RI Department of Labor and Training

Rhode Island Employment Trends and Workforce Issues

2018

A publication of the
Labor Market Information Unit

Cover: *Bristol Harbor, Bristol, RI*

Rhode Island Employment Trends and Workforce Issues

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Published October 2019

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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 2019, there were 35,043 private businesses in the state employing 411,602 workers.

Nearly half the employers (49.6%) in the state have between one and four employees; however, they employ just 7.7 percent of the workforce. The largest employers, those with 1,000 or more employees, numbered 29 (0.1%) and employed 16.3 percent of Rhode Island's private sector workforce.

- Smaller employers, those with less than 20 employees, represented 90.4 percent of all employers in the state and employed one quarter (24.7%) of the workforce.
- Mid-sized companies (20 to 99 workers) employed 26.9 percent of the private sector employment and accounted for 7.9 percent of the firms.
- There are just 578 (1.6%) firms in the state employing 100 or more workers. Together, these firms employ nearly half (48.4%) of the state's private sector employees.

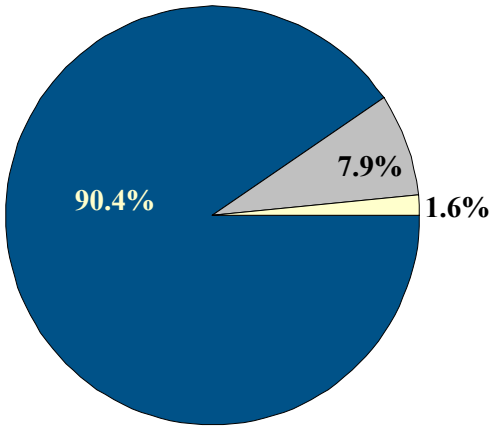
Private Sector Employment
March 2019

Size Class	Employers* Number	Employers* Percent	Employment Number	Employment Percent
Total:	35,043	100.0%	411,602	100.0%
Zero	6,680	19.1%	0	0.0%
1-4	17,384	49.6%	31,819	7.7%
5-9	4,746	13.5%	31,176	7.6%
10-19	2,876	8.2%	38,571	9.4%
20-49	2,085	5.9%	62,899	15.3%
50-99	694	2.0%	47,979	11.7%
100-249	380	1.1%	56,829	13.8%
250-499	119	0.3%	40,248	9.8%
500-999	50	0.1%	34,898	8.5%
1000+	29	0.1%	67,183	16.3%

*Based on size of firm

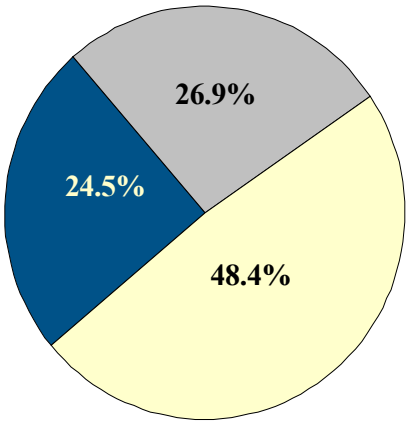
The state's 29 largest firms (1,000 or more employees) are found in the Health Care and Social Assistance (6), Finance and Insurance (5), Private Education (5), Retail Trade (4), Management of Companies and Enterprises (3), Transportation and Warehousing (2), Manufacturing (1), Administrative and Waste Management Services (1), Professional, Scientific & Technical Services (1) and Accommodation & Food Services (1).

Percent of Employers by Size Class
March 2019



Less than 20 Employees
20 to 99 Employees
100 or More Employees

Percent of Employment by Size Class
March 2019



*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.

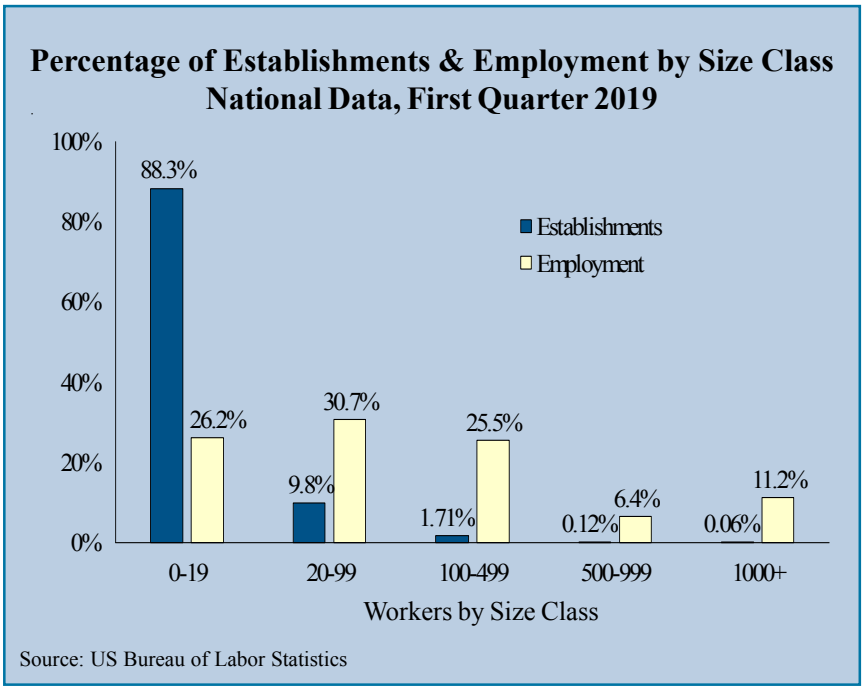
Rhode Island Private Covered Employers
Size Class by Industry
March 2019

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**	**35,043**	**6,680**	**17,384**	**4,746**	**2,876**	**2,085**	**694**	**380**	**119**	**50**	**29**
	# of Employees	**411,602**	**0**	**31,819**	**31,176**	**38,571**	**62,899**	**47,979**	**56,829**	**40,248**	**34,898**	**67,183**
Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing & Hunting	**# of Firms**	178	46	87	29	11	5					
	# of Employees	640	0	168	192	145	135					
Mining	**# of Firms**	15		6	2	5	2					
	# of Employees	159		16	*	70	*					
Utilities	**# of Firms**	38	9	10	7	5	5	1			1	
	# of Employees	1,087	0	20	44	77	130	*			*	
Construction	**# of Firms**	3,800	988	1,892	494	242	140	31	13			
	# of Employees	18,249	0	3,717	3,201	3,179	4,050	2,109	1,993			
Manufacturing	**# of Firms**	1,607	178	544	266	224	238	82	58	12	4	1
	# of Employees	39,595	0	1,096	*	3,075	7,495	5,848	9,182	3,855	2,791	*
Wholesale Trade	**# of Firms**	2,919	571	1,700	305	179	109	39	12	3	1	
	# of Employees	16,297	0	2,662	2,019	2,347	3,135	2,809	*	933	*	
Retail Trade	**# of Firms**	2,923	389	1,343	548	309	185	82	39	15	9	4
	# of Employees	47,497	0	2,903	3,643	4,104	5,723	5,592	5,523	5,184	6,158	8,667
Transportation & Warehousing	**# of Firms**	802	183	386	92	61	49	16	11	1	1	2
	# of Employees	9,644	0	703	630	850	1,475	1,047	1,512	*	*	*
Information	**# of Firms**	663	155	356	68	39	26	8	6	4	1	
	# of Employees	5,908	0	546	*	543	805	614	810	1,389	*	
Finance & Insurance	**# of Firms**	1,370	232	773	168	72	60	23	21	9	7	5
	# of Employees	28,217	0	1,356	1,097	971	1,834	1,701	2,900	3,304	4,758	10,296
Real Estate & Rental & Leasing	**# of Firms**	1,112	214	621	134	79	45	15	2	2		
	# of Employees	6,189	0	1,129	877	1,031	1,311	984	*	*		
Professional & Technical Services	**# of Firms**	5,486	1,352	3,148	496	264	146	55	17	6	1	1
	# of Employees	26,185	0	5,008	3,188	3,549	4,409	3,743	2,562	2,062	*	*
Managemt. of Companies & Enterprises	**# of Firms**	201	54	93	23	9	11	2	3	3		3
	# of Employees	10,806	0	164	*	121	352	*	612	924		8,302
Administrative & Waste Services	**# of Firms**	2,912	977	1,243	282	161	140	55	42	10	1	1
	# of Employees	26,514	0	2,243	1,845	2,181	4,187	3,851	6,632	3,512	*	*
Educational Services	**# of Firms**	655	124	289	83	44	64	24	17	2	3	5
	# of Employees	21,449	0	502	*	606	1,980	1,487	2,549	*	2,076	11,117
Health Care & Social Assistance	**# of Firms**	3,396	236	1,803	555	312	219	120	94	35	16	6
	# of Employees	81,477	0	3,494	3,687	4,146	6,687	8,494	13,701	11,953	11,530	17,785
Arts, Entertainment, & Recreation	**# of Firms**	617	121	249	88	84	55	12	7	1		
	# of Employees	6,050	0	*	592	1,129	1,687	830	1,083	*		
Accommodation & Food Services	**# of Firms**	2,777	413	669	515	534	488	111	29	13	4	1
	# of Employees	47,478	0	*	3,451	7,301	14,456	7,527	4,394	4,288	2,638	*
Other services, (except Public Admin.)	**# of Firms**	3,432	429	2,041	591	242	98	18	9	3	1	
	# of Employees	18,022	0	3,838	3,804	3,146	*	1,099	1,337	1,063	*	
Unclassified	**# of Firms**	140	9	131								
	# of Employees	139	0	139								

* 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 2019, 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 91.5 percent in Montana to 84.4 percent in Ohio.
- In 2019, 89.4 percent of Rhode Island establishments employed less than 20 workers, ranking the state 12th 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 (90.5%) and lowest in Connecticut (88.8%).
- In Rhode Island, 29.0 percent of the state's jobs are in small establishments, compared to 26.2 percent nationally.
- The states with the greatest percentages of large establishments (100 employees or more) are Ohio (2.62%), Tennessee (2.61%) and Arizona (2.53%) compared to a US average of 1.89 percent. Wyoming (0.80%) and Montana (0.80%) have the smallest percentages of large establishments.
- Rhode Island (1.52%), ranked 41st in the nation in the percentage of large establishments within each state. Included among the 10 states ranked below Rhode Island are Vermont (1.29%) and Maine (1.28%), while Massachusetts (1.86%), Connecticut (1.81%) and New Hampshire (1.55%) ranked higher.
- In Rhode Island, 38.4 percent of the jobs are in large establishments compared to 43.1 percent nationally.
- While the percentage of establishments is skewed towards the smaller size classes, the distribution of employment is more balanced. Nationally, 26.2 percent of employees are found in establishments of the smallest size class (zero to 19 employees), 30.7 percent are found in establishments employing 20 to 99 workers and 43.1 percent of employees work in an establishment with greater than 100 workers.
- Over 15 percent of establishments and 12.0 percent of employment in the US is located in California, followed by Florida (7.2% of establishments, 6.3% of employment), Texas (7.0% of establishments, 8.5% of employment) and New York (6.4% of establishments, 6.4% of employment). Alaska (0.20%) has the lowest percentage of establishments, while Wyoming (0.15%) 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 2019

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%***	***1.71%***	***0.12%***	***0.06%***
Alabama	1.2%	86.9%	11.1%	1.81%	0.11%	0.06%
Alaska	0.2%	88.8%	9.5%	1.57%	0.09%	0.05%
Arizona	1.6%	87.0%	10.5%	2.21%	0.21%	0.11%
Arkansas	0.9%	89.1%	9.3%	1.47%	0.09%	0.07%
California	15.7%	91.3%	7.4%	1.24%	0.09%	0.05%
Colorado	2.1%	88.7%	9.7%	1.48%	0.09%	0.05%
Connecticut	1.2%	88.8%	9.4%	1.68%	0.08%	0.06%
Delaware	0.3%	89.5%	8.7%	1.59%	0.08%	0.09%
District of Columbia	0.4%	88.3%	9.4%	2.07%	0.14%	0.08%
Florida	7.2%	89.9%	8.5%	1.51%	0.10%	0.05%
Georgia	2.8%	87.0%	10.7%	2.06%	0.14%	0.07%
Hawaii	0.4%	87.6%	10.7%	1.54%	0.13%	0.04%
Idaho	0.6%	90.2%	8.5%	1.12%	0.07%	0.03%
Illinois	3.7%	88.2%	9.5%	2.02%	0.16%	0.10%
Indiana	1.7%	85.0%	12.5%	2.25%	0.19%	0.08%
Iowa	1.0%	87.6%	10.6%	1.71%	0.12%	0.06%
Kansas	0.8%	87.3%	10.7%	1.89%	0.11%	0.06%
Kentucky	1.2%	87.4%	10.5%	1.96%	0.13%	0.06%
Louisiana	1.3%	87.2%	11.0%	1.65%	0.09%	0.05%
Maine	0.5%	90.5%	8.3%	1.18%	0.07%	0.04%
Maryland	1.7%	87.3%	10.7%	1.82%	0.09%	0.06%
Massachusetts	2.6%	89.2%	8.9%	1.67%	0.12%	0.07%
Michigan	2.4%	87.1%	10.4%	2.25%	0.16%	0.10%
Minnesota	1.8%	87.2%	10.5%	2.03%	0.15%	0.08%
Mississippi	0.7%	87.6%	10.6%	1.61%	0.12%	0.05%
Missouri	2.0%	88.6%	9.7%	1.57%	0.11%	0.06%
Montana	0.5%	91.5%	7.7%	0.77%	0.01%	0.02%
Nebraska	0.7%	88.8%	9.6%	1.39%	0.12%	0.05%
Nevada	0.8%	86.7%	11.1%	1.87%	0.16%	0.11%
New Hampshire	0.5%	89.1%	9.4%	1.42%	0.09%	0.04%
New Jersey	2.7%	88.6%	9.5%	1.74%	0.11%	0.07%
New Mexico	0.6%	88.2%	10.2%	1.51%	0.06%	0.02%
New York	6.4%	89.5%	8.7%	1.55%	0.14%	0.08%
North Carolina	2.8%	86.5%	11.5%	1.83%	0.13%	0.06%
North Dakota	0.3%	88.0%	10.5%	1.38%	0.07%	0.03%
Ohio	2.9%	84.4%	12.9%	2.39%	0.14%	0.09%
Oklahoma	1.1%	87.6%	10.6%	1.63%	0.10%	0.04%
Oregon	1.6%	89.5%	9.1%	1.28%	0.07%	0.04%
Pennsylvania	3.5%	86.1%	11.6%	2.08%	0.15%	0.07%
Rhode Island	**0.4%**	**89.4%**	**9.0%**	**1.39%**	**0.08%**	**0.05%**
South Carolina	1.4%	87.2%	10.8%	1.81%	0.13%	0.06%
South Dakota	0.3%	89.2%	9.4%	1.28%	0.08%	0.03%
Tennessee	1.6%	85.3%	12.1%	2.37%	0.16%	0.08%
Texas	7.0%	85.6%	12.0%	2.20%	0.16%	0.08%
Utah	1.0%	87.9%	10.2%	1.64%	0.13%	0.06%
Vermont	0.2%	90.0%	8.7%	1.14%	0.09%	0.05%
Virginia	2.8%	88.6%	9.7%	1.57%	0.09%	0.05%
Washington	2.5%	89.6%	8.8%	1.49%	0.08%	0.05%
West Virginia	0.5%	88.5%	10.0%	1.38%	0.07%	0.04%
Wisconsin	1.7%	86.2%	11.5%	2.07%	0.15%	0.07%
Wyoming	0.3%	91.4%	7.8%	0.74%	0.04%	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 2019

