all reported a smaller percentage of Educational Services workers in 2014 than in 2002.

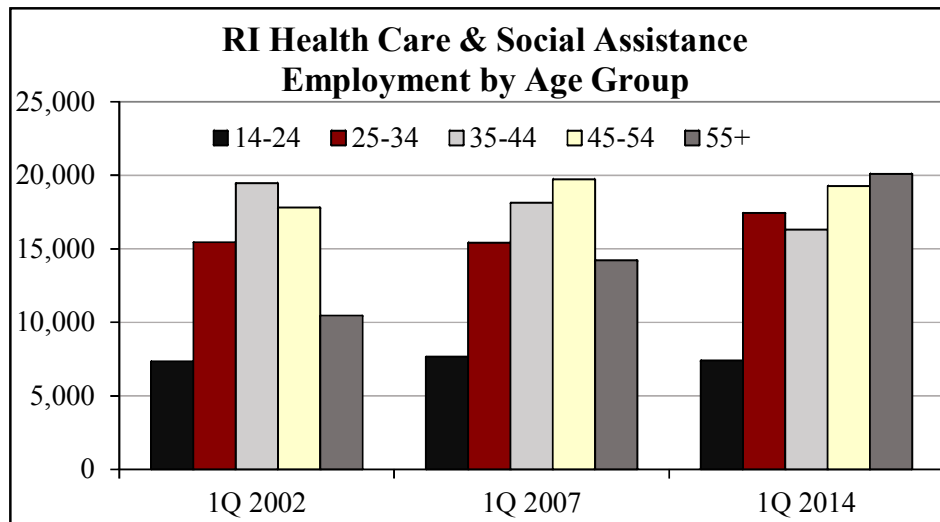
Percent of Educational Services Employment		
Age Group	1Q 2002	1Q 2014
14-24	8.2%	6.5%
25-34	17.6%	15.3%
35-44	25.4%	21.0%
45-54	30.1%	26.6%
55+	18.6%	30.6%



Health Care & Social Assistance

Between 2002 and 2014, age group 55+ was the only age group within the Health Care & Social Assistance sector to report an increase in the percentage of workers. Age group 25-34 remained virtually unchanged as this age group made up 21.7 percent of the Health Care & Social Assistance workforce in 2014 as opposed to the 21.9 percent it made up in 2002. The remaining three age groups, 14-24, 35-44 and 45-54, all had a smaller percentage of workers in 2014 than in 2002.

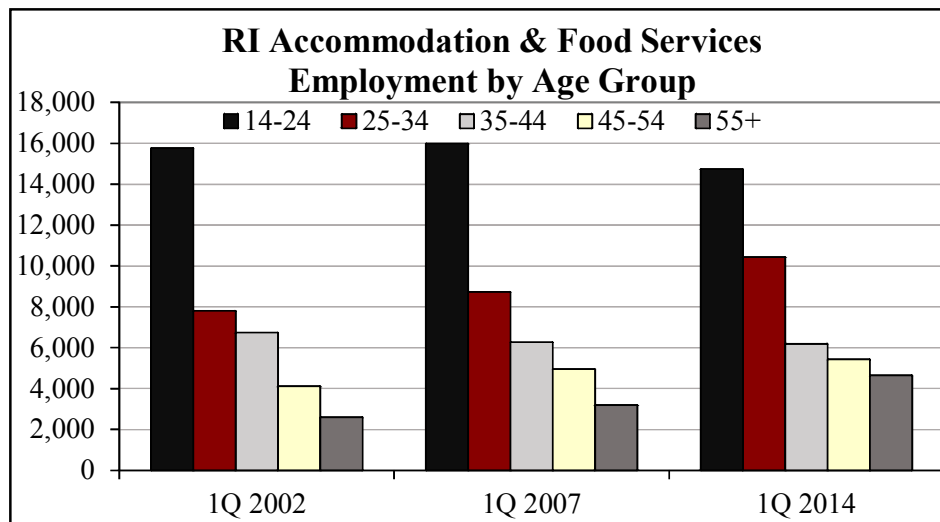
Percent of Health Care & Social Assistance Employment		
Age Group	1Q 2002	1Q 2014
14-24	10.4%	9.2%
25-34	21.9%	21.7%
35-44	27.6%	20.2%
45-54	25.2%	23.9%
55+	14.8%	25.0%



Accommodation & Food Services

Age group 25-34 in the Accommodation & Food Services sector made up 25.2 percent of the sectors workforce in 2014, up from the 21.1 percent that this age group made up in 2002. In addition, the older age groups of 45-54 and 55+ reported a higher percentage of workers in 2014 than in 2002. In 2014, the two age groups of 14-24 and 35-44, both experienced a decline in the percentage of workers from 2002, with age group 14-24 falling from 42.6 percent of the workforce it represented in 2002 to the 35.6 percent it represented in 2014.

Percent of Accommodation & Food Services Employment		
Age Group	1Q 2002	1Q 2014
14-24	42.6%	35.6%
25-34	21.1%	25.2%
35-44	18.2%	14.9%
45-54	11.1%	13.1%
55+	7.0%	11.2%



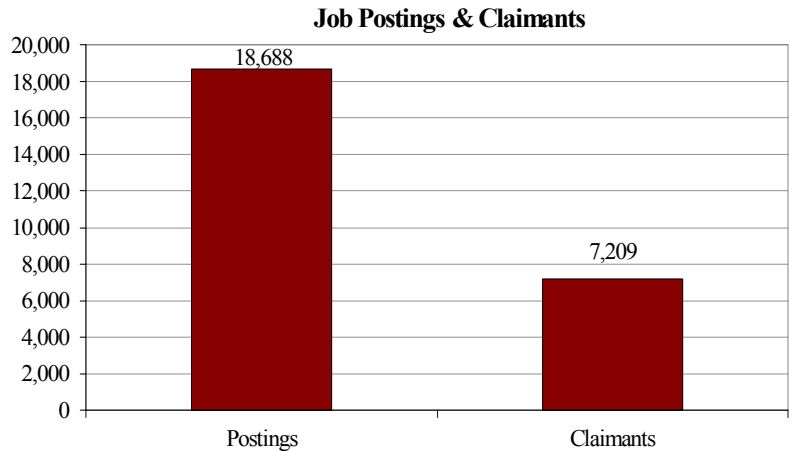
Labor Supply and Demand

Unemployment Insurance (UI) claimants represent an able and available supply of trained workers who are currently seeking work. Online postings represent a current demand for labor detailing the types of occupations employers are seeking to fill. A comparison of these two data sets provides an indication of occupational groups for which labor supply is sufficient to meet employer's current needs and for which there is a shortage of trained workers available to meet employers' current demands.

On September 30, 2015, the Department of Labor and Training's EmployRI online network recorded 18,688 on-line job postings from RI-based businesses. Also during September a total of 7,209 (23.7%) of the 30,364 unemployed RI residents collected UI benefits.

A comparison of the on-line job posting to the UI claimants currently seeking work indicates that there was less than one (0.4) claimant for each on-line posting.

Job postings for which the usual educational requirement was either a high school diploma (31.2%) or a bachelor's degree (14.2%) accounted for the most on-line postings, numbering 5,830 and 2,648 respectively. For nearly a quarter of the postings, an educational requirement was not listed.



Education Levels for Postings and Claimants Third Quarter 2015

	Postings *		Claimants**		Claimants/ Posting
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	
Total	18,688	100.0%	7,209	100.0%	0.4
Advance Degrees	910	4.9%	1,114	15.4%	1.2
Bachelor's	2,648	14.2%	741	10.3%	0.3
Associate	1,637	8.8%	352	4.9%	0.2
Some College or Post Secondary Award	561	3.0%	1,405	19.5%	2.5
High School/GED	5,830	31.2%	2,710	37.6%	0.5
Less Than High School	2,581	13.8%	761	10.6%	0.3
Unavailable	4,521	24.2%	125	1.7%	0.0

* Jobs posted during the 90 day period ending September 30, 2015 and still open on September 30, 2015.

** Individuals receiving Unemployment Insurance payments for the week ending September 12, 2015.

A labor surplus was associated with two of the 21 occupational groups including Construction & Extraction and Production. In these major groups there were almost two unemployment insurance claimants with this type of work experience for every on-line posting.

Labor Supply and Demand Third Quarter 2015			
Occupation Group	EmployRI Postings*	Unemployed Claimants**	Claimants/ Posting
Total	18,688	7,209	0.4
Construction & Extraction	139	222	1.6
Production	551	821	1.5
Office & Administrative Support	1,802	1,100	0.6
Legal	53	30	0.6
Life, Physical, & Social Science	75	41	0.5
Installation, Maintenance, & Repair	344	175	0.5
Community & Social Services	230	117	0.5
Personal Care & Service	268	128	0.5
Food Preparation & Serving Related	798	294	0.4
Education, Training, & Library	455	152	0.3
Building & Grounds Cleaning & Maintenance	376	123	0.3
Management	2,140	643	0.3
Business & Financial Operations	841	239	0.3
Transportation & Material Moving	1,567	382	0.2
Healthcare Support	775	172	0.2
Arts, Design, Entertainment, Sports, & Media	550	120	0.2
Sales & Related	2,762	365	0.1
Protective Service	486	60	0.1
Computer & Mathematical	1,136	140	0.1
Architecture & Engineering	737	70	0.1
Healthcare Practitioners & Technical	2,582	193	0.1

* Jobs posted during the 90 day period ending September 30, 2015 and still open on September 30, 2015
 ** Individuals receiving Unemployment Insurance payments for the week ending September 12, 2015

The largest potential labor shortages were associated with postings for Healthcare Practitioners & Technical occupations, Computer & Math occupations, Protective Service occupations, Sales & Related occupations and Architecture & Engineering occupations where job postings outnumber claimants by more than ten to one.