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%***	***26.2%***	***30.7%***	***25.5%***	***6.4%***	***11.2%***
Alabama	1.3%	28.8%	32.7%	25.8%	5.6%	7.1%
Alaska	0.2%	31.2%	31.1%	25.2%	5.3%	7.2%
Arizona	2.0%	21.1%	27.3%	27.5%	9.2%	14.9%
Arkansas	0.8%	29.0%	31.1%	23.9%	5.5%	10.5%
California	12.0%	28.2%	30.4%	24.0%	6.0%	11.3%
Colorado	1.8%	29.2%	33.8%	24.3%	5.4%	7.2%
Connecticut	1.1%	27.7%	31.0%	25.3%	4.7%	11.4%
Delaware	0.3%	24.6%	29.5%	25.5%	4.8%	15.6%
District of Columbia	0.4%	19.6%	28.4%	30.0%	7.1%	14.8%
Florida	6.3%	28.4%	30.6%	25.5%	6.1%	9.4%
Georgia	3.1%	24.0%	30.4%	27.8%	6.8%	10.9%
Hawaii	0.4%	28.6%	34.3%	23.7%	7.2%	6.3%
Idaho	0.5%	33.8%	33.8%	21.4%	5.0%	6.0%
Illinois	4.1%	21.9%	27.6%	27.3%	8.0%	15.1%
Indiana	2.1%	23.1%	30.6%	26.2%	7.8%	12.2%
Iowa	1.0%	28.7%	31.1%	25.3%	6.2%	8.8%
Kansas	0.9%	26.2%	31.2%	26.7%	5.6%	10.3%
Kentucky	1.3%	25.6%	30.2%	28.0%	6.6%	9.7%
Louisiana	1.3%	28.9%	34.5%	23.7%	5.2%	7.7%
Maine	0.4%	33.8%	32.4%	21.5%	4.8%	7.5%
Maryland	1.7%	26.5%	33.6%	25.7%	4.6%	9.5%
Massachusetts	2.5%	25.1%	29.3%	25.5%	6.5%	13.6%
Michigan	3.0%	22.6%	27.0%	27.9%	7.1%	15.4%
Minnesota	2.0%	22.4%	29.8%	27.4%	7.2%	13.2%
Mississippi	0.7%	29.4%	32.3%	24.1%	6.5%	7.7%
Missouri	1.9%	26.8%	31.5%	25.1%	6.0%	10.7%
Montana	0.3%	44.1%	37.8%	18.0%	N/D	N/D
Nebraska	0.6%	29.8%	31.2%	22.5%	6.8%	9.6%
Nevada	1.0%	24.3%	29.1%	22.7%	7.1%	16.8%
New Hampshire	0.5%	31.6%	32.4%	23.6%	5.4%	7.0%
New Jersey	2.8%	27.1%	29.7%	25.8%	6.1%	11.3%
New Mexico	0.5%	29.7%	34.7%	24.6%	3.6%	7.4%
New York	6.4%	25.7%	27.0%	23.5%	7.5%	16.2%
North Carolina	3.0%	25.5%	33.2%	24.9%	6.4%	10.0%
North Dakota	0.3%	32.0%	35.0%	22.3%	4.2%	6.6%
Ohio	3.7%	23.4%	31.9%	27.2%	6.2%	11.3%
Oklahoma	1.0%	29.4%	34.0%	24.9%	5.3%	6.4%
Oregon	1.3%	32.2%	32.7%	22.7%	4.7%	7.7%
Pennsylvania	4.2%	25.2%	31.0%	26.4%	6.9%	10.4%
Rhode Island	0.3%	29.0%	32.6%	22.6%	5.1%	10.8%
South Carolina	1.4%	26.2%	32.7%	25.9%	6.7%	8.5%
South Dakota	0.3%	33.4%	32.5%	22.5%	4.7%	6.9%
Tennessee	2.1%	23.7%	29.9%	27.8%	6.8%	11.7%
Texas	8.5%	24.2%	31.3%	27.2%	7.0%	10.4%
Utah	1.0%	27.1%	32.0%	24.6%	6.9%	9.4%
Vermont	0.2%	33.3%	32.3%	19.2%	6.5%	8.7%
Virginia	2.6%	26.8%	33.3%	25.5%	5.2%	9.2%
Washington	2.2%	27.1%	30.1%	24.0%	5.0%	13.7%
West Virginia	0.4%	32.3%	33.5%	22.4%	4.3%	7.4%
Wisconsin	2.0%	24.7%	31.9%	27.4%	7.0%	8.9%
Wyoming	0.2%	46.0%	37.3%	16.7%	N/D	N/D

Source: US Bureau of Labor Statistics N/D: Non-Disclosable

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

The Employment Situation - 2018 Recap

Rhode Island's 38,015 business establishments employed an average of 481,683 workers in 2018 and paid nearly $25.9 billion in wages.

Private sector employment averaged 421,477 in 2018, representing 87.5 percent of the state's employment.

- Within the private sector, Health Care & Social Assistance (80,040) employed the most workers, accounting for 19.0 percent of the state's private sector employment.

- The Accommodation & Food Services (49,644), Retail Trade (48,659) and Manufacturing (40,333) sectors account for one-third of the state's private sector workforce.

- Administrative & Waste Services (29,591), Finance & Insurance (25,929), Professional & Technical Services (25,521) and Educational Services (20,145) all employed over 20,000 workers.

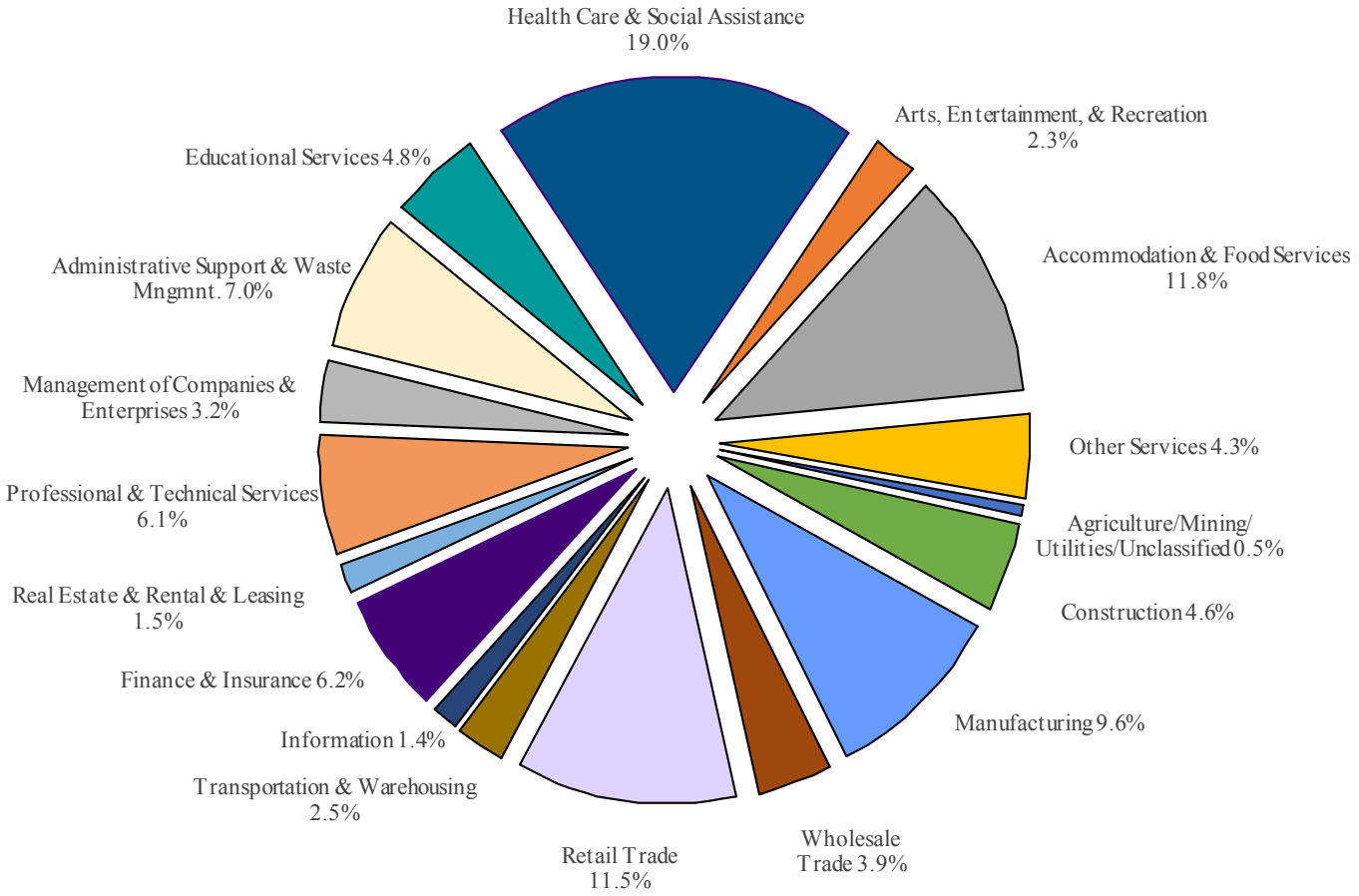
Annual Average Employment for 2018

Total Employment	**481,683**
Private Sector Employment	421,477
Health Care & Social Assistance	80,040
Accommodation & Food Services	49,644
Retail Trade	48,659
Manufacturing	40,333
Administrative & Waste Services	29,591
Finance & Insurance	25,929
Professional & Technical Services	25,521
Educational Services	20,145
Construction	19,223
Other Services	17,994
Wholesale Trade	16,516
Management of Companies & Enterprise	13,324
Transportation & Warehousing	10,493
Arts, Entertainment & Recreation	9,512
Real Estate, Rental & Leasing	6,363
Information	5,927
Utilities	1,140
Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing & Hunting	871
Mining	185
Government Employment	60,206
Federal Government	11,088
State Government	16,430
Local Government	32,688

In 2018, the public sector employed 60,206 workers, accounting for 12.5 percent of the state's employment. More than half (32,688) of the public sector workers were employed in local governments, followed by the state (16,430) and federal (11,088) segments. *(The pie chart on the next page provides a breakout of Rhode Island's private sector employment by major industry group.)*

Private sector wages accounted for 84.3 percent of the $25.9 billion in wages paid in 2018. Private sector workers averaged $51,747, while pay for public sector workers averaged $67,581. The 2018 average annual wage for all workers was $53,726.

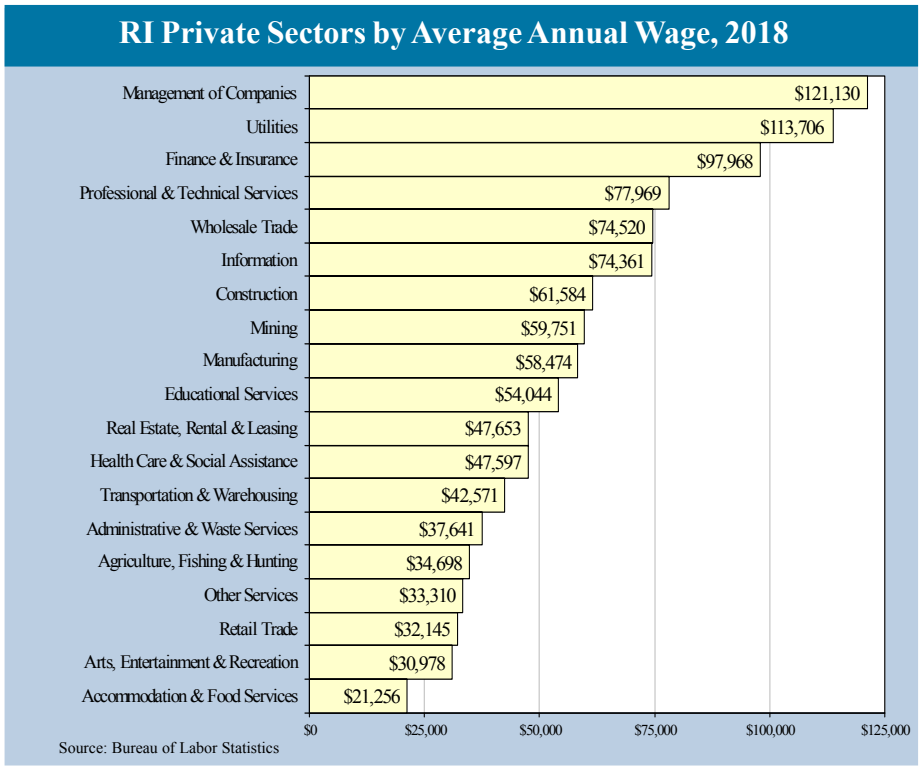
Rhode Island Private Employment, 2018



- The highest wages were paid in the Management of Companies ($121,130), Utilities ($113,706), and Finance & Insurance ($97,968) sectors.

- In addition, seven sectors; Professional & Technical Services ($77,969), Wholesale Trade ($74,520), Information ($74,361), Construction ($61,584), Mining ($59,751), Manufacturing ($58,474) and Educational Services ($54,044), paid over the 2018 average annual private sector wage of $51,747.

- Within the public sector, federal employees working in Rhode Island earned the highest annual average wage ($83,385), followed by state ($69,945) and local ($61,031) government segments.



- Nine sectors had average annual wages below the private sector average ($51,747), including Health Care & Social Assistance ($47,597), the state's largest sector.

- The lowest wages were paid in Accommodation & Food Services ($21,256), Arts, Entertainment & Recreation ($30,978) and Retail Trade ($32,145) 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 2018 were Real Estate & Rental & Leasing ($47,653), Transportation & Warehousing ($42,571), Administrative & Waste Services ($37,641), Agriculture, Fishing & Hunting ($34,698) and Other Services ($33,310).

The 2018 average annual wage in Rhode Island's private sector ($51,747) was $5,451 (9.5%) less than the national average wage of $57,198. Within New England, Rhode Island reported the fourth highest average annual wage, trailing Massachusetts ($73,446), Connecticut ($68,307) and New Hampshire ($57,534).

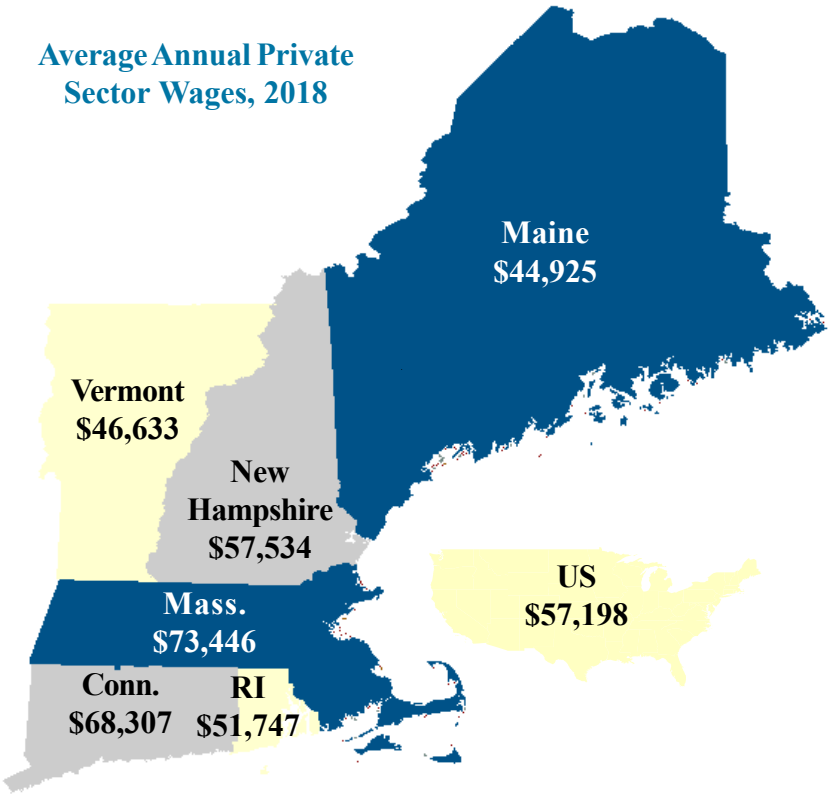
Average annual wages earned by Rhode Island workers were below the national average in nearly all economic sectors and most often ranked fourth in New England, trailing Connecticut, Massachusetts and New Hampshire.

Rhode Island workers were paid average annual wages above the national average in two economic sectors: Utilities and Educational Services.

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

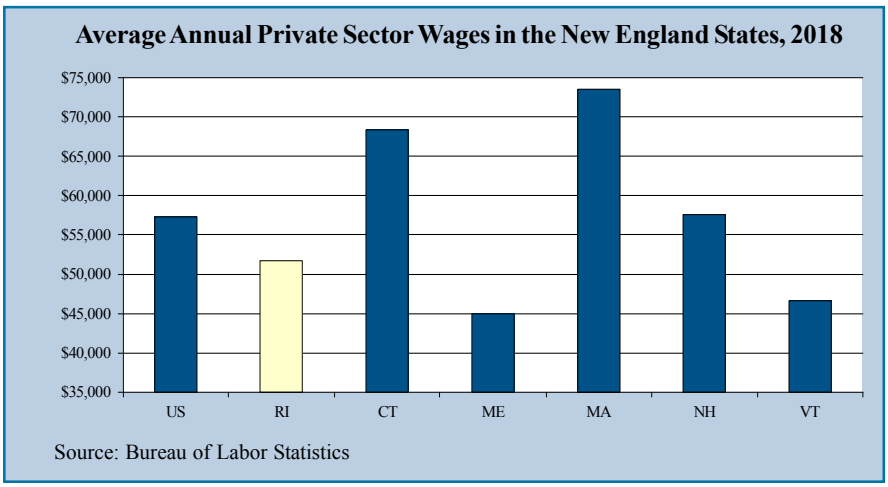
Management of Companies was the highest paying sector in Rhode Island, paying workers an average of $121,130, less than the $122,745 earned nationally. In New England, only Connecticut ($151,409) and Massachusetts ($134,954) had a higher annual average wage in this sector.

Nationally, employees of Management of Companies earned the highest average wage, as was the case in Rhode Island. Finance & Insurance was the highest paying sector in Connecticut ($171,862) and Massachusetts ($162,784), while Utilities was the highest paying sector in New Hampshire ($116,751), Vermont ($109,984) and Maine ($87,368).



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 $47,597, approximately 5.4 percent less than the national average ($50,328). Regionally, New Hampshire ($56,408) paid the highest wage to workers in this sector, followed by Massachusetts ($55,971) and Connecticut ($52,922).



Rhode Island workers earned an annual average wage higher than their Maine counterparts in every sector except Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing & Hunting, Health Care & Social Assistance, Accommodation & Food Services and Other Services. Vermont workers earned an annual average wage higher than Rhode Island workers in the Mining Quarrying & Oil & Gas Extraction, Manufacturing, Professional & Technical Services, Administrative & Waste Services, Accommodation & Food Services and Other Services sectors. In every New England state and nationally, Accommodation & Food Services workers earned the lowest average annual wage among all industry sectors.

None of the New England states paid workers more than the national average in the Mining, Quarrying & Oil & Gas Extraction and the Transportation & Warehousing industries.

Average Annual Private Sector Wages by Industry Sector, 2018

	US	RI	CT	ME	MA	NH	VT
Total Private	**$57,198**	**$51,747**	**$68,307**	**$44,925**	**$73,446**	**$57,534**	**$46,633**
Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing & Hunting	$35,846	$34,698	$36,158	$40,618	$60,412	$36,271	$34,345
Mining, Quarrying, & Oil & Gas Extraction	$104,248	$59,751	$75,470	$56,659	$69,120	$63,208	$62,068
Utilities	$109,947	$113,706	$131,290	$87,368	$131,189	$116,751	$109,984
Construction	$62,732	$61,584	$69,741	$49,589	$78,807	$62,625	$51,091
Manufacturing	$68,528	$58,474	$82,569	$55,932	$88,581	$71,732	$59,340
Wholesale Trade	$77,879	$74,520	$95,309	$66,278	$98,713	$93,912	$64,960
Retail Trade	$32,357	$32,145	$34,581	$28,786	$34,869	$32,834	$31,745
Transportation & Warehousing	$53,215	$42,571	$47,835	$42,006	$51,080	$46,227	$42,362
Information	$113,795	$74,361	$110,628	$54,402	$123,072	$93,581	$59,800
Finance & Insurance	$109,247	$97,968	$171,862	$75,747	$162,784	$105,640	$81,620
Real Estate & Rental & Leasing	$59,125	$47,653	$70,308	$42,777	$79,742	$55,077	$44,865
Professional & Technical Services	$97,114	$77,969	$105,403	$71,155	$135,154	$97,790	$80,306
Management of Companies & Enterprises	$122,745	$121,130	$151,409	$79,662	$134,954	$102,261	$92,320
Administrative & Waste Services	$40,984	$37,641	$46,044	$36,950	$49,339	$49,685	$42,106
Educational Services	$51,220	$54,044	$66,717	$45,051	$69,202	$55,914	$47,784
Health Care & Social Assistance	$50,328	$47,597	$52,922	$47,858	$55,971	$56,408	$46,495
Arts, Entertainment, & Recreation	$38,815	$30,978	$29,487	$24,940	$40,886	$23,068	$25,377
Accommodation & Food Services	$21,558	$21,256	$22,410	$21,668	$25,123	$21,718	$22,811
Other Services	$38,474	$33,310	$33,618	$34,007	$38,598	$37,937	$36,287

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 421,477 in 2018, 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 (49.8%) of the country's private sector workforce. In New England, Vermont (59.3%) has the highest percentage of private sector workers in these sectors, followed by Maine (57.1%), New Hampshire (55.2%), Rhode Island (51.9%), Connecticut (51.0%) and Massachusetts (48.8%).

- Health Care & Social Assistance, Rhode Island's largest private economic sector, accounts for 19.0 percent of the state's private sector employment, significantly greater the nation's share (15.8%) and ninth highest in the country, trailing only West Virginia (21.1%), Vermont (20.4%), Maine (20.1%), Massachusetts (19.9%), Pennsylvania (19.8%), New York (19.5%), Alaska (19.1%) and Minnesota (19.0%).

- Accommodation & Food Services, the state's second largest economic sector, employs 11.8 percent of the state's private sector workforce, greater than the US average (11.1%) and trailing only Vermont (12.7%) in New England.

- The Manufacturing sector accounts for 9.6 percent of Rhode Island's private sector employment, below the national share (10.2%) and trailing all other New England states except Massachusetts (7.8%).

- Private Educational Service accounts for 4.8 percent of the state's private sector employment, twice the national share (2.3%) and the largest share among the 50 states.

Percentage of Average Annual Private Sector Employment by Industry Sector, 2018

	US	RI	CT	ME	MA	NH	VT
Total Private	**124,538,688**	**421,477**	**1,448,951**	**519,516**	**3,152,347**	**574,064**	**256,976**
Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing & Hunting	1.0%	0.2%	0.3%	1.3%	0.3%	0.4%	1.3%
Mining, Quarrying, & Oil & Gas Extraction	0.5%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.1%	0.2%
Utilities	0.4%	0.3%	0.4%	0.3%	0.3%	0.4%	0.5%
Construction	5.8%	4.6%	4.1%	5.6%	5.0%	4.7%	5.9%
Manufacturing	10.2%	9.6%	11.1%	10.0%	7.8%	12.3%	11.6%
Wholesale Trade	4.7%	3.9%	4.2%	3.7%	3.9%	4.9%	3.5%
Retail Trade	12.7%	11.5%	12.5%	15.6%	11.2%	16.5%	14.6%
Transportation & Warehousing	4.2%	2.5%	3.4%	3.1%	2.8%	2.5%	2.6%
Information	2.3%	1.4%	2.2%	1.4%	2.9%	2.2%	1.7%
Finance & Insurance	4.8%	6.2%	7.2%	4.4%	5.4%	4.6%	3.4%
Real Estate & Rental & Leasing	1.8%	1.5%	1.4%	1.3%	1.5%	1.2%	1.2%
Professional & Technical Services	7.5%	6.1%	6.6%	5.2%	10.4%	6.6%	5.7%
Management of Companies & Enterprises	1.9%	3.2%	2.3%	2.1%	2.4%	1.6%	0.8%
Administrative & Waste Services	7.4%	7.0%	6.3%	5.9%	5.8%	6.2%	4.8%
Educational Services	2.3%	4.8%	4.0%	2.6%	4.6%	3.5%	4.0%
Health Care & Social Assistance	15.8%	19.0%	18.5%	20.1%	19.9%	16.1%	20.4%
Arts, Entertainment, & Recreation	1.9%	2.3%	2.0%	1.8%	2.0%	2.1%	1.7%
Accommodation & Food Services	11.1%	11.8%	8.9%	11.4%	9.9%	10.4%	12.7%
Other Services	3.6%	4.3%	4.6%	3.5%	3.8%	3.7%	3.4%

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

Job Gains Reported in 2018

Average employment increased by 3,515 (+0.8%) jobs in Rhode Island's private sector between 2017 and 2018. The largest increases were reported in Construction (+855), Administrative & Waste Services (+810), Accommodation & Food Services (+733), Educational Services (+551) and Professional & Technical Services (+449).

- Employment in the Construction sector increased by 855 (+4.7%) jobs due primarily to an increase in Specialty Trade Contractors (+514; +4.3%).

- The Administrative & Waste Services sector reported 810 (+2.8%) job gains, with the largest gain occurring in the Administrative & Support Services industry (+764, +2.8%).

- Sizeable employment gains in Food Services & Drinking Places (+442) and Accommodation (+291) industries helped propel job growth within the Accommodation & Food Services sector (+733,+1.5%).

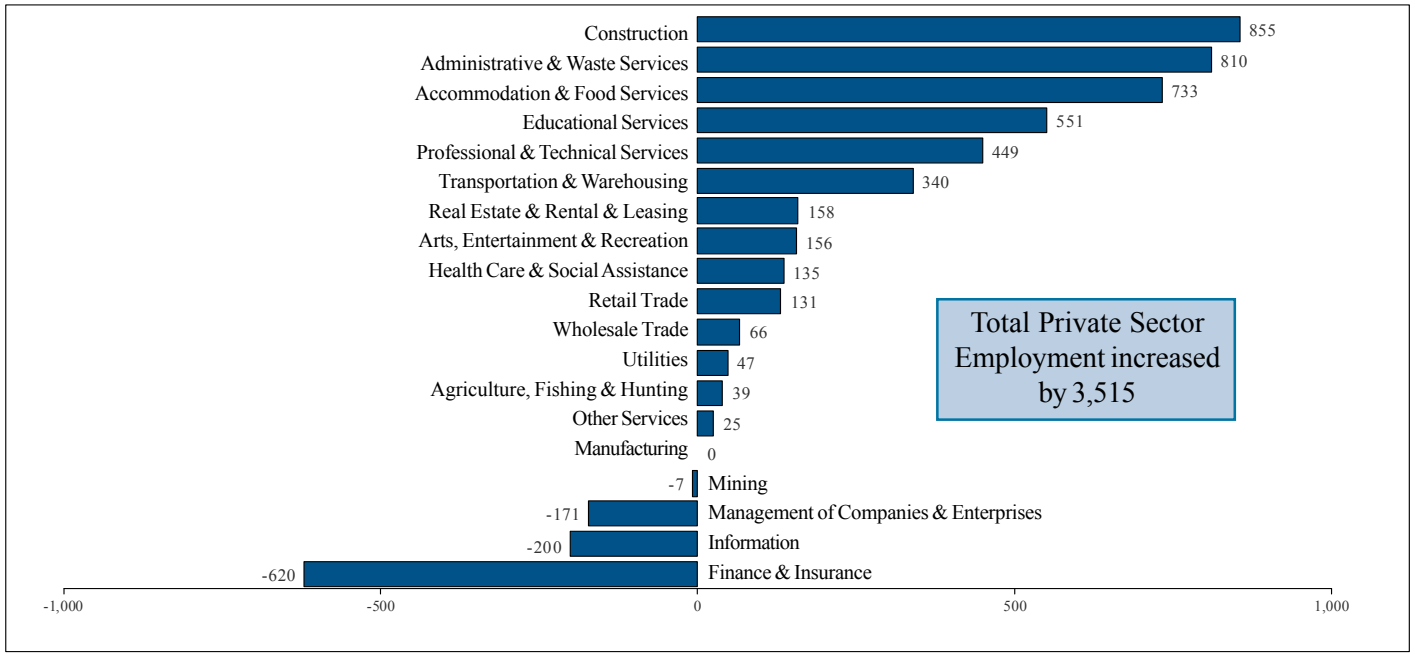
- Gains in Ambulatory Health Care Services (+534) and Social Assistance (+226) employment countered the losses in Nursing Residential Care Facilities (-527) and Hospitals (-98), resulting in a gain of 135 (+0.2%) jobs in Health Care & Social Assistance.

- The Retail Trade sector gained 131 (+0.3%) jobs. Job increases were reported in Motor Vehicle & Parts Dealers (+121), Building material & Garden Supply Stores (+111), Gasoline Stations (+107) and Miscellaneous Store Retailers (+102). The largest loss of jobs occurred in General Merchandise Stores (-222).

- The Manufacturing sector was unchanged in 2018. Large job gains were reported in Transportation Equipment Manufacturing (+821) and Computer & Electronic Product Manufacturing (+106). Sizeable job losses were in Plastics & Rubber Products Manufacturing (-342) and Food Manufacturing (-264).

- Four sectors reported job declines over the year; Finance & Insurance (-620), Information (-200), Management of Companies & Enterprises (-171) and Mining (-7). Declines in Securities, Commodity Contracts & Investments (-569) and Insurance Carriers & Related Activities (-45) fueled the employment drop in the Finance & Insurance sector.