These numbers indicate that employers seeking to fill vacancies in these occupational groups would have more difficulty finding qualified workers than those employers attempting to fill vacancies in occupational groups where the ratio of unemployed claimants to on-line postings is greater or closer to one.

Labor Demand

On-line postings represent a current demand for labor, detailing the types of occupations employers are seeking to fill.

During the third quarter of 2015, EmployRI recorded 18,688 on-line job postings for 488 different occupations. There were 68 occupations with 50 or more job postings during the third quarter 2015 accounting for more than half (55%) of the on-line postings.

Demand exceeded supply for 29 of the 30 occupations most in demand. For 11 of these 29 occupations an associate degree or higher is generally required.

Occupations with the Most Postings Third Quarter 2015

Occupational Title	Postings*	Claimants**	Postings/ Claimant	Educational Requirement
Accountants & Auditors	173	30	6	Bachelor's
Cashiers	110	46	2	Less than HS
Combined Food Preparation & Serving Workers	115	36	3	Less than HS
Computer Programmers	129	4	32	Bachelor's
Computer Systems Analysts	242	18	13	Bachelor's
Computer User Support Specialists	133	1	133	Some college
Cooks, Restaurant	106	18	6	Less than HS
Customer Service Representatives	630	139	5	High School/GED
Demonstrators & Product Promoters	196	4	49	High School/GED
Executive Secretaries & Executive Admin Assistants	119	59	2	High School/GED
First-Line Supervisors of Retail Sales Workers	190	82	2	High School/GED
General & Operations Managers	105	147	1	Associate
Heavy & Tractor-Trailer Truck Drivers	695	51	14	High School/GED
Janitors & Cleaners, Except Maids & Housekeepers	182	48	4	Less than HS
Laborers & Freight, Stock, & Material Movers, Hand	317	38	8	Less than HS
Licensed Practical & Licensed Vocational Nurses	259	10	26	Postsecondary
Marketing Managers	109	24	5	Bachelor's
Nurse Practitioners	152	3	51	Master's
Nursing Assistants	488	60	8	Postsecondary
Parking Enforcement Workers	300	-	-	High School/GED
Personal Care Aides	106	65	2	Less than HS
Registered Nurses	1,154	46	25	Associate
Retail Salespersons	491	40	12	Less than HS
Sales Managers	198	62	3	Bachelor's
Sales Reps, Wholesale & Mfg., Technical & Scientific	117	17	7	Bachelor's
Security Guards	126	32	4	High School/GED
Stock Clerks & Order Fillers	216	84	3	Less than HS
Tax Preparers	129	61	2	High School/GED
Tellers	155	33	5	High School/GED
Waiters & Waitresses	109	47	2	Less than HS

* Jobs posted during the 90 day period ending September 30, 2015 & still open on September 30, 2015.

** Individuals receiving Unemployment Insurance payments for the week ending September 12, 2015.

Labor Supply

Unemployment insurance claimants represent an able and available supply of trained workers who are currently seeking work.

The 7,209 individuals collecting unemployment insurance benefits in September 2015 reported previous work experience in 488 different occupations.

Labor surpluses existed for almost half of the occupations most frequently cited by UI claimants. Data shows large surpluses exist for General Maintenance & Repair Workers, Computer Support Specialists, and General Office Clerks.

Occupations with the Most Claimants Third Quarter 2015

Occupational Title	Postings*	Claimants**	Claimants/ Posting	Educational Requirement
Billing & Posting Clerks	26	42	1.6	High School/GED
Bookkeeping, Accounting, & Auditing Clerks	77	73	0.9	High School/GED
Carpenters	34	71	2.1	High School/GED
Cashiers	110	46	0.4	Less than HS
Computer Support Specialist	133	41	0.3	Some college
Customer Service Representatives	630	139	0.2	High School/GED
Executive Secretaries & Executive Assistants	119	59	0.5	High School/GED
First-Line Supervisors: Office & Administrative Workers	71	69	1.0	High School/GED
First-Line Supervisors: Production & Operating Workers	39	49	1.3	Postsecondary
First-Line Supervisors: Retail Sales Workers	190	82	0.4	High School/GED
General Office Clerks	24	138	5.8	High School/GED
General & Operations Managers	105	147	1.4	Associate
Heavy & Tractor-Trailer Truck Drivers	695	51	0.1	High School/GED
Helpers - Production Workers	29	59	2.0	Less than HS
Home Health Aides	70	41	0.6	Less than HS
Inspectors, Testers, Sorters, Samplers, & Weighers	32	51	1.6	High School/GED
Janitors & Cleaners, Except Maids & Housekeepers	182	48	0.3	Less than HS
Maintenance & Repair Workers, General	16	57	3.6	High School/GED
Medical Secretaries	19	51	2.7	High School/GED
Nursing Assistants	488	60	0.1	Postsecondary
Packers & Packagers, Hand	63	92	1.5	Less than HS
Personal Care Aides	106	65	0.6	Less than HS
Registered Nurses	1,154	46	0.0	Associate
Sales Managers	198	62	0.3	Bachelor's
Sales Reps, Wholesale & Mfg., Exc. Technical & Scientific	21	52	2.5	High School/GED
Secretaries & Admin Assistants	30	44	1.5	High School/GED
Stock Clerks & Order Fillers	216	84	0.4	Less than HS
Tax Preparers	129	61	0.5	High School/GED
Teacher Assistants	76	47	0.6	High School/GED
Waiters & Waitresses	109	47	0.4	Less than HS

* Jobs posted during the 90 day period ending September 30, 2015 & still open on September 30, 2015.

** Individuals receiving unemployment insurance payments for the week ending September 12, 2015.

Labor Shortages

Some Rhode Island employers report that they are having difficulty finding qualified workers to fill many of the positions they have available. During the third quarter of 2015, the number of posted vacancies exceeded the number of unemployed workers for more than 200 occupations, indicating a possible labor shortage for those occupations.

Our labor supply and demand data suggests that there are not enough experienced unemployed workers available to meet the strong demand employers have for occupations such as Computer User Support Specialists, Nurse Practitioners, Demonstrators & Product Promoters and Computer Programmers. While a college degree (Associate or higher) is required for many of these jobs, for some, a high school education is sufficient.

Occupations with Potential Shortages Third Quarter 2015

Occupational Title	Postings*	Claimants**	Postings/ Claimant	Educational Requirement
Computer User Support Specialists	133	1	133	Some college
Nurse Practitioners	152	3	51	Master's
Demonstrators & Product Promoters	196	4	49	High School/GED
Computer Programmers	129	4	32	Bachelor's
Licensed Practical & Licensed Vocational Nurses	259	10	26	Postsecondary
Registered Nurses	1,154	46	25	Associate
Web Developers	25	1	25	Bachelor's
Concierges	23	1	23	High School/GED
Database Administrators	42	2	21	Bachelor's
Real Estate Sales Agents	21	1	21	High School/GED
Merchandise Displayers & Window Trimmers	60	3	20	High School/GED
Network & Computer Systems Administrators	59	3	20	Bachelor's
Financial Analysts	75	4	19	Bachelor's
Occupational Therapists	63	4	16	Master's
Machine Tool Setters, Operators, & Tenders	105	7	15	High School/GED
Personal Financial Advisors	72	5	14	Bachelor's
Heavy & Tractor-Trailer Truck Drivers	695	51	14	High School/GED
Computer Systems Analysts	242	18	13	Bachelor's
Retail Salespersons	491	40	12	Less than HS
Bus & Truck Mechanics & Diesel Engine Specialists	24	2	12	High School/GED
Hosts & Hostesses, Restaurant, Lounge, & Coffee Shop	35	3	12	Less than HS
Surgical Technologists	23	2	12	Postsecondary
Electrical Engineers	22	2	11	Bachelor's
Mechanical Drafters	11	1	11	Associate
Special Education Teachers, Preschool	11	1	11	Bachelor's
Dietetic Technicians	10	1	10	High School/GED
Food Batchmakers	10	1	10	High School/GED
Pharmacy Technicians	103	11	9	High School/GED
Software Developers, Applications	74	8	9	Bachelor's
Veterinarians	9	1	9	Doctoral

* Jobs posted during the 90 day period ending September 30, 2015 & still open on September 30, 2015.