Change in Average Annual Employment by Industry Sector, 2017-2018



Rhode Island Average Annual Job Changes
2017 - 2018

	Average Employment 2018	Average Employment 2017	Total Change Net	Total Change Percent	2018 Average Annual Wage
Total Private Only	**421,477**	**417,962**	**3,515**	**0.8%**	**$51,747**
Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing & Hunting	**871**	**832**	**39**	**4.7%**	**$34,698**
111 Crop production	579	555	24	4.3%	$29,719
112 Animal production	169	157	12	7.6%	$26,377
114 Fishing, hunting and trapping	73	76	-3	-3.9%	$96,784
Mining	**185**	**192**	**-7**	**-3.6%**	**$59,751**
212 Mining, except oil and gas	185	192	-7	-3.6%	$59,751
Utilities	**1,140**	**1,093**	**47**	**4.3%**	**$113,706**
221 Utilities	1,140	1,093	47	4.3%	$113,706
Construction	**19,223**	**18,368**	**855**	**4.7%**	**$61,584**
236 Construction of buildings	4,683	4,482	201	4.5%	$63,018
237 Heavy and civil engineering construction	1,935	1,795	140	7.8%	$84,950
238 Specialty trade contractors	12,605	12,091	514	4.3%	$57,465
Manufacturing	**40,333**	**40,333**	**0**	**0.0%**	**$58,474**
311 Food manufacturing	3,193	3,457	-264	-7.6%	$38,586
312 Beverage and tobacco product manufacturing	512	445	67	15.1%	$45,290
313 Textile mills	1,874	1,959	-85	-4.3%	$49,214
314 Textile product mills	533	546	-13	-2.4%	$42,342
315 Apparel manufacturing	109	41	68	165.9%	$30,825
316 Leather and allied product manufacturing	104	113	-9	-8.0%	$34,232
321 Wood product manufacturing	461	471	-10	-2.1%	$49,917
322 Paper manufacturing	1,312	1,345	-33	-2.5%	$46,748
323 Printing and related support activities	1,730	1,659	71	4.3%	$45,953
324 Petroleum and coal products manufacturing	81	68	13	19.1%	$81,026
325 Chemical manufacturing	2,951	3,112	-161	-5.2%	$87,034
326 Plastics and rubber products manufacturing	2,147	2,489	-342	-13.7%	$60,074
327 Nonmetallic mineral product manufacturing	678	630	48	7.6%	$55,930
331 Primary metal manufacturing	1,441	1,428	13	0.9%	$57,244
332 Fabricated metal product manufacturing	4,713	4,869	-156	-3.2%	$51,428
333 Machinery manufacturing	1,971	1,930	41	2.1%	$61,981
334 Computer and electronic product manufacturing	3,492	3,386	106	3.1%	$83,145
335 Electrical equipment and appliance mfg.	1,138	1,145	-7	-0.6%	$83,995
336 Transportation equipment manufacturing	5,626	4,805	821	17.1%	$59,179
337 Furniture and related product manufacturing	1,174	1,222	-48	-3.9%	$50,168
339 Miscellaneous manufacturing	5,095	5,217	-122	-2.3%	$53,264
Wholesale Trade	**16,516**	**16,450**	**66**	**0.4%**	**$74,520**
423 Merchant wholesalers, durable goods	8,030	7,823	207	2.6%	$67,082
424 Merchant wholesalers, nondurable goods	5,783	5,493	290	5.3%	$69,635
425 Electronic markets and agents and brokers	2,703	3,135	-432	-13.8%	$107,067
Retail Trade	**48,659**	**48,528**	**131**	**0.3%**	**$32,145**
441 Motor vehicle and parts dealers	6,016	5,895	121	2.1%	$48,351
442 Furniture and home furnishings stores	1,317	1,348	-31	-2.3%	$38,204
443 Electronics and appliance stores	1,211	1,230	-19	-1.5%	$45,271
444 Building material and garden supply stores	3,822	3,711	111	3.0%	$36,918
445 Food and beverage stores	11,764	11,817	-53	-0.4%	$25,554
446 Health and personal care stores	5,012	5,069	-57	-1.1%	$43,579
447 Gasoline stations	1,988	1,881	107	5.7%	$27,761
448 Clothing and clothing accessories stores	4,217	4,227	-10	-0.2%	$21,368
451 Sporting goods, hobby, book and music stores	1,377	1,362	15	1.1%	$20,877
452 General merchandise stores	7,162	7,384	-222	-3.0%	$22,535
453 Miscellaneous store retailers	2,914	2,812	102	3.6%	$25,007
454 Nonstore retailers	1,859	1,792	67	3.7%	$53,629

Rhode Island Average Annual Job Changes
2017 - 2018

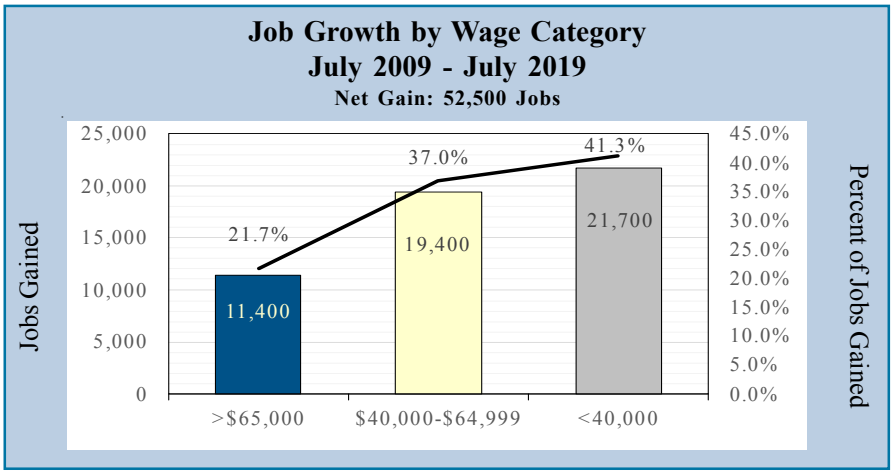
	Average Employment 2018	Average Employment 2017	Total Change Net	Total Change Percent	2018 Average Annual Wage
Transportation & Warehousing	**10,493**	**10,153**	**340**	**3.3%**	**$42,571**
481 Air transportation	366	315	51	16.2%	$52,881
483 Water transportation	187	202	-15	-7.4%	$68,321
484 Truck transportation	2,451	2,384	67	2.8%	$53,588
485 Transit and ground passenger transportation	2,724	2,615	109	4.2%	$28,056
487 Scenic and sightseeing transportation	172	169	3	1.8%	$28,729
488 Support activities for transportation	1,302	1,249	53	4.2%	$42,676
492 Couriers and messengers	2,055	1,964	91	4.6%	$43,077
493 Warehousing and storage	1,212	1,228	-16	-1.3%	$45,948
Information	**5,927**	**6,127**	**-200**	**-3.3%**	**$74,361**
511 Publishing industries, except Internet	1,449	1,586	-137	-8.6%	$89,962
512 Motion picture and sound recording industries	756	691	65	9.4%	$40,744
515 Broadcasting, except Internet	601	623	-22	-3.5%	$60,431
517 Telecommunications	1,962	2,063	-101	-4.9%	$83,915
518 ISPs, search portals, and data processing	556	552	4	0.7%	$97,910
519 Other information services	603	612	-9	-1.5%	$40,100
Finance & Insurance	**25,929**	**26,549**	**-620**	**-2.3%**	**$97,968**
522 Credit intermediation and related activities	11,807	11,818	-11	-0.1%	$74,458
523 Securities, commodity contracts, investments	5,008	5,577	-569	-10.2%	$176,413
524 Insurance carriers and related activities	9,084	9,129	-45	-0.5%	$85,307
525 Funds, trusts, and other financial vehicles	30	25	5	20.0%	$89,019
Real Estate, Rental & Leasing	**6,363**	**6,205**	**158**	**2.5%**	**$47,653**
531 Real estate	4,686	4,613	73	1.6%	$49,066
532 Rental and leasing services	1,620	1,537	83	5.4%	$42,803
533 Lessors of nonfinancial intangible assets	57	55	2	3.6%	$69,365
Professional & Technical Services	**25,521**	**25,072**	**449**	**1.8%**	**$77,969**
541 Professional and technical services	25,521	25,072	449	1.8%	$77,969
Management of Companies & Enterprise	**13,324**	**13,495**	**-171**	**-1.3%**	**$121,130**
551 Management of companies and enterprises	13,324	13,495	-171	-1.3%	$121,130
Administrative & Waste Services	**29,591**	**28,781**	**810**	**2.8%**	**$37,641**
561 Administrative and support services	27,719	26,955	764	2.8%	$36,354
562 Waste management & redemption services	1,871	1,826	45	2.5%	$56,724
Educational Services	**20,145**	**19,594**	**551**	**2.8%**	**$54,044**
611 Educational services	20,145	19,594	551	2.8%	$54,044
Health Care & Social Assistance	**80,040**	**79,905**	**135**	**0.2%**	**$47,597**
621 Ambulatory health care services	26,162	25,628	534	2.1%	$58,105
622 Hospitals	23,090	23,188	-98	-0.4%	$59,287
623 Nursing and residential care facilities	17,938	18,465	-527	-2.9%	$33,240
624 Social assistance	12,850	12,624	226	1.8%	$25,238
Arts, Entertainment & Recreation	**9,512**	**9,356**	**156**	**1.7%**	**$30,978**
711 Performing arts and spectator sports	1,224	1,198	26	2.2%	$43,225
712 Museums, historical sites, zoos, and parks	998	967	31	3.2%	$32,595
713 Amusements, gambling, and recreation	7,290	7,191	99	1.4%	$28,701
Accommodation & Food Services	**49,644**	**48,911**	**733**	**1.5%**	**$21,256**
721 Accommodation	4,992	4,701	291	6.2%	$30,585
722 Food services and drinking places	44,652	44,210	442	1.0%	$20,213
Other Services Except Public Administration	**17,994**	**17,969**	**25**	**0.1%**	**$33,310**
811 Repair and maintenance	4,358	4,229	129	3.1%	$44,279
812 Personal and laundry services	5,702	5,598	104	1.9%	$27,038
813 Membership associations and organizations	7,206	7,435	-229	-3.1%	$31,918
814 Private households	729	707	22	3.1%	$30,512

Job Change by Wage Class

Period July 2009 - July 2019

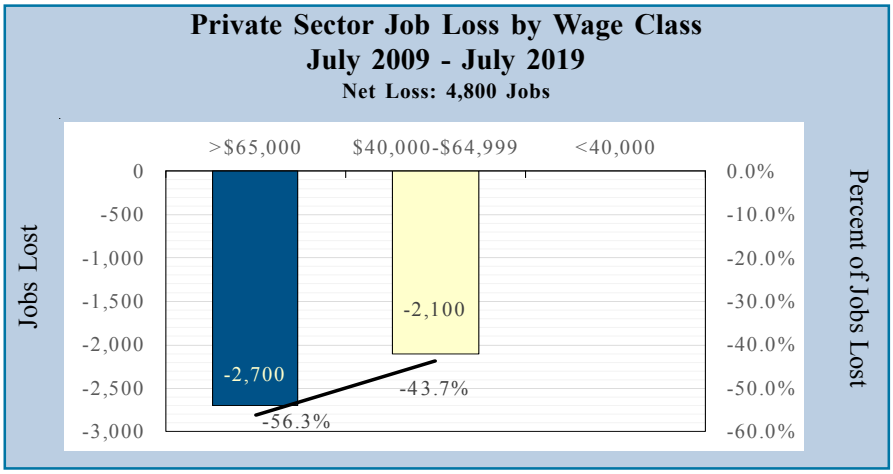
Wage Categories
$65,000 & above
$40,000 – $64,999
Below $40,000

Between July 2009 (lowest employment level during the Rhode Island Recession) and July 2019, fourteen employment sectors added jobs in Rhode Island totaling 52,500, while three employment sectors reported a job declines totaling 4,800 jobs. The net job gain during this recovery period was 47,700 jobs.



When combined, the fourteen employment sectors which added jobs between July 2009 and July 2019 averaged an annual wage of $50,693 in 2018 (the latest annual wage data available). In comparison, the three employment sectors which lost employment during this period averaged an annual wage of $64,508 in 2018.

Of the 52,500 jobs added between July 2009 and July 2019, a total of 41.3 percent or 21,700 jobs were added from employment sectors averaging an annual wage below $40,000. The Accommodation & Food Services sector added 9,600 jobs, the largest gain among those sectors earning wages below $40,000. The Administrative & Waste Services sector grew by 7,900 during this period, followed by the Arts, Entertainment & Recreation (+1,800), Other Services (+1,600) and Retail Trade (+800) sectors.



The 2018 average annual wage of those five sectors earning an annual wage below $40,000 and adding jobs between July 2009 and July 2019 was $29,777.

Those employment sectors earning below $40,000 represented 32 percent of total employment in July 2019.

A total of 19,400, or 37 percent of the 52,500 jobs added between July 2009 and July 2019 were generated within sectors earning wages between $40,000 and $64,999. Among those sectors earning wages between $40,000 and $64,999, the Health Care & Social Assistance sector grew by 7,400, followed by the Educational Services (+4,100), Transportation & Utilities (+3,600), Construction (+3,200) and Real Estate, Rental & Leasing (+1,100) sectors.

In all, those five sectors earning wages between $40,000 and $64,999 and adding jobs during this period averaged an annual wage of $50,666 in 2018.

The Manufacturing sector reported a loss of 2,100 jobs between July 2009 and July 2019, the only sector averaging between $40,000 and $64,999 to report a job decline during this period. The 2018 average annual wage in Manufacturing was $58,474.

Those sectors earning wages between $40,000 and $64,999 represented 37.9 percent of total employment in July 2019.

Among the 52,500 jobs added during the recovery period, 11,400 (+21.7%) were added from sectors earning an annual wage of $65,000 and above. There was a total of four sectors which earned these respective wages and added jobs between July 2009 and July 2019. The 2018 average annual wage of these four sectors was $90,722.

Employment in the Management of Companies & Enterprises and Professional & Business Services sectors grew by 3,900 and 3,500, respectively, while a sizable employment gain was also reported in the Finance & Insurance (+2,400) sector. The Wholesale Trade sector reported a gain of 1,600 jobs between July 2009 and July 2019.

Total Job Growth by Wage Class
July 2009 - July 2019

Net Job Change: 47,700

	Numeric Change	Percent Change	2018 Annual Wage*		Numeric Change	Percent Change	2018 Annual Wage*
TOTAL JOBS CREATED	**52,500**	**100.0%**	**$50,693**	**TOTAL JOBS LOST**	**-4,800**	**-100.0%**	**$64,508**
$65,000 & above	**11,400**	**21.7%**	**$90,722**	**$65,000 & above**	**-2,700**	**-56.3%**	**$68,188**
Mgmt. of Companies & Enterprises	3,900	34.2%	$121,130	Information	-2,600	-96.3%	$74,361
Professional & Technical Services	3,500	30.7%	$77,969	Government	-100	-3.7%	$67,581
Finance & Insurance	2,400	21.1%	$97,968				
Wholesale Trade	1,600	14.0%	$74,361				
$40,000 - $64,999	**19,400**	**37.0%**	**$50,666**	**$40,000 - $64,999**	**-2,100**	**-43.7%**	**$58,474**
Health Care & Social Assistance	7,400	38.1%	$47,597	Manufacturing	-2,100	-100.0%	$58,474
Educational Services	4,100	21.1%	$54,044				
Transportation & Utilities	3,600	18.6%	$49,542				
Construction	3,200	16.5%	$61,584				
Real Estate, Rental & Leasing	1,100	5.7%	$47,653				
Below $40,000	**21,700**	**41.3%**	**$29,777**	**Below $40,000**	**0**	**0.0%**	
Accommodation & Food Services	9,600	44.2%	$21,256				
Administrative & Waste Services	7,900	36.4%	$37,641				
Arts, Entertainment & Recreation	1,800	8.3%	$30,978				
Other Services	1,600	7.4%	$33,310				
Retail Trade	800	3.7%	$32,145				

The Information (-2,600) and Government (-100) sectors were the two employment sectors earning $65,000 and above to shed employment between July 2009 and July 2019. Wages within this sector averaged $68,188 in 2018.

Those sectors earning wages above $65,000, represented 30.1 percent of total employment in July 2019.

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

**Annual wages are based on the 2018 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 2018, 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 the labor force and employment level still trailed its pre-recessionary levels established in 2006.

- Rhode Island's unemployment rate is 0.8 of a percentage point below the 2006 pre-recession average. The number of employed residents is down 11,200 and the number of unemployed residents is down 5,600 from the 2006 levels. In 2018, the state's labor force is down 16,800 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 28,200 employed residents and has 39,700 fewer residents considered unemployed. The unemployment rate has dropped 6.9 percentage points, from the 11.0 percent average recorded in 2009 to 4.1 percent in 2018. The labor force in 2018 is down 11,500 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 3,900 while the number of unemployed is down 1,800. The state's average unemployment rate is down 0.3 of a percentage point from the 2017 average. The labor force posted an increase of 2,100 more Rhode Islanders either with a job or looking for a job in 2018 than in the prior year.

- The US annual average unemployment rate in 2018 was 3.9 percent, two-tenths of a percentage point below the Rhode Island rate of 4.1 percent. Rhode Island, along with Connecticut, had the highest rate in New England, and was the sixteenth 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
2017	553,700	529,300	24,400	4.4	20
2018	555,800	533,200	22,600	4.1	16
Change					
2006-2018	-16,800	-11,200	-5,600	-0.8	---
2009-2018	-11,500	28,200	-39,700	-6.9	---
2017-2018	2,100	3,900	-1,800	-0.3	---

*Ranked highest annual average rate to lowest.

Characteristics of the Insured Unemployed

A total of 5,574 individuals were eligible to collect regular Unemployment Insurance (UI) benefits in September 2019, down 608 (-9.8%) from the 6,182 collecting these benefits in September 2018. In all, 30.7 percent of Rhode Island's unemployed workers were eligible to collect unemployment benefits in September 2019, down slightly from 31.0 percent in September 2018.

Claimants were more likely to be female (51.0%) than male (49.0%).

Of the 5,574 individuals collecting Unemployment Insurance benefits, approximately 30.3 percent faced long-term unemployment (defined as collecting unemployment insurance for 15 weeks or more).

Female (31.0%) claimants were more likely to be among the long-term unemployed than their male counterparts (29.7%).

Selected Characteristics of the Insured Unemployed - September 2019

	Total Claimants Sept 2019	As a Percent of Total	less than 5 weeks	5-14 weeks	15 weeks or longer	Total Claimants Sept 2018
Total	**5,574**	**100.0%**	**26.3%**	**43.4%**	**30.3%**	**6,182**
Male	2,734	49.0%	27.9%	42.4%	29.7%	2,819
Female	2,840	51.0%	24.7%	44.3%	31.0%	3,363
Age	**5,574**	**100.0%**	**26.3%**	**43.4%**	**30.3%**	**6,182**
Under 22	85	1.5%	29.5%	57.7%	12.7%	106
22 - 24	206	3.7%	24.4%	37.7%	37.7%	247
25 - 34	1,234	22.1%	25.2%	44.6%	30.2%	1,396
35 - 44	1,202	21.6%	26.5%	42.1%	31.5%	1,211
45 - 54	1,164	20.9%	26.8%	45.4%	27.8%	1,393
55 - 59	636	11.4%	29.3%	43.4%	27.3%	765
60 - 64	546	9.8%	28.0%	39.6%	32.4%	566
65 or over	501	9.0%	21.9%	42.9%	35.1%	498
Education	**5,574**	**100.0%**	**26.3%**	**43.4%**	**30.3%**	**6,182**
11th grade or less	539	9.7%	29.3%	45.7%	25.1%	638
High School Graduate	2,076	37.2%	27.3%	41.8%	30.9%	2,215
Some College	1,342	24.1%	25.5%	42.0%	32.6%	1,549
Bachelor's Degree	637	11.4%	24.0%	47.7%	28.3%	632
Beyond Bachelor's	886	15.9%	23.6%	45.6%	30.8%	990
Information Not Available	94	1.7%	38.1%	35.6%	25.4%	158

Over 64 percent (64.6%) of the insured unemployed were concentrated in the prime working age years of 25 to 54, representing a larger percentage of the unemployed than of the population aged 16+ (46.7%).

Over 37 percent (37.2%) of the insured unemployed were high school graduates (including GED), representing a slightly larger percentage of the insured unemployed as that of the unemployed population (33.5%).

Approximately 27 percent (27.3%) of the insured unemployed had a bachelor's degree or higher, representing roughly the same percentage of the insured unemployed than of the unemployed population (26.9%).

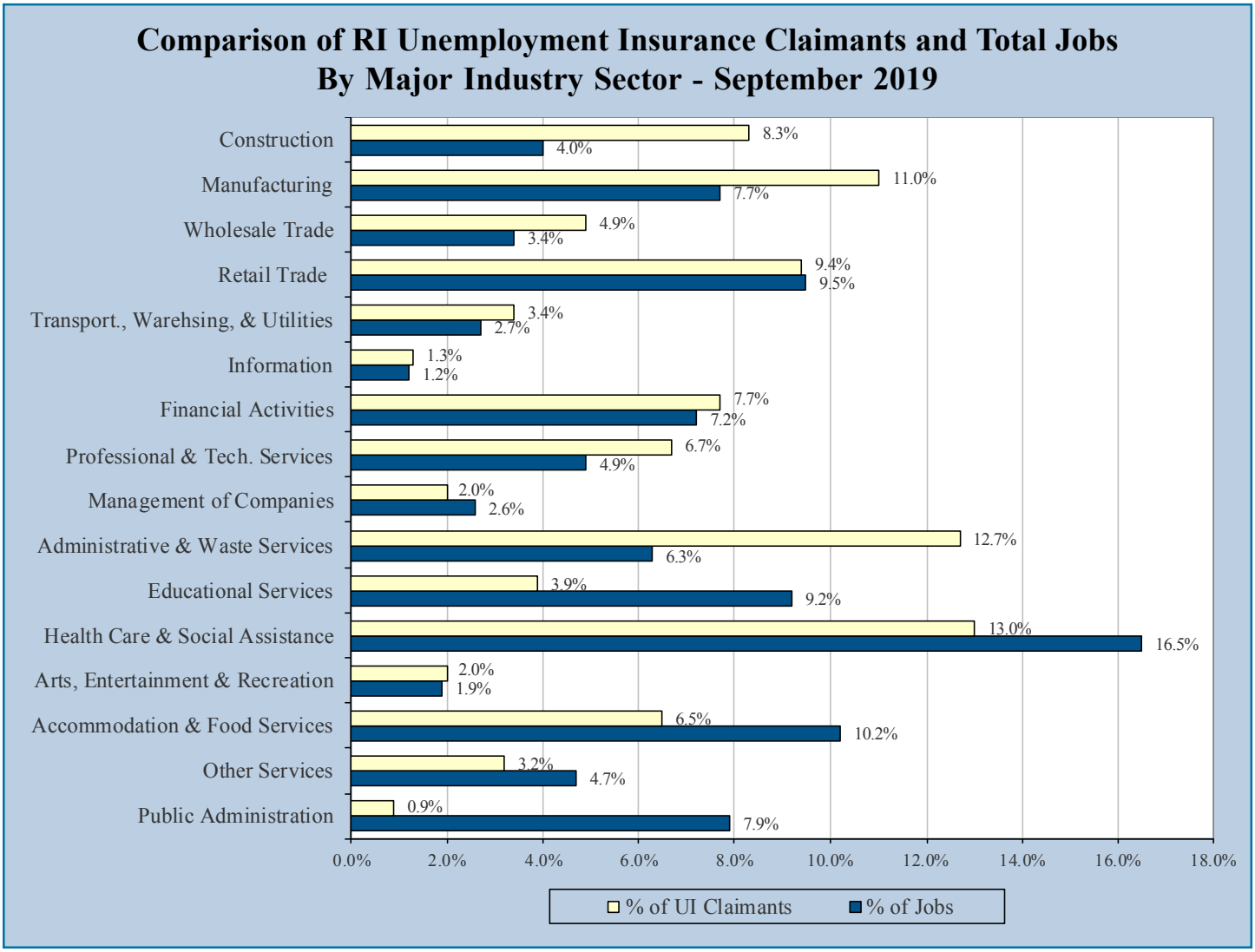
Industry sectors with the highest percentages of long-term unemployed include Public Administration, Retail Trade, Management of Companies, Wholesale Trade and Real Estate. Over 35 percent of the individuals previously employed in these sectors had been unemployed for 15 weeks or longer.

Individuals previously employed in Office & Administrative Support (15.8%) occupations represented the largest percentage of claims, followed by Production workers (9.9%).

Occupations with the highest percentages of long-term unemployed include Military Specific, Protective Service, Sales & Related, Healthcare Support, Management and Installation, Maintenance & Repair. Over 35 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 2019

	Total Claimants Sept 2019	As a Percent of Total	2018 RI Employment Total	less than 5 weeks	5-14 weeks	15 weeks or longer	Total Claimants Sept 2018
Industry	**5,574**	**100.0%**	**481,683**	**26.3%**	**43.4%**	**30.3%**	**6,182**
Agriculture/Forestry	10	0.2%	871	30.0%	60.0%	10.0%	14
Mining	1	0.0%	185	0.0%	100.0%	0.0%	1
Utilities	3	0.1%	1,140	0.0%	66.7%	33.3%	7
Construction	462	8.3%	19,223	44.2%	36.1%	19.5%	431
Manufacturing	615	11.0%	40,333	26.5%	41.5%	32.2%	829
Wholesale Trade	274	4.9%	16,516	25.9%	37.2%	37.2%	292
Retail Trade	522	9.4%	48,659	19.7%	41.8%	38.7%	623
Transportation & Warehousing	192	3.4%	10,493	18.2%	53.1%	28.6%	286
Information	74	1.3%	5,927	18.9%	50.0%	31.1%	67
Finance & Insurance	300	5.4%	25,929	24.0%	41.3%	34.7%	329
Real Estate	129	2.3%	6,363	17.1%	45.7%	37.2%	137
Professional & Tech. Services	373	6.7%	25,521	16.1%	51.2%	32.7%	396
Management of Companies	111	2.0%	13,324	21.6%	40.5%	37.8%	84
Administrative & Waste Services	708	12.7%	29,591	29.1%	43.4%	27.7%	709
Educational Services	216	3.9%	20,145	19.0%	64.8%	16.2%	210
Health Care & Social Assistance	725	13.0%	80,040	24.8%	43.2%	32.0%	860
Arts, Entertainment & Recreation	113	2.0%	9,512	52.2%	28.3%	19.5%	91
Accommodation & Food Services	363	6.5%	49,644	26.4%	46.0%	27.5%	417
Other Services	177	3.2%	17,994	37.3%	39.0%	24.3%	183
Public Administration	50	0.9%	60,206	14.0%	44.0%	40.0%	70
Information Not Available	156	2.8%	67	26.9%	37.8%	35.3%	146
Occupation	**5,574**	**100.0%**	**482,030**	**26.3%**	**43.4%**	**30.3%**	**6,182**
Management	506	9.1%	20,900	22.5%	41.9%	35.6%	550
Business & Financial Operations	286	5.1%	28,320	18.9%	47.6%	33.6%	294
Computer & Mathematical	163	2.9%	13,680	25.8%	41.1%	33.1%	157
Architecture & Engineering	59	1.1%	8,580	22.0%	45.8%	32.2%	60
Life, Physical & Social Science	54	1.0%	3,140	9.3%	66.7%	24.1%	58
Community & Social Services	120	2.2%	9,000	25.0%	44.2%	30.8%	105
Legal	26	0.5%	3,630	23.1%	61.5%	15.4%	24
Education, Training & Library	123	2.2%	33,260	22.0%	65.0%	13.0%	174
Arts, Design, Ent., Sports & Media	113	2.0%	7,030	27.4%	47.8%	23.9%	90
Healthcare Practitioner & Technical	134	2.4%	33,110	32.8%	44.0%	23.1%	201
Healthcare Support	139	2.5%	18,100	23.7%	36.7%	38.8%	157
Protective Service	35	0.6%	12,490	17.1%	37.1%	45.7%	52
Food Preparation & Serving Related	255	4.6%	49,510	27.8%	45.9%	26.7%	325
Building & Grounds Cleaning & Maint.	91	1.6%	15,600	25.3%	42.9%	31.9%	113
Personal Care & Service	128	2.3%	17,590	28.1%	42.2%	29.7%	128
Sales & Related	304	5.5%	46,230	15.8%	44.7%	39.5%	387
Office & Administrative Support	881	15.8%	72,280	24.3%	41.7%	34.3%	1,044
Farming, Fishing & Forestry	8	0.1%	100	12.5%	62.5%	25.0%	13
Construction & Extraction	176	3.2%	16,750	43.2%	30.7%	25.6%	206
Installation, Maintenance & Repair	133	2.4%	15,730	33.1%	31.6%	35.3%	125
Production	551	9.9%	30,140	26.5%	43.4%	30.3%	633
Transportation & Material Moving	416	7.5%	26,830	23.6%	50.5%	26.0%	427
Military Specific	5	0.1%	n/a	0.0%	20.0%	80.0%	1
Information Not Available	868	15.6%	n/a	35.0%	40.3%	24.7%	858



The proportion of claimants from the Administrative & Waste Services (12.7%), Construction (8.3%) and Manufacturing (11.0%) sectors were significantly higher than the respective proportion of total jobs in September 2019. Combined, these sectors represented 32.0 percent of the UI claimants in September, but they accounted for only 18.0 percent of the total jobs. In general, this is an indication of a worker surplus of individuals with work experience in these sectors.

- The Retail Trade, Information, and Arts, Entertainment & Recreation sectors had similar proportions of claimants as jobs.
- Conversely, two sectors – Public Administration and Educational Services – represented a significantly smaller proportion of UI claimants in September 2019 than their respective proportion of total jobs.
- Only 4.8 percent of the UI claimants in September 2019 were from the Public Administration and Educational Services sectors, but they accounted for 17.1 percent of the total jobs. In general, this indicates that there was a tighter labor supply for individuals with work experience in these sectors.

Age Demographics of RI Industries

The Census Bureau's *Longitudinal Employer-Household Dynamics* (LEHD)* program, generates statistics for various economic demographics. One area of the LEHD program generates employment by age group which is broken down into eight different age categories. For this publication, we have narrowed down the age group categories to six categories; 14-18, 19-24, 25-34, 35-44, 45-54 and 55+.

Longitudinal Employer-Household Dynamics data indicates that between the first quarter of 1998 and the first quarter of 2018, age group 55+ was the fastest growing age group among Rhode Island's private sector workforce. Below, is a look at some of Rhode Island's key employment sectors by age demographics during this twenty-year period.

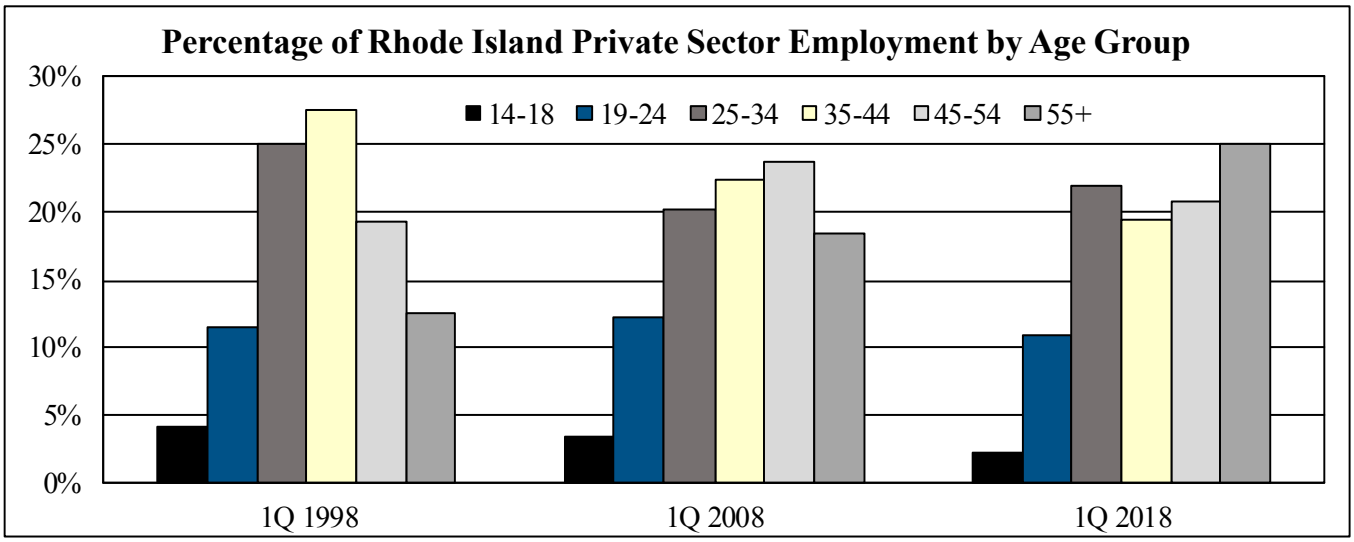
Percent of Private Employment

Age Group	1Q 1998	1Q 2008	1Q 2018
14-18	4.2%	3.4%	2.2%
19-24	11.6%	12.3%	10.9%
25-34	25.0%	20.1%	21.8%
35-44	27.4%	22.3%	19.4%
45-54	19.3%	23.6%	20.7%
55+	12.6%	18.3%	24.9%

Private Sector Employment

Between 1998 and 2018, the Rhode Island workforce age groups of 14-18, 19-24, 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 27.4 percent of the private sector workforce in 1998, which fell to 19.4 percent in 2018. Meanwhile, age groups 45-54 and 55+ both reported an increase in the percentage of workers between 1998 and 2018. A notable increase was reported in age group 55+, which represented 24.9 percent of private sector employment in 2018, up from the 12.6 percent it represented in 1998.