** Individuals receiving unemployment insurance payments for the week ending September 12, 2015.

Industry Outlook 2024

The Big Picture

Rhode Island employment is expected to increase by more than 36,000 jobs during the 2014-2024 projection period. Employment in 2024 is projected to reach 542,400 an increase of 36,070 (7.1%) jobs from the 2014 employment level. Much of this growth is attributed to the increased demand for the products and services provided by the Health Care & Social Assistance; Accommodation & Food Services; Professional, Scientific & Technical Services; Administrative & Waste Services and Construction sectors. Nationally, employment is projected to increase by 6.5 percent.



A Closer Look at Projected Employment for Rhode Island in Year 2024

Industry Title	2014	2024	Change	
	Estimated Employment	Projected Employment	Numeric	Percent
Total All Industries	506,324	542,400	36,076	7.1%
Health Care & Social Assistance	81,261	88,350	7,089	8.7%
Accommodation & Food Services	46,379	50,700	4,321	9.3%
Retail Trade	47,157	49,320	2,163	4.6%
Educational Services	44,040	45,250	1,210	2.8%
Manufacturing	40,821	43,280	2,459	6.0%
Government	32,566	32,550	-16	-0.1%
Administrative & Waste Services	26,109	29,600	3,491	13.4%
Professional, Scientific, & Technical Services	22,848	26,750	3,902	17.1%
Finance & Insurance	24,140	26,310	2,170	9.0%
Construction	16,497	19,700	3,203	19.4%
Other Services (except Government)	17,569	18,260	691	3.9%
Wholesale Trade	16,842	17,295	453	2.7%
Management of Companies & Enterprises	12,001	14,250	2,249	18.7%
Transportation & Warehousing	9,970	10,935	965	9.7%
Arts, Entertainment, & Recreation	8,807	9,600	793	9.0%
Information	8,850	8,970	120	1.4%
Real Estate & Rental & Leasing	5,942	6,200	258	4.3%
Utilities	1,057	1,065	8	0.8%
Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing & Hunting	760	805	45	5.9%
Mining	208	210	2	1.0%

Snapshots of Selected Industry Sectors

Health Care & Social Assistance

Industry Sector	2014	2024	Change
Health Care & Social Assistance	81,261	88,350	7,089

Subsectors of Health Care & Social Assistance Projected Employment in Year 2024

The largest numeric gains will continue to occur in the Health Care & Social Assistance sector. This sector is projected to account for nearly 20 percent of the new job growth expected in the state during the 2014-2024 projection period. Increasing healthcare coverage, medical advances along with an aging population will result in an increase of nearly 7,100 (+8.7%) jobs.

Within the Health Care & Social Assistance Sector, Ambulatory Health Care Services which includes Offices of Physicians, Medical Laboratories and Home Health Care Services is expected to show the largest gains (+2,381), followed closely by the Nursing & Residential Care Facilities (+2,265) subsector. While Hospitals continue to add employment (+1,401) the growth rate is expected to be slightly below the statewide average. The Social Assistance subsector is projected to add over 1,000 jobs during the projection period.

Industry Subsector	Employment		
	2014	2024	Change
Ambulatory Health Care Services	25,819	28,200	2,381
Hospitals	24,198	25,600	1,402
Nursing & Residential Care Facilities	18,535	20,800	2,265
Social Assistance	12,709	13,750	1,041

Accommodation & Food Services

Industry Sector	2014	2024	Change
Accommodation & Food Services	46,379	50,700	4,321

Subsectors of Accommodation & Food Services Projected Employment in Year 2024

Above average growth (9.3%) in the Accommodation & Food Services sector's will generate more than 4,300 new jobs. This sector consists of two subsectors. The majority of new jobs (+3,970) are projected to be in Food Services & Drinking Places which account for more than 90 percent of the sectors total employment.

Industry Subsector	Employment		
	2014	2024	Change
Accommodation	4,353	4,700	347
Food Services & Drinking Places	42,026	46,000	3,974

Professional, Scientific & Technical Services

Industry Sector	2014	2024	Change
Professional, Scientific & Technical Services	22,848	26,750	3,902

Industry Components Effecting Projections for Professional, Scientific & Technical Services

Ranking third in both numeric change (+3,902) and percent change (17.1%), the Professional, Scientific & Technical Services sector is projected to grow at more than twice the average rate. In RI, this sector is dominated by businesses offering legal services, accounting & payroll services, computer services, architectural & engineering services, and management & technical consulting services to both businesses and individuals. Over the last three years, employment in Computer System Design and Management Consulting has increased by an average of six percent a year between 2012 and 2015 a trend that is expected to continue.

Detailed Industries	Employment		
	2012	2015	Change
Computer System Design	5,563	6,603	19%
Legal	4,004	4,069	2%
Architectural & Engineering	3,472	3,744	8%
Accounting & Bookkeeping	2,908	2,991	3%
Mgmt. & Tech. Consulting Services	2,093	2,544	22%

Administrative & Support & Waste Management & Remedial Services

Industry Sector	2014	2024	Change
Administrative & Support & Waste Management & Remedial Services	26,109	29,600	3,491

Subsectors of Administrative & Support & Waste Management & Remedial Services Projected Employment in Year 2024

Large numeric gains and above average growth is projected for the Administrative & Waste Services sector resulting in the addition of nearly 3,500 (+13.4%) new jobs.

The largest gain (+3,230) is expected in Administrative & Support Services. This subsector includes establishments engaged in activities that support the day-to-day operations of other organizations such as general management, personnel administration, clerical activities, temporary help, security and cleaning activities which are often integral parts of the activities of establishments found in all sectors of the economy.

Industry Subsector	Employment		
	2014	2024	Change
Administrative & Support Services	24,520	27,750	3,230
Waste Mgmt. & Remediation Services	1,589	1,850	261

Construction

Industry Sector	2014	2024	Change
Construction	22,848	26,750	3,902

Subsectors of Construction Projected Employment in Year 2024

The construction sector is projected to grow at the fastest rate (+19.4%) during the projection period with the addition of some 3,200 jobs. Within the sector, all three subsectors – Construction of Buildings, Heavy & Civil Engineering Construction and Specialty Trade Contractors are projected to grow at more than twice the state average growth rate adding 868; 353; and 1,982 jobs respectively.

Construction sector employment is projected to reach 19,700 by 2024, falling short of its pre-recession level (22,803).

Industry Subsector	Employment		
	2014	2024	Change
Construction of Buildings	4,032	4,900	868
Heavy & Civil Engineering Construction	11,847	2,200	353
Specialty Trade Contractors	10,618	12,600	1,982

Manufacturing

Industry Sector	2014	2024	Change
Manufacturing	40,821	43,280	2,459

Selected Subsectors of Manufacturing Projected Employment in Year 2024

Nearly 2,500 new jobs are expected to be added in our state's Manufacturing sector during the projection period.

Transportation Equipment Manufacturing, which is dominated by Ship & Boat Building, will provide almost 90 percent of the new job gains. Other industries expected to show moderate increases include Chemical Manufacturing and Food Manufacturing which are expected to add over 250 and 500 jobs, respectively. These gains will overshadow losses that are expected to occur elsewhere in the sector.

The six selected subsectors to the right represent over sixty percent of the projected employment within the Manufacturing sector.

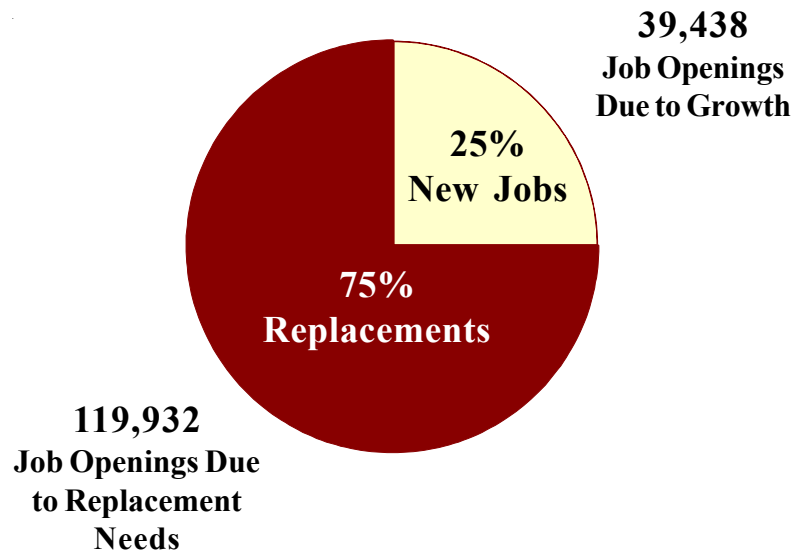
Industry Subsector	Employment		
	2014	2024	Change
Transportation Equipment Mfg.	4,408	6,600	2,192
Fabricated Metal Product Mfg.	5,388	5,400	12
Miscellaneous Manufacturing	5,669	5,100	-569
Food Manufacturing	3,183	3,700	517
Chemical Manufacturing	3,144	3,400	256
Computer & Electronic Product Mfg.	3,302	3,150	-152