In comparison, age group demographics in the neighboring state of Connecticut shared a similar finding as Rhode Island. Between 1998 and 2018, both older age groups of 45-54 and 55+ reported an increase in the percentage of workers. Age group 55+ had the larger bump in the percentage of workers, increasing from 13.2 percent of Connecticut's private sector employment in 1998, to 25.7 percent in 2018. Age group 45-54 grew from 20.3 percent to 21.4 percent. The younger age group of 19-24 also reported a slight increase of 0.2 percent during this period. The middle age group and younger age groups of 35-44, 25-34 and 14-18, all had a smaller percentage of workers in 2018 than in 1998. A noticeable decrease occurred among the middle age group of 35-44 which represented 19.0 percent of Connecticut's private sector workforce in 2018, down from the 27.7 percent it represented in 1998.

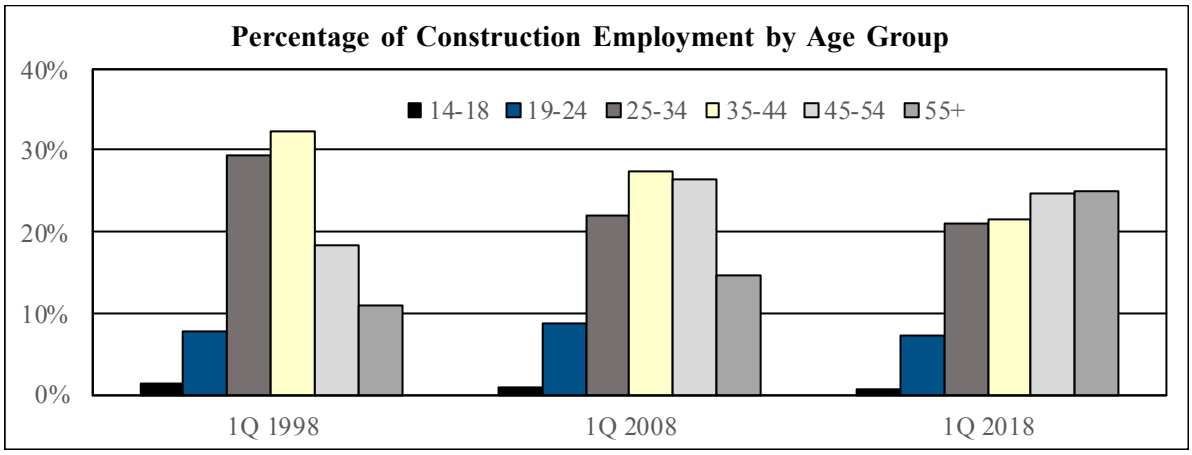


*The LEHD program gathers demographic data on a state-by-state basis, and not on the national level. Massachusetts recently started providing the LEHD program with data so historical data is not available. Since LEHD data is not available nationally, a workforce by age comparison cannot be conducted.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

Construction

Percent of Construction Employment			
Age Group	1Q 1998	1Q 2008	1Q 2018
14-18	1.4%	0.9%	0.5%
19-24	7.6%	8.8%	7.4%
25-34	29.4%	21.9%	21.1%
35-44	32.3%	27.5%	21.4%
45-54	18.4%	26.4%	24.7%
55+	11.0%	14.5%	25.0%

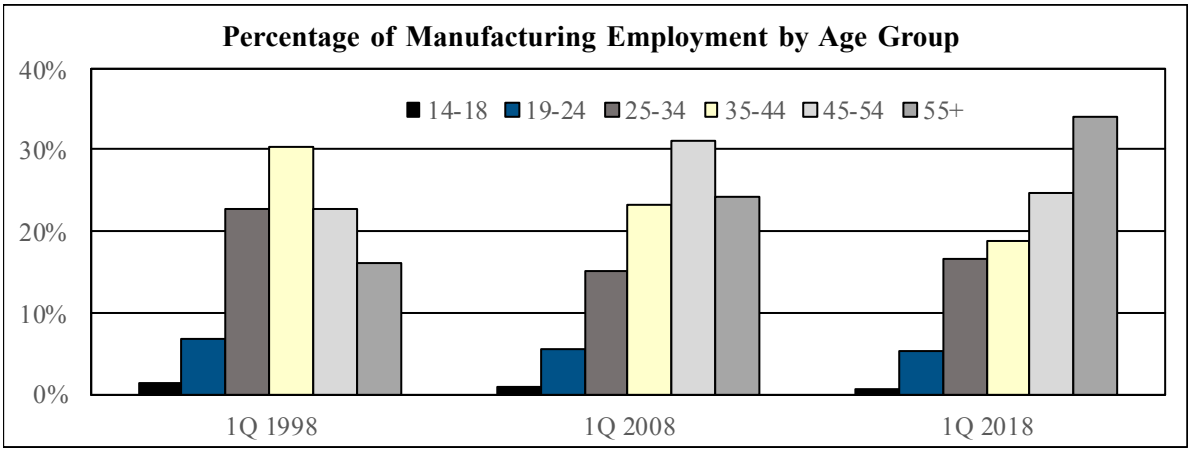
LEHD data reflects that the percentage of younger age construction workers in Rhode Island is shrinking, while the percentage of older construction workers appears to be on the increase. Between 1998 and 2018, the two older age groups of 45-54 and 55+ both experienced an increase in the percentage of construction workers, with the 55+ age group representing 25 percent of the construction workforce in 2018, up from the 11 percent it represented in 1998. The four younger age groups of 14-18, 19-24, 25-34 and 35-44, all reported a decrease in the percentage of construction workers. The percentage of construction workers in age group 35-44 reported the largest decrease among these four age groups. This age group represented 21.4 percent of the construction workforce in 2018, which was down from the 32.3 percent it represented in 1998.



Manufacturing

Percent of Manufacturing Employment			
Age Group	1Q 1998	1Q 2008	1Q 2018
14-18	1.3%	1.0%	0.6%
19-24	6.8%	5.5%	5.2%
25-34	22.7%	15.1%	16.6%
35-44	30.4%	23.2%	18.8%
45-54	22.8%	31.0%	24.7%
55+	16.0%	24.2%	34.0%

Based on the LEHD data, the percentage of older manufacturing workers in Rhode Island grew between 1998 and 2018, while the percentage of younger workers decreased. Among the six age groups, age groups 45-54 and 55+ each experienced growth in the percentage of manufacturing workers. Age group 55+ increased by a large margin, representing just over one-third, or 34 percent of the manufacturing workforce in 2018. In 1998, age group 55+ made up only 16 percent of the manufacturing workforce. The younger age groups of 14-18, 19-24, 25-34 and 35-44 all reported a smaller percentage of manufacturing workers in 2018 than in 1998. The age group of 35-44 reported the largest decrease, falling from 30.4 percent in 1998, to 18.8 percent in 2018.

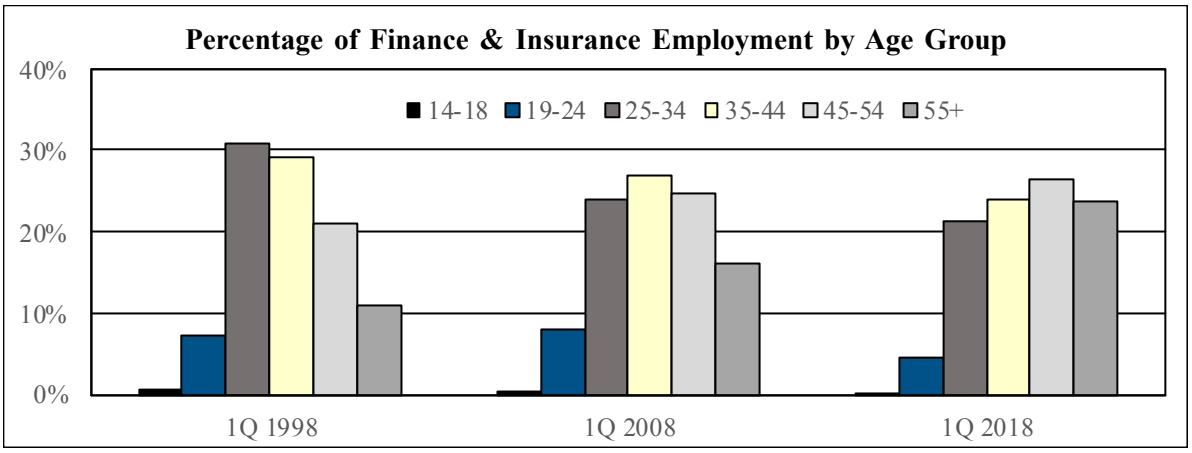


Finance & Insurance

In 2018, the percentage of Rhode Island workers age 55+ in the Financial & Insurance sector totaled 23.6 percent, up from the 11 percent this age group represented in 1998. An increase in the percentage of workers was also reported in age group 45-54 which accounted for 26.5 percent of the sectors workforce in 2018, up from the 21.1 percent it accounted for in 1998. Meanwhile, LEHD reported that the younger age groups of 14-18, 19-24, 25-34 and 35-44 all reported a smaller percentage of workers in 2018 than in 1998, an indication that the employment makeup of the Financial & Insurance sector is aging.

Percent of Finance & Insurance Employment

Age Group	1Q 1998	1Q 2008	1Q 2018
14-18	0.6%	0.3%	0.1%
19-24	7.3%	7.9%	4.7%
25-34	30.8%	24.0%	21.2%
35-44	29.2%	27.0%	23.9%
45-54	21.1%	24.7%	26.5%
55+	11.0%	16.1%	23.6%

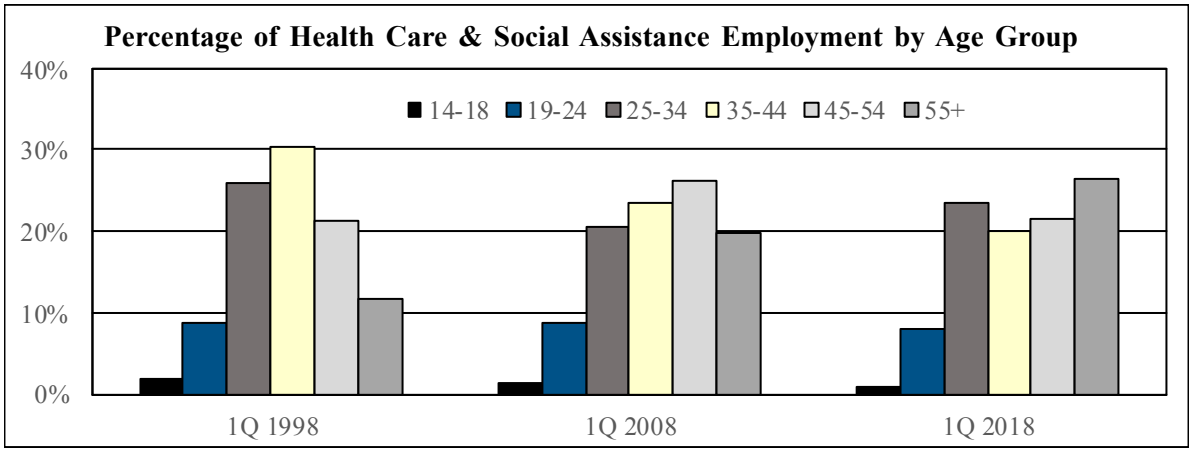


Health Care & Social Assistance

Between 1998 and 2018, age groups 55+ and 45-54 were the only age groups within the Health Care & Social Assistance sector to report an increase in the percentage of workers. The 55+ age group grew substantially, representing 26.3 percent of the sectors workforce in 2018, up from the 11.7 percent it represented in 1998. Age groups 14-18, 19-24, 25-34 and 35-44 all reported a lower percentage of workers in 2018 than in 1998, with age group 35-44 reporting the largest decrease. In 2018, age group 35-44 represented 20.1 percent of all Health Care & Social Assistance employment, down from the 30.4 percent iPercentage of Manufacturing Employment by Age Group represented in 1998.

Percent of Health Care & Social Assistance Employment

Age Group	1Q 1998	1Q 2008	1Q 2018
14-18	1.9%	1.4%	0.8%
19-24	8.8%	8.7%	8.0%
25-34	25.9%	20.6%	23.4%
35-44	30.4%	23.4%	20.1%
45-54	21.3%	26.1%	21.4%
55+	11.7%	19.8%	26.3%

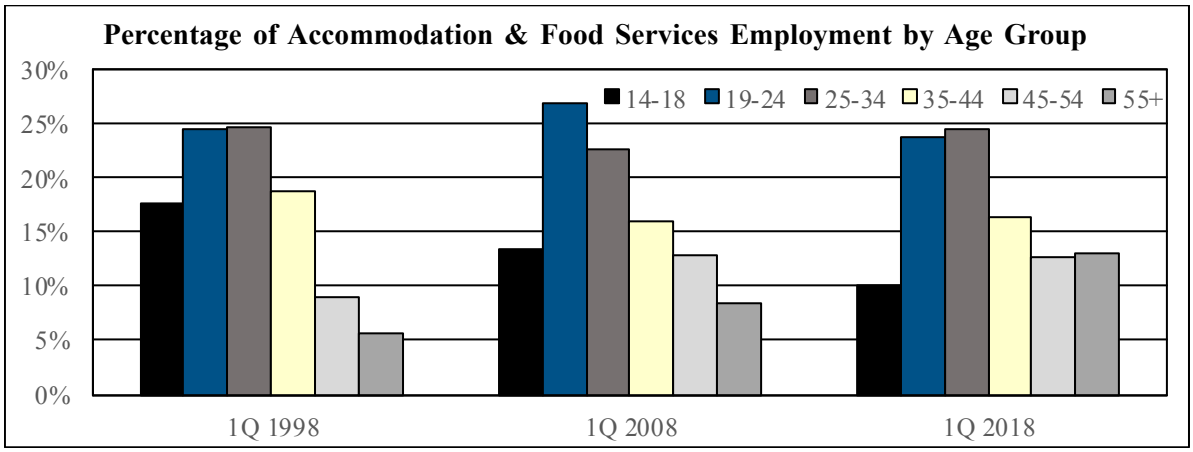


Accommodation & Food Services

In 1998, the younger age groups of 14-18, 19-24 and 25-34 combined to account for two-thirds or 66.7 percent of the total workforce in the Accommodation & Food Services sector, while the combined age groups of 45-54 and 55+ accounted for 14.6 percent. In 2018, the three younger age groups accounted for 58.1 percent of the sectors total workforce, down from 1998. The older age groups accounted for one-quarter or 25.6 percent of the sectors total workforce in 2018, up from 1998. The middle age group of 35-44 fell slightly from 18.8 percent in 1998 to 16.3 percent in 2018. Overall, age groups 45-54 and 55+ were the only Accommodation & Food Services age groups to report an increase in the percentage of workers between 1998 and 2018.

Percent of Accommodation & Food Services Employment

Age Group	1Q 1998	1Q 2008	1Q 2018
14-18	17.7%	13.3%	10.0%
19-24	24.4%	26.8%	23.8%
25-34	24.6%	22.7%	24.4%
35-44	18.8%	15.9%	16.3%
45-54	9.0%	12.9%	12.6%
55+	5.6%	8.4%	13.0%

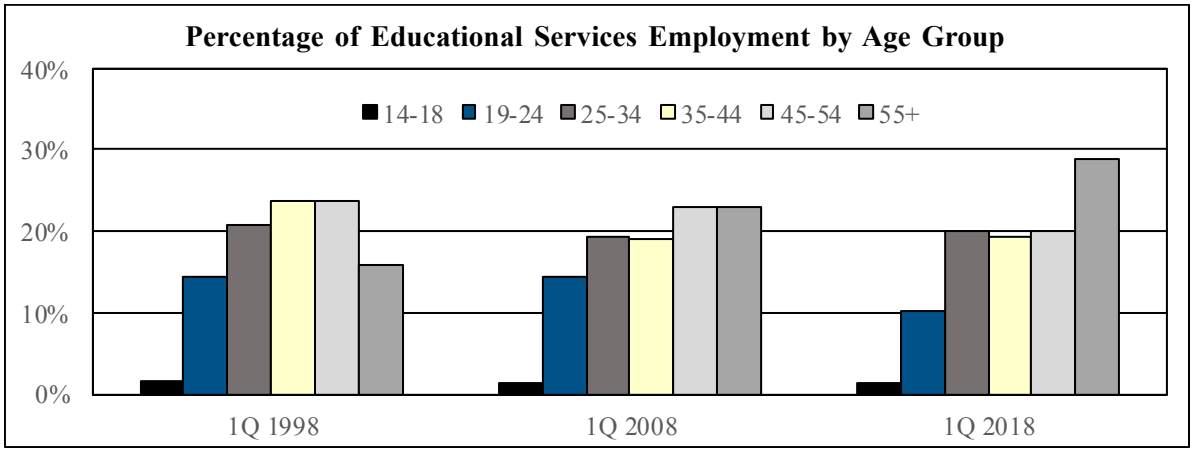


Educational Services

According to LEHD data, age group 55+ increased by a large margin in the percentage of Educational Services workers. In 2018, this age group accounted for 29 percent of the sectors workforce, up from the 15.8 percent of the workforce it represented in 1998. All five remaining age groups reported a decrease in the percentage of Educational Services workers, with the largest decreases coming from the 35-44 age group. This age group represented 23.6 percent of the educational services workforce in 1998, which fell to 19.3 percent in 2018.

Percent of Educational Services Employment

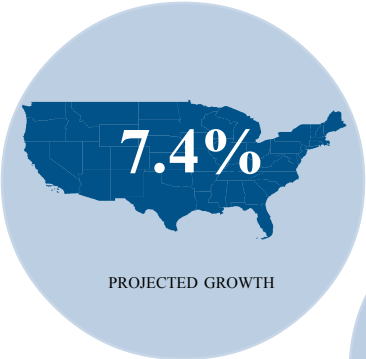
Age Group	1Q 1998	1Q 2008	1Q 2018
14-18	1.6%	1.3%	1.4%
19-24	14.4%	14.4%	10.2%
25-34	20.7%	19.4%	20.2%
35-44	23.6%	19.0%	19.3%
45-54	23.9%	22.9%	19.9%
55+	15.8%	22.9%	29.0%

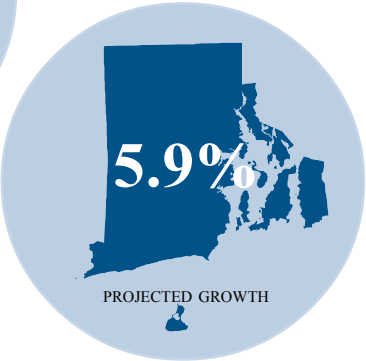


Industry Outlook 2026

The Big Picture

Rhode Island employment in 2026 is projected to reach 550,700 an increase of 30,400 (5.9%) from our 2016 employment. Much of this growth is attributed to the increased demand for the products and services provided by the Accommodation & Food Services; Health Care & Social Assistance; Professional, Scientific & Technical Services; and Retail Trade sectors. Nationally, employment is projected to increase by 7.4 percent.





A Closer Look at Projected Employment for Rhode Island in Year 2026

	Employment		Change	
Industry Title	**2016**	**2026**	**Numeric**	**Percent**
Total All Industries	**520,251**	**550,715**	**30,464**	**5.9%**
Health Care and Social Assistance	82,389	86,500	4,111	5.0%
Accommodation and Food Services	48,204	52,761	4,557	9.5%
Retail Trade	48,190	50,653	2,463	5.1%
Educational Services	44,329	45,550	1,221	2.8%
Manufacturing	40,420	42,510	2,090	5.2%
Government	31,431	32,028	597	1.9%
Administrative & Waste Services	27,873	30,301	2,428	8.7%
Finance and Insurance	26,572	28,120	1,548	5.8%
Professional, Scientific, and Technical Services	24,572	27,627	3,055	12.4%
Construction	18,134	20,401	2,267	12.5%
Other Services (except Government)	17,951	18,751	800	4.5%
Wholesale Trade	16,484	16,893	409	2.5%
Management of Companies and Enterprises	13,378	14,213	835	6.2%
Transportation and Warehousing	9,939	10,748	809	8.1%
Arts, Entertainment, and Recreation	9,311	10,055	744	8.0%
Real Estate and Rental and Leasing	6,108	6,534	426	7.0%
Information	6,114	6,507	393	6.4%
Utilities	1,081	1,087	6	0.6%
Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing and Hunting	776	860	84	10.8%
Mining	200	196	-4	-2.0%

Snapshots of Selected Industry Sectors

Health Care & Social Assistance

Industry Sector	2016	2026	Change
Health Care & Social Assistance	82,389	86,500	4,111

The largest employment in our state occurs in the Health Care & Social Assistance sector. This sector currently employs over 82,000 employees and represents 16 percent of our employment. Increasing healthcare coverage, medical advances along with an aging population will result in an increase of nearly 4,000 (+5.0%) 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 (+1,171), followed closely by the Nursing & Residential Care Facilities (+1,148) subsector. While Hospitals continue to add employment (+901) the growth rate is expected to be below the statewide average. Among the four subsectors, Social Assistance is projected to grow at the fastest rate (7.1%) adding nearly 900 jobs during the projection period.

Subsectors of Health Care & Social Assistance Projected Employment in Year 2026

Industry Subsector	Employment 2016	2026	Change
Ambulatory Health Care Services	25,829	27,000	1,171
Nursing & Residential Care Facilities	18,352	19,500	1,148
Hospitals	25,599	26,500	901
Social Assistance	12,609	13,500	891

Accommodation & Food Services

Industry Sector	2016	2026	Change
Accommodation & Food Services	48,204	52,761	4,557

Above average growth (9.5%) in the Accommodation & Food Services sector's will generate more than 4,500 new jobs. This sector consists of two subsectors. The majority of new jobs (+3,924) are projected to be in Food Services & Drinking Places which account for nearly 90 percent of the sectors total employment.

Subsectors of Accommodation & Food Services Projected Employment in Year 2026

Industry Subsector	Employment 2016	2026	Change
Accommodation	4,450	5,083	633
Food Services & Drinking Places	43,754	47,678	3,924

Professional, Scientific & Technical Services

Industry Sector	2016	2026	Change
Professional, Scientific & Technical Services	24,572	27,627	3,055

Ranking third in both numeric change (+3,055) and percent change (12.4%), 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 five years, employment in Computer System Design has increased an average of five percent a year and Management Consulting has increased by an average of eight percent a year, a trend that is expected to continue.

Industry Components Effecting Projections for Professional, Scientific & Technical Services

Detailed Industries	Employment 2012	2017	Change
Computer System Design	5,563	6,838	23%
Legal	4,004	4,271	7%
Architectural & Engineering	3,472	4,169	20%
Accounting & Bookkeeping	2,908	2,938	1%
Mgmt. & Tech. Consulting Services	2,093	2,894	38%

Administrative & Support & Waste Management & Remedial Services

Industry Sector	2016	2026	Change
Administrative & Support & Waste Management & Remedial Services	27,873	30,301	2,428

Large numeric gains and above average growth is projected for the Administrative & Waste Management & Remedial Services sector resulting in the addition of nearly 2,500 (8.7%) new jobs.

The largest gain (+2,256) 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.

Subsectors of Administrative & Support & Waste Management & Remedial Services Projected Employment in Year 2026

Industry Subsector	Employment 2016	2026	Change
Administrative & Support Services	26,095	28,351	2,256
Waste Mgmt. & Remediation Services	1,778	1,950	172

Construction

Industry Sector	2016	2026	Change
Construction	18,134	20,401	2,267

The construction sector is projected to grow at the fastest rate (+12.5%) during the projection period with the addition of some 2,200 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 581; 328; and 1,358 jobs respectively.

Construction sector employment is projected to reach 20,400 by 2026, still falling short of its pre-recession level (22,803).

Subsectors of Construction Projected Employment in Year 2026

Industry Subsector	Employment 2016	2026	Change
Construction of Buildings	4,345	4,926	581
Heavy & Civil Engineering Construction	1,822	2,150	328
Specialty Trade Contractors	11,967	13,325	1,358

Manufacturing

Industry Sector	2016	2026	Change
Manufacturing	40,420	42,510	2,090

Nearly 2,000 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 70 percent of the new job gains. Other industries expected to show moderate increases include Computer & Electronic Product Manufacturing, Chemical Manufacturing and Food Manufacturing which together are expected to add nearly 600 jobs. These gains will overshadow losses that are expected to occur elsewhere in the sector.

The six selected subsectors to the right represent over 50 percent of the projected employment within the Manufacturing sector.

Selected Subsectors of Manufacturing Projected Employment in Year 2026

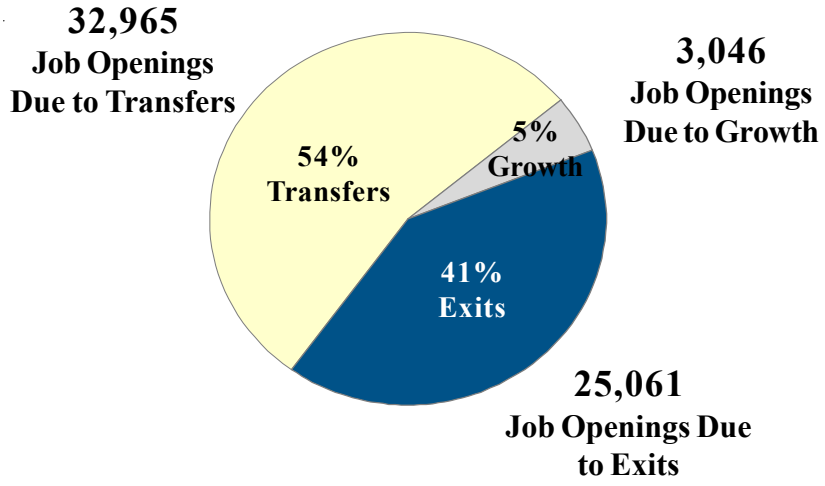
Industry Subsector	Employment 2016	2026	Change
Transportation Equipment Mfg.	4,489	6,800	2,311
Fabricated Metal Product Mfg.	4,984	5,012	28
Miscellaneous Manufacturing	5,477	4,800	-677
Food Manufacturing	3,508	3,680	172
Computer & Electronic Product Mfg.	3,282	3,512	230
Chemical Manufacturing	3,011	3,200	189

2016 - 2026 Industry Subsectors Adding the Most Jobs

Industry Subsector	Employment 2016	Employment 2026	Change Numeric	Change Percent
Food Services & Drinking Places	43,754	47,678	3,924	9.0
Professional, Scientific, & Technical Services	24,572	27,627	3,055	12.4
Transportation Equipment Manufacturing	4,489	6,800	2,311	51.5
Administrative & Support Services	26,095	28,351	2,256	8.7
Specialty Trade Contractors	11,967	13,325	1,358	11.4
Educational Services	44,329	45,550	1,221	2.8
Ambulatory Health Care Services	25,829	27,000	1,171	4.5
Nursing & Residential Care Facilities	18,352	19,500	1,148	6.3
Hospitals	25,599	26,500	901	3.5
Social Assistance	12,609	13,500	891	7.1
Management of Companies & Enterprises	13,378	14,213	835	6.2
Insurance Carriers & Related Activities	9,077	9,750	673	7.4
Accommodation, including Hotels & Motels	4,450	5,083	633	14.2
Credit Intermediation & Related Activities	11,892	12,500	608	5.1
Amusement, Gambling, & Recreation Industries	7,093	7,686	593	8.4
Construction of Buildings	4,345	4,926	581	13.4
Food & Beverage Stores	11,990	12,500	510	4.3
Total Federal Government Employment	9,165	9,638	473	5.2
Motor Vehicle & Parts Dealers	5,684	6,154	470	8.3
Personal & Laundry Services	5,562	6,000	438	7.9
Health & Personal Care Stores	4,879	5,292	413	8.5
Merchant Wholesalers, Nondurable Goods	5,904	6,300	396	6.7
Heavy & Civil Engineering Construction	1,822	2,150	328	18.0
Real Estate	4,543	4,861	318	7.0
Clothing & Clothing Accessories Stores	4,251	4,549	298	7.0

Job Openings: Due to Exits & Transfers

A job opening is created when a worker departs a position. A labor force **exit** is defined as a worker who leaves the workforce entirely to go to school, start a family, or retire. Occupational **transfers** are defined as workers that leave one occupation to become employed in some other occupation in a different occupational group, due to promotion or a job change. Job openings due to growth are attributed to economic growth that is expected to occur in the industry. During the 2016-2026 projection period, it is estimated that employers will need to find workers to fill over 60,000 job openings annually. More than half of the job openings are attributed to the transfers.



Occupational Outlook 2026

The Big Picture

Rhode Island employment in 2026 is projected to reach 550,700 an increase of 30,400 (5.9%) from our 2016 employment. Much of this growth is attributed to the increased demand for the products and services provided by the Accommodation & Food Services; Health Care & Social Assistance; Professional, Scientific & Technical Services; and Retail Trade sectors. Nationally, employment is projected to increase by 7.4 percent.

Several occupational groups are expected to grow at above average (7.1%) rates. Among the fastest growing occupational groups are Construction & Extraction (13.8%), Computer & Mathematical (12.3%), Architecture & Engineering (10.5%), Personal Care & Service Occupations (9.4%) and Food Preparation & Serving Related Occupations (8.9%). These occupational groups are expected to generate nearly 12,000 new jobs during the projection period.