2014 - 2024 Industry Subsectors Adding the Most Jobs

Industry Subsector	2014	2024	Change	
	Estimated Employment	Projected Employment	Numeric	Percent
Food Services & Drinking Places	42,026	46,000	3,974	9.5
Professional, Scientific, & Technical Services	22,848	26,750	3,902	17.1
Administrative & Support Services	24,520	27,750	3,230	13.2
Ambulatory Health Care Services	25,819	28,200	2,381	9.2
Nursing & Residential Care Facilities	18,535	20,800	2,265	12.2
Management of Companies & Enterprises	12,001	14,250	2,249	18.7
Transportation Equipment Manufacturing	4,408	6,600	2,192	49.7
Specialty Trade Contractors	10,618	12,600	1,982	18.7
Hospitals	24,198	25,600	1,402	5.8
Educational Services	44,040	45,250	1,210	2.8
Social Assistance	12,709	13,750	1,041	8.2
Financial Investments & Related Activities	5,118	6,000	882	17.2
Construction of Buildings	4,032	4,900	868	21.5
Credit Intermediation & Related Activities	9,728	10,500	772	7.9
Amusement, Gambling, & Recreation Industries	6,742	7,400	658	9.8
Food Manufacturing	3,183	3,700	517	16.2
Insurance Carriers & Related Activities	9,287	9,800	513	5.5
Motor Vehicle & Parts Dealers	5,593	6,060	467	8.4
Data Processing, Hosting & Related Services	2,552	3,000	448	17.6
General Merchandise Stores	7,498	7,900	402	5.4
Personal & Laundry Services	5,185	5,550	365	7.0
Food & Beverage Stores	11,938	12,300	362	3.0
Heavy & Civil Engineering Construction	1,847	2,200	353	19.1
Accommodation, including Hotels & Motels	4,353	4,700	347	8.0

Job Openings: Due to Growth & Replacements

Job openings result from the need to replace workers who leave an occupation and the need to fill vacancies created by business expansion. During the 2014-2024 projection period, it is estimated that employers will need to find workers to fill nearly 160,000 job openings. Nearly one-quarter of the job openings are attributed to the economic growth expected to occur during the projection period while over three-fourths of the jobs openings are due to replacement needs resulting from employee turnover.



Occupational Outlook 2024

The Big Picture

Rhode Island employment in 2024 is projected to reach 542,400 an increase of 36,000 (7.1%) from our 2014 employment. Much of this growth is attributed to the increased demand for the products and services provided by the Health Care & Social Assistance; Accommodation & Food Services and Professional, Scientific & Technical Services sectors.

Several occupational groups are expected to grow at above average (7.1%) rates. Among the fastest growing occupational groups are Computer & Mathematical (16.1%), Construction & Extraction (14.1%), Business & Financial Operations (12.5%) and Healthcare Support (11.3%). These occupational groups are expected to generate nearly 11,000 new jobs during the projection period.

Employment by Major Occupational Group

Occupational Group	2014	2024	Percent Change	Openings Due to		Total
	Estimated Employment	Projected Employment		Growth	Turnover	
Statewide	506,324	542,400	7.1%	39,438	119,932	159,370
Architecture & Engineering	7,708	8,304	7.7%	604	1,864	2,468
Arts, Design, Entertainment, Sports, & Media	8,474	8,644	2.0%	274	2,077	2,351
Building & Grounds, Cleaning & Maintenance	18,369	19,503	6.2%	1,134	3,621	4,755
Business & Financial Operations	25,983	29,230	12.5%	3,349	5,259	8,608
Community & Social Service	9,621	10,354	7.6%	733	2,087	2,820
Computer & Mathematical	13,892	16,131	16.1%	2,290	2,075	4,365
Construction & Extraction	20,487	23,370	14.1%	2,887	3,137	6,024
Education, Training, & Library	32,125	33,411	4.0%	1,303	6,813	8,116
Farming, Fishing, & Forestry	542	550	1.5%	14	142	156
Food Preparation & Serving Related	48,902	53,383	9.2%	4,637	18,877	23,514
Healthcare Practitioners & Technical	36,274	39,675	9.4%	3,420	8,067	11,487
Healthcare Support	20,812	23,165	11.3%	2,391	4,626	7,017
Installation, Maintenance, & Repair	15,752	16,830	6.8%	1,222	3,698	4,920
Legal	6,314	6,684	5.9%	393	1,060	1,453
Life, Physical, & Social Science	3,254	3,560	9.4%	306	842	1,148
Management	25,719	27,743	7.9%	2,068	5,949	8,017
Office & Administrative Support	76,116	77,932	2.4%	3,237	15,109	18,346
Personal Care & Service	19,007	20,726	9.0%	1,724	4,162	5,886
Production	31,501	32,911	4.5%	2,534	6,851	9,385
Protective Service	11,883	12,361	4.0%	493	2,920	3,413
Sales & Related	49,448	51,663	4.5%	2,285	14,796	17,081
Transportation & Material Moving	24,141	26,270	8.8%	2,140	5,900	8,040

25 Occupations with the Largest Number of Openings

The occupations with the most total openings will be the ones most in demand over the projection period. The 25 occupations listed are projected to have nearly 64,000 job openings and account for forty percent of the total openings through 2024. For most of the occupations listed, the need to replace workers leaving an occupation is projected to create more openings than openings created by new/expanding businesses.

Occupation	Total Openings
Retail Salespersons	6,378
Waiters & Waitresses	5,177
Cashiers	5,035
Food Preparation & Serving Workers, Including Fast Food	4,982
Registered Nurses	4,487
Customer Service Representatives	3,288
Nursing Assistants	3,256
Counter Attendants, Cafeteria, Food Concession, & Coffee Shop	2,544
Stock Clerks & Order Fillers	2,392
Office Clerks, General	2,300
Laborers & Freight, Stock, & Material Movers, Hand	2,273
General & Operations Managers	2,222
Janitors & Cleaners, Except Maids & Housekeepers	1,899
Accountants & Auditors	1,795
Cooks, Restaurant	1,754
Bartenders	1,702
Home Health Aides	1,601
Maintenance & Repair Workers, General	1,520
Supervisors of Office & Administrative Support Workers	1,449
Supervisors of Food Preparation & Serving Workers	1,365
Management Analysts	1,338
Landscaping & Groundskeeping Workers	1,334
Sales Representatives, Wholesale & Manufacturing, Except Technical & Scientific Products	1,304
First-Line Supervisors of Retail Sales Workers	1,279
Personal Care Aides	1,203

Top 25 Occupations with the Most job Openings Due to Growth

The top 50 occupations with the greatest number of openings due to growth represent openings created by new or expanding businesses during the projection period.

Occupation	Growth
Food Prep & Serving Workers, Including Fast Food	1,493
Registered Nurses	1,472
Nursing Assistants	1,124
Retail Salespersons	1,103
Customer Service Representatives	1,065
Personal Care Aides	830
Management Analysts	748
Home Health Aides	726
Cooks, Restaurant	695
Accountants & Auditors	607
General & Operations Managers	596
Laborers & Freight, & Material Movers, Hand	546
Welders, Cutters, Solderers, & Brazers	537
Waiters & Waitresses	531
Supervisors: Office & Administrative Support Workers	529
Electricians	507
Janitors & Cleaners	470
Software Developers, Systems Software	459
Construction Laborers	449
Carpenters	441
Bartenders	437
Software Developers, Applications	423
Computer Systems Analysts	416
Supervisors: Food Preparation & Serving Workers	403
Maintenance & Repair Workers, General	397

50 Fastest Growing Occupations

The fastest growing occupations in Rhode Island are considered to be those with both a projected 2024 employment level of 500 or more and a growth rate of at least 10 percent.

Occupational Group	Estimated	Projected	Openings Due to		Total
	Employment	Employment	Growth	Turnover	
Combined Food Preparation & Serving Workers, Including Fast Food	10,795	12,288	1,493	3,489	4,982
Registered Nurses	12,777	14,249	1,472	3,015	4,487
Customer Service Representatives	9,028	10,093	1,065	2,223	3,288
Nursing Assistants	9,440	10,564	1,124	2,132	3,256
Accountants & Auditors	4,450	5,057	607	1,188	1,795
Cooks, Restaurant	4,004	4,699	695	1,059	1,754
Bartenders	3,365	3,802	437	1,265	1,702
Home Health Aides	3,873	4,599	726	875	1,601
First-Line Supervisors of Food Preparation & Serving Workers	3,239	3,642	403	962	1,365
Management Analysts	4,257	5,005	748	590	1,338
Personal Care Aides	4,607	5,437	830	373	1,203
Construction Laborers	3,106	3,555	449	620	1,069
Financial Managers	3,014	3,346	332	714	1,046
Welders, Cutters, Solderers, & Brazers	1,363	1,900	537	391	928
Carpenters	3,984	4,425	441	458	899
Electricians	2,225	2,732	507	340	847
Software Developers, Systems Software	1,865	2,324	459	267	726
Personal Financial Advisors	1,311	1,657	346	329	675
Machinists	1,304	1,580	276	377	653
Software Developers, Applications	1,599	2,022	423	229	652
Computer Systems Analysts	1,759	2,175	416	226	642
Physical Therapists	1,285	1,574	289	344	633
Plumbers, Pipefitters, & Steamfitters	2,126	2,442	316	281	597
Financial Analysts	1,365	1,568	203	281	484
Market Research Analysts & Marketing Specialists	1,370	1,678	308	163	471
Computer User Support Specialists	1,668	1,864	196	215	411
First-Line Supervisors of Construction Trades & Extraction Workers	1,773	2,040	267	141	408
Paralegals & Legal Assistants	1,164	1,303	139	256	395
Cooks, Institution & Cafeteria	1,049	1,158	109	278	387
Computer & Information Systems Managers	1,093	1,349	256	129	385
Bakers	1,052	1,193	141	230	371
Bus Drivers, School or Special Client	1,502	1,667	165	197	362
Industrial Truck & Tractor Operators	967	1,080	113	241	354
Food Servers, Non-restaurant	879	1,002	123	216	339
Industrial Machinery Mechanics	642	790	148	167	315
Loan Interviewers & Clerks	1,034	1,178	144	159	303
Civil Engineers	726	814	88	214	302
Clinical, Counseling, & School Psychologists	891	993	102	191	293
Loan Officers	922	1,046	124	153	277
Mental Health Counselors	778	877	99	163	262
Medical & Clinical Laboratory Technicians	670	768	98	160	258
Sheet Metal Workers	537	677	140	116	256
Operating Engineers & Other Construction Equipment Operators	872	982	110	145	255
Taxi Drivers & Chauffeurs	765	871	106	145	251
Pharmacy Technicians	1,236	1,364	128	122	250
Computer-Controlled Machine Tool Operators, Metal & Plastic	437	531	94	133	227
Physical Therapist Aides	427	522	95	124	219
Healthcare Social Workers	610	679	69	147	216
Operations Research Analysts	386	529	143	69	212
Cost Estimators	464	541	77	132	209

2024 Projected Outlook & Educational Requirements for Available Jobs

Employment in Rhode Island is projected to grow at all education and skill levels, from jobs requiring less than a high school diploma to those requiring advanced degrees. During the 2014-2024 projection period, it is estimated that employers will need to find workers to fill nearly 40,000 new jobs and to replace nearly 120,000 workers who will leave their jobs for various reasons.

Parallel to the national distribution, jobs requiring a high school diploma for entry into an occupation represent the largest portion of the Rhode Island labor market. Nearly 35 percent of Rhode Island jobs require the minimum of a high school education; on par with the national percentage (36.5%) in this category. Between 2014 and 2024, there are nearly 48,000 openings projected for occupations at this educational level. Twenty five percent are jobs due to growth in the economy with 75 percent due to replacement needs.

Jobs requiring college degrees (Associate, Bachelor's, Master's or Doctoral) represent more than a quarter (29.7%) of the current occupational distribution in Rhode Island.

Employment by Education, Work Experience and Training Requirements

	Employment		Openings Due to		Total Openings
	2014 Estimate	2024 Projection	Growth	Replacements	
Typical Education Needed for Entry	506,324	542,400	39,438	119,932	159,370
Doctoral or professional degree	20,798	22,227	1,437	4,378	5,815
Master's degree	9,633	10,349	728	2,073	2,801
Bachelor's degree	107,265	117,443	10,429	23,078	33,507
Associate degree	12,690	13,741	1,093	2,607	3,700
Postsecondary non-degree award	32,203	34,492	2,410	7,252	9,662
Some college, no degree	13,944	13,813	353	2,090	2,443
High school diploma or equivalent	176,515	186,171	11,846	36,137	47,983
No formal educational credential	133,276	144,164	11,142	42,317	53,459
Typical Work Experience	506,324	542,400	39,438	119,932	159,370
5 years or more	19,782	21,666	1,922	4,246	6,168
Less than 5 years	52,605	56,549	4,133	10,978	15,111
None	433,937	464,185	33,383	104,708	138,091
Typical Training Requirements	506,324	542,400	39,438	119,932	159,370
Internship/residency	25,253	26,190	942	5,672	6,614
Apprenticeship	9,817	11,369	1,554	1,337	2,891
Long-term on-the-job training	21,275	22,898	1,977	5,224	7,201
Moderate-term on-the-job training	76,191	79,423	4,809	15,477	20,286
Short-term on-the-job training	197,052	209,999	13,998	54,760	68,758
None	176,736	192,521	16,158	37,462	53,620

Prior work experience in a related occupation is the typical method of entry for fourteen percent of the occupations in our workforce. The majority of occupations in this category are first-line supervisors or managers of office workers, service, sales and production occupations. Although work experience in a related occupation is beneficial for all occupations, this category is meant to identify work experience that is commonly considered necessary by employers, or is a commonly accepted substitute for other, more formal types of training or education.

- Less than six percent of the occupations which require work experience in a related occupation do not require a high school diploma.
- For nearly half (48.3%) of the occupations which require work experience in a related occupation, a high school diploma or equivalent is sufficient. Occupations that fall into this category include Executive Secretaries, Detectives & Criminal Investigators, Chefs & Head Cooks, Construction & Building Inspectors, Fire Inspectors & Investigators and First-Line Supervisors.
- Eighty-two percent of the jobs which require at least five years of work experience also require higher levels of education (bachelor's degree or higher). Occupations that fall into this category include Financial Managers, Computer & Information Systems Managers and Educational Administrators.

The "Training Requirements" category is meant to identify occupations for which individuals typically need additional training or preparation, once employed, to attain competency in the skills needed for that occupation. Training is occupation-specific rather than job-specific; skills learned can be transferred to another job in the same occupation. Assignments for this category include internship/residency; apprenticeship; long-term, moderate-term, or short-term on-the-job training; or none.

- **Internship/residency** - training that involves preparation in a field such as medicine or teaching, generally under supervision in a professional setting, such as a hospital or classroom. This type of training may occur before employment and is commonly required for state licensure or certification in fields including medicine, counseling, architecture or teaching. Examples of occupations in the internship/residency category include physicians & surgeons and marriage & family therapists.
- **Apprenticeship** - a formal relationship between a worker and sponsor that consists of a combination of on-the-job training and related occupation-specific technical instruction in which the worker learns the practical and theoretical aspects of an occupation. Apprenticeship programs are sponsored by individual employers, joint employer-and-labor groups and employer associations. The typical apprenticeship program provides at least 144 hours of occupation-specific technical instruction and 2,000 hours of on-the-job training per year over a 3-to-5 year period. Examples of occupations in the apprenticeship category include electricians and structural iron & steel workers.
- **Long-term on-the-job training** - more than 12 months of on-the-job training or, alternatively, combined work experience and formal classroom instruction needed for workers to develop the skills to attain competency. This on-the-job training category also includes employer-sponsored training programs. Such programs include those offered by fire and police academies and schools for air traffic controllers and flight attendants. Examples of occupations in the long-term on-the-job training category include automotive service technicians and mechanics.
- **Moderate-term on-the-job training** - requires 1 to 12 months of combined on-the-job experience and informal training. Examples of occupations in the moderate-term category include school bus drivers and advertising sales agents.
- **Short-term on-the-job training** - requires one month or less of on-the-job experience and informal training. Examples of occupations in the short-term category include retail salespersons and maids and housekeeping cleaners.

Employment by Education Level within Economic Sector

Jobs requiring a High School Diploma or equivalency make up the largest portion of jobs in the Rhode Island labor market, accounting for 34.3 percent of the state's 2014 employment and dominating the occupational structure in many economic sectors. Economic sectors in which the majority of jobs require a high school diploma or equivalency include Utilities (75.6%), Manufacturing (68.5%), Construction (60.3%), Real Estate, Rental & Leasing (59.4%), Wholesale Trade (58.9%) and Transportation & Warehousing (58.4%).

Jobs where the minimum educational requirement is an Associate Degree or higher account for 30.2 percent of the Rhode Island based jobs, slightly higher than the national distribution (27.9%). Economic sectors with higher-than average percentages of jobs requiring Associate Degrees or higher include Educational Services (68.2%); Professional, Scientific & Technical Services (71.4%); Management of Companies (55.9%); Information (50.3%); Finance & Insurance (48.0%); Health Care & Social Assistance (39.0%) and Government (39.5%).

Over one quarter (26.6%) of the state's jobs have no minimum educational requirement – less than High School. These jobs account for over half the jobs found in the Accommodation & Food Services (84.6%); Retail Trade (66.5%) and Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing & Hunting (54.9%) sectors.

Employment Estimates by Education Level within Economic Sector

	Total All Levels	Less Than High School	High School or GED	Some College	Post Secondary	Associate Degree	Bachelor Degree	Master's Degree	Professional or Doctoral Degree
Total Jobs by Education Level	542,400	144,164	186,171	13,813	34,492	13,741	117,443	10,349	22,227
Percent of Jobs by Education Level	100%	26.6%	34.3%	2.5%	6.4%	2.5%	21.7%	1.9%	4.1%
Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing & Hunting	805	54.9%	35.5%	1.0%	2.2%	1.1%	4.6%	0.0%	0.6%
Mining	210	27.6%	49.0%	1.4%	17.1%	0.0%	4.8%	0.0%	0.0%
Utilities	1,065	1.3%	75.6%	0.8%	2.4%	2.3%	17.5%	0.0%	0.0%
Construction	19,700	25.8%	60.3%	1.7%	3.0%	0.3%	8.9%	0.0%	0.0%
Manufacturing	43,280	13.3%	68.5%	1.1%	0.9%	1.6%	14.2%	0.1%	0.4%
Wholesale Trade	17,295	14.0%	58.9%	3.6%	3.3%	1.3%	18.4%	0.0%	0.5%
Retail Trade	49,320	66.5%	23.4%	1.6%	3.8%	0.2%	2.9%	0.0%	1.7%
Transportation & Warehousing	10,935	23.5%	58.4%	0.5%	14.1%	0.2%	3.3%	0.0%	0.0%
Information	8,970	9.2%	27.9%	4.9%	7.6%	1.7%	46.8%	1.8%	0.0%
Finance & Insurance	26,310	0.5%	48.6%	2.9%	0.0%	1.1%	46.4%	0.1%	0.4%
Real Estate, Rental & Leasing	6,200	28.5%	59.4%	4.4%	1.5%	0.1%	6.0%	0.0%	0.0%
Professional, Scientific & Tech. Servcs.	26,750	1.1%	23.0%	3.9%	0.6%	10.4%	55.0%	0.2%	5.7%
Management of Companies	14,250	5.6%	30.4%	7.3%	0.9%	1.2%	53.4%	0.0%	1.2%
Administrative Support & Waste Mgmt.	29,600	43.8%	40.5%	2.4%	3.2%	0.9%	8.2%	0.5%	0.5%
Educational Services	45,250	7.5%	14.8%	8.9%	0.6%	1.5%	44.9%	9.9%	11.9%
Health Care & Social Assistance	88,350	16.6%	22.8%	1.7%	19.9%	6.5%	21.7%	4.2%	6.6%
Arts, Entertainment & Recreation	9,600	45.4%	41.7%	1.2%	0.3%	0.0%	10.5%	0.9%	0.0%
Accommodation & Food Services	50,700	84.6%	13.3%	0.2%	0.2%	0.1%	1.6%	0.0%	0.0%
Other Services	18,260	25.1%	36.8%	3.6%	14.1%	1.4%	18.5%	0.2%	0.3%
Government	32,550	4.9%	44.9%	0.7%	10.0%	2.7%	29.5%	2.9%	4.4%
Self Employed & Unpaid Family Wrkrs.	43,000	15.8%	34.7%	1.4%	8.4%	3.1%	19.8%	1.6%	15.1%

RI's Population Growth Slows

Between 2000 and 2010, every New England state reported population growth, although at a slower growth rate than the nation as a whole (9.7%). Rhode Island's population growth rate was only 0.4 percent, last in New England and second slowest growing state in the nation, trailing only Michigan (-0.6%), the only state in the nation to experience a population decline.

Nevada (+35.1%) reported the largest increase in population over this decade. Arizona (+24.6%), Utah (+23.8%), Idaho (+21.1%) and Texas (+20.6%) all posted population increases above 20 percent.

Between 2000 and 2010, the South (+14.3%) and West (+13.8%) regions' populations grew at a much faster rate than the Midwest (3.9%) and Northeast (+3.2%) regions' populations.

Rhode Island's population estimate peaked at 1,074,579 in 2004 and has declined each year until 2012. The largest lost occurred between 2004 and 2005 (-6,663).

Between 2010 and 2015, only West Virginia (-0.5%) recorded a loss in population. Vermont (+0.0%), Maine (0.1%), Illinois (+0.2%), Rhode Island (+0.4%) and Michigan (+0.4%) had the smallest population growth over the period. The areas with the largest population growth during this time were North Dakota (+12.5%), the District of Columbia (+11.7%), Texas (+9.2%), Colorado (+8.5%) and Utah (+8.4%).

Rhode Island Population

2000	1,048,319
2010	1,052,567
2011	1,051,856
2012	1,052,393
2013	1,052,856
2014	1,054,907
2015	1,056,298

Population Data for New England States Census 2000 - 2010 - 2015

	2000	2010	2015	Numerical Change		Percent Change	
	Census Population	Census Population	Census Estimate	2000-2010	2010-2015	2000-2010	2010-2015
Connecticut	3,405,565	3,574,097	3,590,886	168,532	16,789	4.9%	0.5%
Maine	1,274,923	1,328,361	1,329,328	53,438	967	4.2%	0.1%
Massachusetts	6,349,097	6,547,629	6,794,422	198,532	246,793	3.1%	3.8%
New Hampshire	1,235,786	1,316,470	1,330,608	80,684	14,138	6.5%	1.1%
Rhode Island	1,048,319	1,052,567	1,056,298	4,248	3,731	0.4%	0.4%
Vermont	608,827	625,741	626,042	16,914	301	2.8%	0.0%
United States	281,421,906	308,745,538	321,418,820	27,323,632	12,673,282	9.7%	4.1%

Source: US Census Bureau, 2000 & 2010 Census and 2015 Census Population Estimates

- The growth rates in all of the New England states were below the national population increase of 4.1 percent. Population in Vermont (+0.0%), Maine (+0.1%), Rhode Island (+0.4%) and Connecticut (+0.5%) all grew by less than one percent between 2010 and 2015. The population grew by 3.8 percent in Massachusetts and 1.1 percent in New Hampshire.
- The resident population in Rhode Island grew by 0.4 of a percent, or 3,731 individuals, to an estimated 1.06 million residents in 2015.
- The Midwest (+1.5%) and Northeast (+1.7%) were the slowest growing regions in the country between 2010 and 2015, while the South (+5.8%) and West (+5.7%) regions added the highest percentage of residents.

Local Population Trends



- Between 2010 and 2015, Rhode Island added 3,731 residents, a gain of 0.4% of the state's population.
- Of the 39 cities and towns, 19 communities lost population from 2010 to 2015.
- Bristol reflected the largest annual population percentage decline (-2.6%), followed by Newport (-1.8%) and Narragansett (-1.4%).
- Twenty communities in Rhode Island reported population gains between 2010 and 2015, with Cumberland (+3.1%), North Smithfield (+2.9%) and Lincoln (+2.7%) reporting the largest growth on a percentage basis.
- Sixteen communities added over 100 residents since 2010, led by Providence (+1,165), Cumberland (+1,023) and Cranston (+686).
- Six communities lost over 200 residents between 2010 and 2015. Warwick (-973) lost the most residents, followed by Bristol (-597), Newport (-440), West Warwick (-339), North Kingstown (-289) and Narragansett (-218).

Rhode Island City and Town Population Estimates

Geographic Area	Census 2010	Estimate 2015	Numeric Change	Percent Change
Rhode Island	1,052,567	1,056,298	3,731	0.4%
Bristol County	49,875	49,084	-791	-1.6%
Barrington	16,310	16,240	-70	-0.4%
Bristol	22,954	22,357	-597	-2.6%
Warren	10,611	10,487	-124	-1.2%
Kent County	166,158	164,801	-1,357	-0.8%
Coventry	35,014	34,988	-26	-0.1%
East Greenwich	13,146	13,128	-18	-0.1%
Warwick	82,672	81,699	-973	-1.2%
West Greenwich	6,135	6,134	-1	0.0%
West Warwick	29,191	28,852	-339	-1.2%
Newport County	82,888	82,423	-465	-0.6%
Jamestown	5,405	5,482	77	1.4%
Little Compton	3,492	3,505	13	0.4%
Middletown	16,150	16,051	-99	-0.6%
Newport	24,672	24,232	-440	-1.8%
Portsmouth	17,389	17,373	-16	-0.1%
Tiverton	15,780	15,780	0	0.0%
Providence County	626,667	633,473	6,806	1.1%
Burrillville	15,955	16,303	348	2.2%
Central Falls	19,376	19,303	-73	-0.4%
Cranston	80,387	81,073	686	0.9%
Cumberland	33,506	34,529	1,023	3.1%
East Providence	47,037	47,408	371	0.8%
Foster	4,606	4,698	92	2.0%
Glocester	9,746	9,994	248	2.5%
Johnston	28,769	29,247	478	1.7%
Lincoln	21,105	21,670	565	2.7%
North Providence	32,078	32,480	402	1.3%
North Smithfield	11,967	12,314	347	2.9%
Pawtucket	71,148	71,591	443	0.6%
Providence	178,042	179,207	1,165	0.7%
Scituate	10,329	10,549	220	2.1%
Smithfield	21,430	21,632	202	0.9%
Woonsocket	41,186	41,475	289	0.7%
Washington County	126,979	126,517	-462	-0.4%
Charlestown	7,827	7,773	-54	-0.7%
Exeter	6,425	6,587	162	2.5%
Hopkinton	8,188	8,109	-79	-1.0%
Narragansett	15,868	15,650	-218	-1.4%
New Shoreham	1,051	1,047	-4	-0.4%
North Kingstown	26,486	26,197	-289	-1.1%
Richmond	7,708	7,635	-73	-0.9%
South Kingstown	30,639	30,826	187	0.6%
Westerly	22,787	22,693	-94	-0.4%

Source: US Census Bureau

Rhode Island's Foreign-Born Population

Rhode Island's total resident population showed only modest growth in the late 1980s and the 1990s, with increases of 5.9 percent from 1980-1990 and 4.5 percent from 1990-2000. In comparison, the nation's population expanded by 9.8 percent from 1980-1990 and 13.2 percent from 1990-2000. Between 2000 and 2010, Rhode Island's total resident population showed a net gain of 4,248, a growth rate of just 0.4 percent and far below the national growth rate of 9.7 percent. Since 2010, the state's population has grown by 0.4 percent.

However, while the total growth rate for the state has been growing slowly, the percentage of Rhode Islanders who are foreign-born has been steadily increasing over the past two decades. In 1990, less than one out of ten residents were foreign-born, while by 2015 the ratio had increased to over one out of eight.

	Census 2000	Census 2010	Estimate 2015*
Rhode Island			
Total Population	1,048,319	1,052,567	1,056,298
Foreign-Born	119,277	134,335*	142,324
Percent Foreign-Born	11.4%	12.8%	13.5%

*Source: American Community Survey 1-Year Estimates

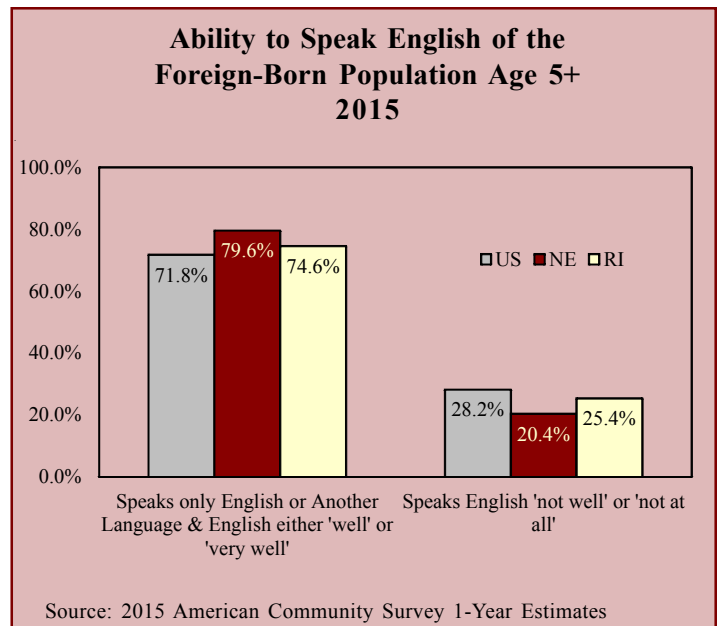
- The rate of growth of the foreign-born population has outpaced the total population growth from 2000 to 2010. While total population increased by 4,248 (0.4%) residents, the number of foreign-born residents increased by 15,058 (12.6%). Between 2000 and 2015, the number of foreign-born residents increased by 23,047 (+19.3%).
- In 2015, foreign-born residents in Rhode Island were most likely to have come from Latin America (43.8%). This also held true for the US as a whole (51.1%) and the New England states of Connecticut (42.9%) and Massachusetts (35.8%).
- Foreign-born residents of the remaining New England states were most likely to come from Asia: New Hampshire (34.5%) and Maine (30.0%) and Europe: Vermont (32.3%).
- Rhode Island had a higher percentage of African- and Latin American-born foreigners than New England as a whole.
- Rhode Island had a higher percentage of European-, Northern American- and African-born foreigners than the US.

Place of Birth of the Foreign-Born Population 2015

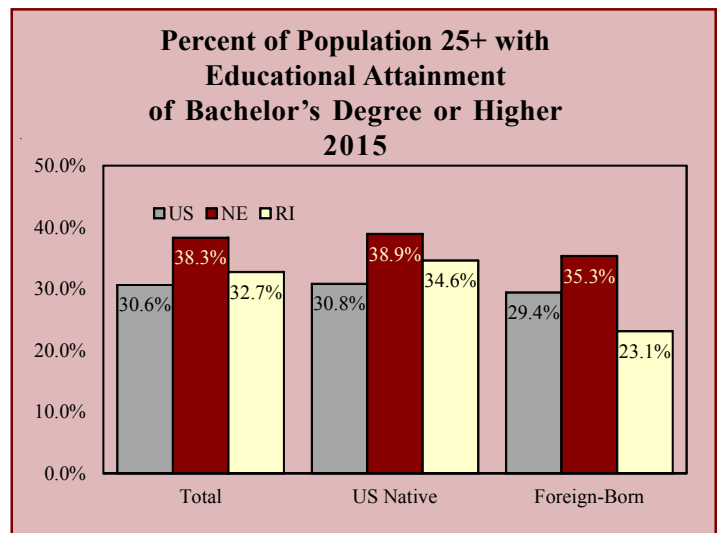
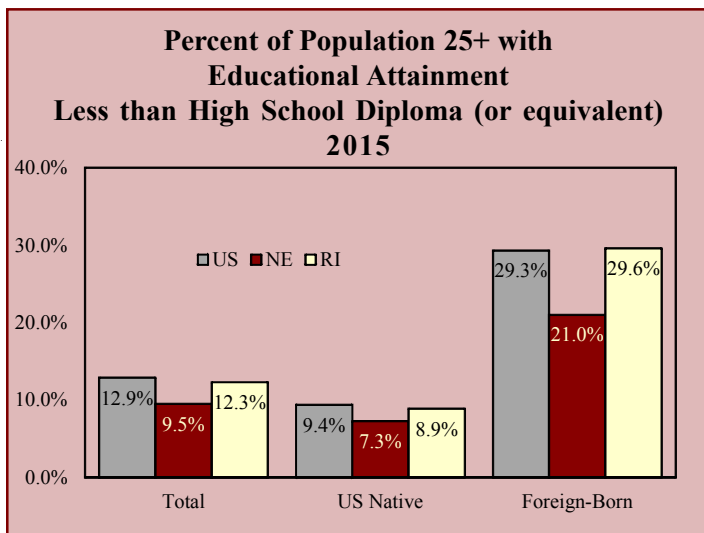
	RI	US	NE	CT	ME	MA	NH	VT
Foreign-Born	13.5%	13.5%	13.0%	14.5%	3.4%	16.1%	6.0%	4.5%
<i>Place of Birth:</i>								
Europe	21.9%	11.1%	22.9%	25.6%	24.0%	21.2%	25.4%	32.3%
Asia	19.1%	30.6%	28.0%	24.3%	30.0%	30.3%	34.5%	29.0%
Africa	12.6%	4.8%	7.9%	3.9%	13.0%	9.1%	6.4%	9.3%
Oceania	0.2%	0.6%	0.4%	0.4%	0.9%	0.3%	0.2%	1.4%
Latin America	43.8%	51.1%	36.7%	42.9%	10.2%	35.8%	20.9%	10.8%
Northern America	2.4%	1.9%	4.1%	2.9%	21.8%	3.2%	12.6%	17.3%

Source: 2015 American Community Survey

- Of the European-born Rhode Islanders, the majority were born in Portugal (56.7%), while the majority of those African-born residents were from Western Africa (76.1%).
- Of the Latin-born Rhode Islanders, 48.2 percent were from the Caribbean, 32.9 percent from Central America and 18.9 percent from South America.
- Rhode Island (25.4%) had a higher percentage of foreign-born residents that speak English either 'not well' or 'not at all' than New England (20.4%) but lower than the United States (28.2%).
- Rhode Island's foreign-born population (32.0%) was more than three times as likely to have not graduated high school than those residents who were born in the US (10.6%).



- Foreign-born Rhode Islanders (29.6%) were more likely than New England (21.0%) and US (29.3%) foreign-born residents to have not graduated from high school.
- Rhode Island's foreign-born population (23.1%) was less likely to have a bachelor's degree or higher than those residents who were US natives (34.6%).
- Foreign-born Rhode Islanders (23.1%) were less likely than New England (35.3%) and US (29.4%) foreign-born residents to have a bachelor's degree or higher.
- The gap between native-born and foreign-born residents with a bachelor's degree or higher is much greater in Rhode Island (11.5 percentage points) than in New England (3.6 percentage points) and the United States (1.4 percentage points).



Source: 2015 American Community Survey 1-Year Estimates
 US Native: born in the United States, Puerto Rico, US territory or born abroad to American parents

Education Counts

Not long ago, most people were able to get a well-paying job with not much more than a high school diploma. However, today's economy places a much higher premium on additional years of schooling. Our ability to compete in a global economy is dependent on the knowledge and skills of our workforce and its ability to learn and adapt to new situations.

Each level of education attained provides more return than the level below. The benefits gained from an educated workforce are important for both the residents and the economy as a whole. Research shows that higher levels of individual educational attainment lead to:

- Greater rates of workforce participation
- Readily transferable skills
- Reduced reliance on government assistance programs
- Higher annual earnings
- Better job opportunities

According to the US Census Bureau, 2015 American Community Survey 1-Year Estimates, 30.6 percent of the US population aged 25 or older has a bachelor's degree or higher, while Americans who did not graduate high school or receive a high school equivalency comprise 12.9 percent of the population. In comparison, 32.7 percent of Rhode Islanders have a bachelor's degree or higher, while 12.3 percent of Rhode Islanders do not have a high school diploma or equivalency.

- Rhode Island ranks fifth in New England in the percentage of adults (32.7%) who have obtained at least a Bachelor's degree, but is above the national average (30.6%).

Educational Attainment for the United States and New England for Population Aged 25 Years and Older, 2015

	RI	United States	New England	CT	ME	MA	NH	VT
Population (25 Years and Older)	730,083	216,447,163	10,248,553	2,474,718	961,240	4,706,644	937,214	438,654
Not a High School Graduate or Equivalent	12.3%	12.9%	9.5%	9.8%	8.3%	9.8%	6.9%	8.3%
Less than 9th Grade	5.5%	5.5%	4.1%	4.2%	2.8%	4.5%	1.9%	2.8%
9th to 12th Grade, No Diploma	6.8%	7.3%	5.4%	5.6%	5.5%	5.2%	4.9%	5.5%
High School Graduate, GED, or Alternative	28.0%	27.6%	27.1%	27.4%	32.7%	25.2%	28.5%	29.0%
Some College, No Degree	18.5%	20.7%	17.0%	16.9%	19.2%	15.9%	19.2%	17.1%
Associate's Degree	8.5%	8.2%	8.1%	7.6%	9.7%	7.7%	9.7%	8.6%
Bachelor's Degree or Higher	32.7%	30.6%	38.3%	38.3%	30.1%	41.5%	35.7%	36.9%
Bachelor's Degree	19.3%	19.0%	22.0%	21.7%	19.5%	23.1%	21.9%	22.3%
Graduate or Professional Degree	13.4%	11.6%	16.3%	16.7%	10.6%	18.4%	13.7%	14.6%

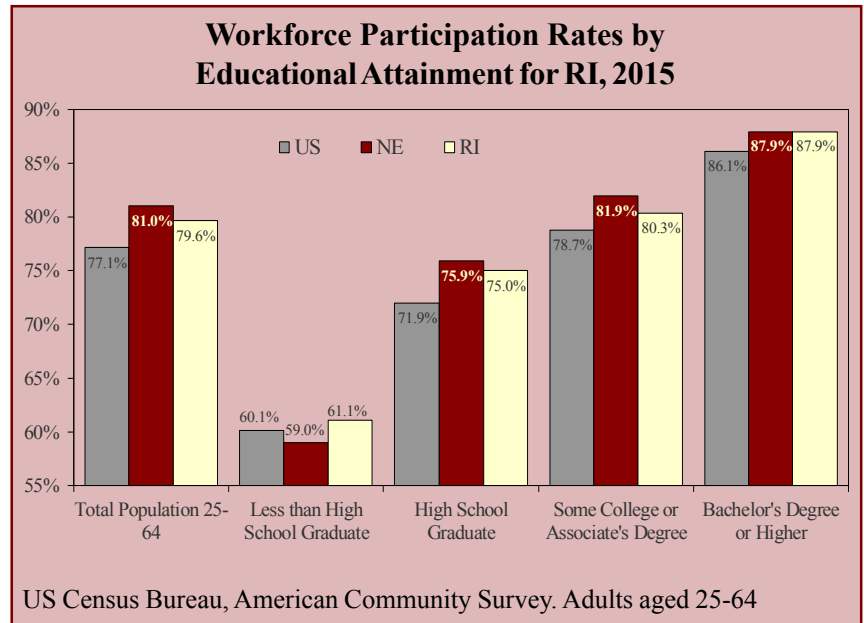
US Census Bureau, 2015 American Community Survey 1-Year Estimates, Table S1501

- Rhode Island (87.7%) ranks last in New England and 33rd nationally in the percentage of adults (25+ years) who have at least graduated from high school.
- Rhode Island (13.4%) ranks fifth in New England and 11th nationally in the percentage of adults with a graduate or professional degree.

Nationally, individuals aged 25-64 with bachelor's degrees or higher have civilian workforce participation rates that are 14.2 percentage points higher than those with high school diplomas.

Rhode Islanders experienced an 12.9 percentage point increase in workforce participation between those with a high school diploma and those with at least a bachelor's degree.

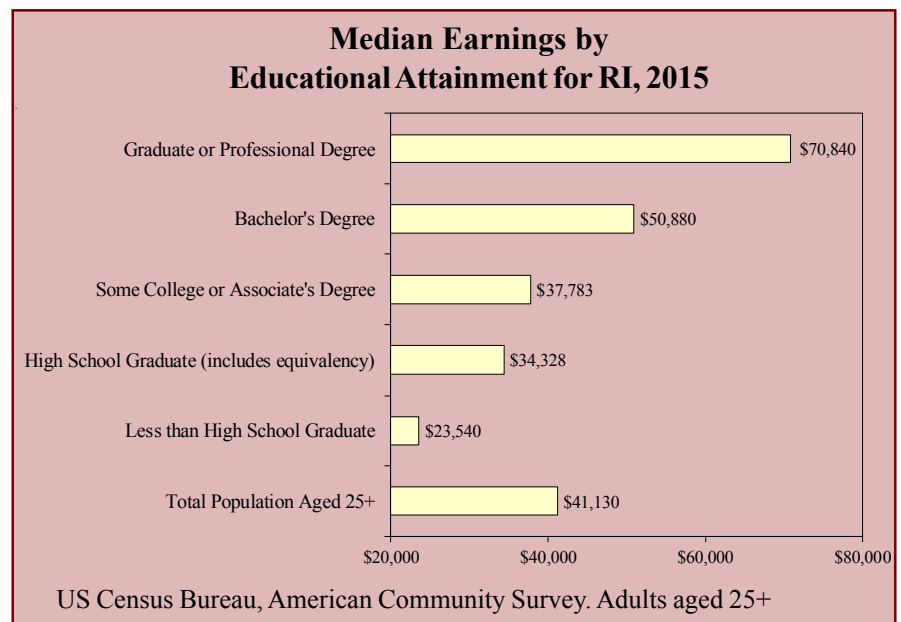
In New England, the payoff in terms of workforce participation for those earning a bachelor's degree or higher compared to a high school diploma varies from a high of 17.6 percentage points in Maine to a low of 9.7 percentage points in Vermont.



It should be noted that the starting point for workforce participation rates of working-aged adults (aged 25-64) varies depending on the state. In New England, the workforce participation rate of adults ranged from a high of 82.1 percent in New Hampshire to a low of 76.4 percent in Maine. Rhode Island's labor force participation rate was 79.6 percent. Nationally, the workforce participation rate of adults (aged 25-64) was 77.1 percent.

Higher levels of education are associated with higher earnings.

- Median earnings for Rhode Islanders with a high school diploma or equivalency are \$10,788 more than median earnings for individuals without a high school diploma.
- Median earnings for Rhode Islanders with a bachelor's degree are \$16,552 more than median earnings for individuals with a high school diploma or equivalency.
- Median earnings for Rhode Islanders with a graduate or professional degree are \$19,960 more than median earnings for individuals with bachelor's degree.



Education benefits not only the individual but our state economy as well. Highlighting Rhode Island's workforce demographics is only a first step in focusing attention on the relationship between adult learning and workforce development.

Sources

Unless otherwise indicated, the Rhode Island Department of Labor and Training, Labor Market Information unit is the source of the data for this publication.

Several programs provided the foundation for the information:

- **Current Employment Statistics (CES)*** program provides current estimates of non-farm establishment employment as well as hours and earnings for production workers employed in the Manufacturing sector. The CES program derives its data from a monthly survey of approximately 1,500 Rhode Island businesses.
- **Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages (QCEW)*** program provides monthly employment and quarterly wages by industry, location and size of employer. The QCEW program derives its data from the quarterly tax reports submitted by employers subject to Rhode Island's Unemployment Insurance law. This information is supplemented with data collected from government agencies and businesses with multiple locations.
- **Local Area Unemployment Statistics (LAUS)*** program provides monthly estimates of the labor force, resident employment, number of unemployed and the unemployment rates for the state and cities and towns. The LAUS estimates are derived from the Current Population Survey, a household survey.
- **Industry and Occupational Projections** provide outlook information on future job growth expectations by industry and occupation. The ten-year projections data are updated every two years and are derived from a national model which incorporates Rhode Island industry data and economic variables.
- **Administrative Data** provides statistics on claims activities, which are derived from the Department of Labor and Training's Unemployment Insurance records.

The Labor Market Information unit also acknowledges the following sources:

- US Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS)
- US Census Bureau
- The Conference Board's Help Wanted Online (HWOL)

* Developed through a cooperative program between the State of Rhode Island and the US Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS)



Labor Market Information Unit

1511 Pontiac Ave. Cranston, RI 02920

401-462-8740 / TTY via RI Relay 711

www.dlt.ri.gov/lmi

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