Employment by Major Occupational Group

	Employment		Percent	Openings Due to			
	2016	2026	Change	Exits	Transfers	Growth	Total
Statewide, All Occupations	**520,251**	**550,715**	**5.9%**	**250,610**	**329,654**	**30,464**	**610,728**
Management	24,445	26,490	8.4%	6,541	13,101	2,045	21,687
Business & Financial Operations	28,014	30,182	7.7%	8,496	16,709	2,168	27,373
Computer & Mathematical	14,851	16,671	12.3%	2,670	7,519	1,820	12,009
Architecture & Engineering	7,871	8,696	10.5%	2,040	3,740	825	6,605
Life, Physical, & Social Science	2,992	3,222	7.7%	776	1,742	230	2,748
Community & Social Service	9,805	10,396	6.0%	3,988	6,735	591	11,314
Legal	6,292	6,714	6.7%	1,574	2,196	422	4,192
Education, Training, & Library	33,122	34,326	3.6%	15,131	14,161	1,204	30,496
Arts, Design, Entertainment, Sports & Media	8,639	8,967	3.8%	3,610	5,134	328	9,072
Healthcare Practitioners & Technical	36,067	37,908	5.1%	9,397	8,710	1,841	19,948
Healthcare Support	21,541	23,266	8.0%	12,810	12,050	1,725	26,585
Protective Service	12,471	12,735	2.1%	6,945	7,041	264	14,250
Food Preparation & Serving Related	50,887	55,424	8.9%	40,103	50,495	4,537	95,135
Building & Grounds Cleaning & Maintenance	19,543	20,953	7.2%	11,823	13,015	1,410	26,248
Personal Care & Service	17,951	19,641	9.4%	13,585	12,698	1,690	27,973
Sales & Related	50,766	53,106	4.6%	29,739	39,641	2,340	71,720
Office & Administrative Support	76,461	76,008	-0.6%	39,119	45,790	-453	84,456
Farming, Fishing & Forestry	1,245	1,305	4.8%	463	1,328	60	1,851
Construction & Extraction	22,148	25,196	13.8%	8,292	15,142	3,048	26,482
Installation, Maintenance & Repair	16,927	18,183	7.4%	6,102	10,387	1,256	17,745
Production	31,365	32,727	4.3%	13,674	22,825	1,362	37,861
Transportation & Material Moving	26,848	28,599	6.5%	13,732	19,495	1,751	34,978

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 over 250,000 job openings and account for forty percent of the total openings through 2026. 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	21,904
Waiters & Waitresses	20,839
Combined Food Preparation & Serving Workers (Including Fast Food)	20,621
Cashiers	19,450
Customer Service Representatives	13,077
Nursing Assistants	12,352
Office Clerks, General	10,934
Janitors & Cleaners	10,346
Stock Clerks & Order Fillers	9,947
Laborers & Freight, Stock, & Material Movers, Hand	9,298
Food Preparation Workers	8,277
Counter Attendants, Cafeteria, Concession & Coffee Shop	8,244
Cooks, Restaurant	7,882
Landscaping & Groundskeeping Workers	7,691
Registered Nurses	7,409
Bookkeeping, Accounting, & Auditing Clerks	6,807
Personal Care Aides	6,694
First-Line Supervisors of Retail Sales Workers	6,644
Bartenders	6,270
General & Operations Managers	6,232
Secretaries & Administrative Assistants (Except Legal, Medical, & Executive)	6,099
Carpenters	5,946
Sales Representatives, Wholesale & Manufacturing (Except Technical & Scientific Products)	5,898
First-Line Supervisors: Office & Administrative Support Workers	5,652
Teacher Assistants	5,531

Top 25 Occupations with the Most job Openings Due to Growth

The top 25 occupations with the greatest number of openings due to growth represent openings created by new or expanding businesses during the projection period.

Occupation	Growth
Combined Food Preparation & Serving Workers	1,721
Carpenters	1,026
Retail Salespersons	942
Registered Nurses	860
Waiters & Waitresses	809
Personal Care Aides	805
Home Health Aides	736
Helpers—Production Workers	719
Software Developers, Applications	639
Cooks, Restaurant	630
General & Operations Managers	612
Janitors & Cleaners	556
Nursing Assistants	524
Welders, Cutters, Solderers, & Brazers	514
Stock Clerks & Order Fillers	509
Laborers & Freight, Stock, & Material Movers (Hand)	483
Accountants & Auditors	459
Plumbers, Pipefitters, & Steamfitters	437
Landscaping & Groundskeeping Workers	433
Financial Managers	430
Construction Laborers	378
Customer Service Representatives	374
Light Truck or Delivery Services Drivers	368
Maintenance & Repair Workers, General	357
First-Line Supervisors: Retail Sales Workers	354

Fastest Growing Occupations

The fastest growing occupations in Rhode Island are considered to be those with both a projected 2026 employment level of 500 or more and a growth rate of at least 10 percent.

Occupational Group	Employment 2016	Employment 2026	Percent Change	Openings Due to Exits	Openings Due to Transfers	Openings Due to Growth	Total
Welders, Cutters, Solderers, & Brazers	1,618	2,132	31.8	499	1,464	514	2,477
Software Developers, Applications	2,252	2,891	28.4	352	1,263	639	2,254
Layout Workers, Metal & Plastic	414	526	27.1	174	325	112	611
Helpers—Production Workers	2,691	3,410	26.7	1,635	2,905	719	5,259
Operations Research Analysts	452	564	24.8	104	191	112	407
Sheet Metal Workers	512	629	22.9	197	391	117	705
Plumbers, Pipefitters, & Steamfitters	2,006	2,443	21.8	807	1,488	437	2,732
Personal Care Aides	3,806	4,611	21.2	3,359	2,530	805	6,694
Carpenters	4,956	5,982	20.7	1,880	3,040	1,026	5,946
Market Research Analysts & Marketing Specialists	1,613	1,943	20.5	472	1,220	330	2,022
Home Health Aides	3,637	4,373	20.2	2,433	2,024	736	5,193
Nonfarm Animal Caretakers	968	1,157	19.5	726	856	189	1,771
Machinists	1,496	1,775	18.7	568	1,065	279	1,912
Telecommunications Line Installers & Repairers	446	528	18.4	119	361	82	562
Combined Food Preparation & Serving Workers (Including Fast Food)	9,572	11,293	18.0	9,238	9,662	1,721	20,621
Financial Managers	2,495	2,925	17.2	623	1,341	430	2,394
Nurse Practitioners	752	877	16.6	158	233	125	516
Hotel, Motel, & Resort Desk Clerks	550	636	15.6	328	586	86	1,000
Industrial Engineers	596	688	15.4	146	262	92	500
Electrical Engineers	440	507	15.2	107	190	67	364
Paralegals & Legal Assistants	1,286	1,477	14.9	456	919	191	1,566
Software Developers, Systems Software	1,174	1,343	14.4	172	618	169	959
Electricians	2,323	2,646	13.9	865	1,846	323	3,034
Cleaners of Vehicles & Equipment	769	869	13.0	423	710	100	1,233
Cooks, Restaurant	4,918	5,548	12.8	3,066	4,186	630	7,882
Pharmacy Technicians	1,535	1,724	12.3	529	722	189	1,440
Loan Interviewers & Clerks	1,019	1,144	12.3	389	625	125	1,139
Training & Development Specialists	819	919	12.2	267	558	100	925
Cost Estimators	580	649	11.9	194	399	69	662
First-Line Supervisors of Construction Trades & Extraction Workers	2,201	2,459	11.7	746	1,470	258	2,474
Insurance Claims & Policy Processing Clerks	931	1,040	11.7	421	553	109	1,083
Electrical & Electronics Engineering Technicians	726	811	11.7	246	405	85	736
Telecommunications Equip. Installers & Repairers (Except Line Installers)	614	685	11.6	215	459	71	745
Appraisers & Assessors of Real Estate	478	532	11.3	176	146	54	376
Loan Officers	1,276	1,420	11.3	326	747	144	1,217
Computer & Information Systems Managers	1,173	1,304	11.2	218	675	131	1,024
Cooks, Institution & Cafeteria	1,068	1,187	11.1	661	902	119	1,682
Computer User Support Specialists	1,402	1,557	11.1	301	761	155	1,217
Mechanical Engineers	1,209	1,342	11.0	259	531	133	923
Chefs & Head Cooks	600	665	10.8	203	576	65	844
Electronics Engineers, Except Computer	1,148	1,271	10.7	273	484	123	880
Medical & Health Services Managers	1,502	1,662	10.7	430	772	160	1,362
Industrial Machinery Mechanics	600	663	10.5	213	326	63	602
Civil Engineers	842	930	10.5	192	436	88	716
Marketing Managers	576	636	10.4	138	368	60	566
Operating Engineers & Other Construction Equipment Operators	683	752	10.1	274	503	69	846
Construction Laborers	3,765	4,143	10.0	1,379	2,606	378	4,363
Heating, Air Conditioning, & Refrigeration Mechanics & Installers	750	825	10.0	218	528	75	821

2026 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 2016-2026 projection period, it is estimated that employers will need to find workers to fill nearly 30,000 new jobs and to replace nearly 580,000 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 38 percent of Rhode Island jobs typically require a high school education; on par with the national percentage (39.4%). Between 2016 and 2026, there are nearly 235,000 openings projected for occupations at this educational level.

Jobs requiring college degrees (Associate, Bachelor's, Master's or Doctoral) represent nearly thirty percent (29.2%) of the current occupational distribution in Rhode Island, slightly higher than the national average (28.1%). During the projection period it is estimated that there will be nearly 125,000 openings for occupations requiring a minimum of an Associate degree.

Employment by Education, Work Experience and Training Requirements

	Employment		Openings Due to			Total
	2016	2026	Exits	Transfers	Growth	Openings
Typical Education Needed for Entry	**520,251**	**550,715**	**250,610**	**329,654**	**30,464**	**610,728**
Doctoral or professional degree	19,483	20,335	4,552	4,601	852	10,005
Master's degree	11,028	11,752	3,698	5,366	724	9,788
Bachelor's degree	108,530	116,777	32,824	54,379	8,247	95,450
Associate degree	12,824	13,606	4,228	6,265	782	11,275
Postsecondary non-degree award	35,016	36,893	16,844	18,795	1,877	37,516
Some college, no degree	13,746	13,858	7,376	6,645	112	14,133
High school diploma or equivalent	199,190	208,902	95,285	129,581	9,712	234,578
No formal educational credential	120,434	128,592	85,803	104,022	8,158	197,983
Typical Work Experience	**520,251**	**550,715**	**250,610**	**329,654**	**30,464**	**610,728**
5 years or more	19,722	21,573	5,394	11,229	1,851	18,474
Less than 5 years	52,906	56,087	21,000	32,578	3,181	56,759
None	447,623	473,055	224,216	285,847	25,432	535,495
Typical Training Requirements	**10,116**	**10,372**	**2,232**	**2,931**	**256**	**5,419**
Apprenticeship	10,517	12,483	3,975	7,255	1,966	13,196
Long-term on-the-job training	17,019	17,862	6,118	9,462	843	16,423
Moderate-term on-the-job training	82,822	86,354	34,338	52,304	3,532	90,174
Short-term on-the-job training	205,229	216,128	134,171	159,459	10,899	304,529
None	194,548	207,516	69,776	98,243	12,968	180,987

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.

- For 38.4 percent 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.

- Seventy-four 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.

- ***None*** **-** no additional occupation-specific training or preparation is typically required to attain competency in the occupation. Examples of occupations that do not require occupation-specific on the job training include pharmacists, accountants, computer programmers.

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 38.3 percent of the state's 2016 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 (82.8%), Manufacturing (71.3%), Mining (63.0%), Construction (61.5%), Wholesale Trade (59.7%), Real Estate, Rental & Leasing (56.8%) and Transportation & Warehousing (56.2%).

Jobs requiring college degrees (Associate, Bachelor's, Master's or Doctoral) represent nearly thirty percent (29.2%) of the current occupational distribution in Rhode Island, slightly higher than the national average (28.1%). Economic sectors with higher-than average percentages of jobs requiring Associate Degrees or higher include Professional, Scientific & Technical Services (67.5%), Educational Services (66.8%), Management of Companies (60.3%), Finance & Insurance (51.6%), Health Care & Social Assistance (39.7%), Government (38.3%) and Information (35.0%).

Nearly one quarter (23.1%) 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 (84.5%), Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing & Hunting (65.6%), Retail Trade (53.7%) and Arts, Entertainment & Recreation (51.9%) sectors.

Employment Estimates by Education Level within Economic Sector

	Total All Levels	No Formal Educational Credential	High School or GED	Some College	Post Secondary	Associate Degree	Bachelor Degree	Master's Degree	Professional or Doctoral Degree
Total Jobs by Education Level	**520,251**	**120,434**	**199,190**	**13,746**	**35,016**	**12,824**	**108,530**	**11,028**	**19,483**
Percent of Jobs by Education Level	**100%**	**23.1%**	**38.3%**	**2.6%**	**6.7%**	**2.5%**	**20.9%**	**2.1%**	**3.7%**
Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing & Hunting	776	65.6%	28.4%	1.9%	1.4%	0.0%	2.7%	0.0%	0.0%
Mining	200	24.5%	63.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	12.5%	0.0%	0.0%
Utilities	1,081	2.5%	82.8%	0.0%	2.1%	0.0%	12.4%	0.1%	0.1%
Construction	18,134	24.1%	61.5%	1.1%	3.8%	0.2%	9.2%	0.0%	0.0%
Manufacturing	40,420	9.7%	71.3%	1.4%	1.8%	1.4%	14.2%	0.0%	0.1%
Wholesale Trade	16,484	15.1%	59.7%	3.9%	3.9%	0.6%	16.5%	0.0%	0.3%
Retail Trade	48,190	53.7%	36.9%	1.4%	3.5%	0.1%	2.6%	0.0%	1.8%
Transportation & Warehousing	9,939	22.0%	56.2%	0.9%	17.4%	0.2%	3.3%	0.0%	0.0%
Information	6,114	11.1%	37.4%	6.1%	10.3%	2.6%	30.1%	2.3%	0.0%
Finance & Insurance	26,572	0.8%	45.2%	2.2%	0.1%	1.4%	49.9%	0.1%	0.4%
Real Estate & Rental & Leasing	6,108	29.0%	56.8%	4.1%	1.8%	0.6%	7.6%	0.0%	0.1%
Professional, Scientific & Tech Servcs.	24,572	0.5%	26.7%	4.3%	1.0%	11.3%	49.9%	0.7%	5.6%
Management of Companies	13,378	3.8%	30.0%	4.6%	1.2%	3.0%	55.8%	0.1%	1.4%
Administrative Support & Waste Mgmt	27,873	34.1%	48.5%	2.1%	4.3%	0.8%	8.8%	0.6%	0.7%
Educational Services	44,329	6.8%	15.5%	10.3%	0.6%	1.4%	45.1%	9.5%	10.8%
Health Care & Social Assistance	82,389	7.2%	30.4%	2.1%	20.5%	6.8%	21.0%	5.2%	6.7%
Arts, Entertainment, & Recreation	9,311	51.9%	36.1%	1.0%	0.4%	0.1%	10.0%	0.5%	0.0%
Accommodation & Food Services	48,204	84.5%	14.1%	0.3%	0.1%	0.0%	1.0%	0.0%	0.0%
Other Services	17,951	21.1%	41.7%	4.0%	14.0%	1.4%	17.4%	0.1%	0.3%
Government	31,431	4.0%	46.4%	0.9%	10.4%	3.0%	29.0%	3.5%	2.7%
Self Employed & Unpaid Family Wrkrs.	46,750	18.4%	39.9%	1.2%	8.8%	1.5%	17.0%	1.8%	11.4%

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 loss occurred between 2004 and 2005 (-6,663).

Rhode Island Population

2000	1,048,319
2010	1,052,567
2011	1,053,536
2012	1,054,601
2013	1,055,122
2014	1,056,017
2015	1,056,173
2016	1,057,063
2017	1,056,486
2018	1,057,315

Between 2010 and 2018, only West Virginia (-2.5%), Illinois (-0.7%) and Connecticut (-0.04%) recorded losses in population. Vermont (+0.1%), Rhode Island (+0.5%), Mississippi (+0.6%), Maine (+0.8%), Pennsylvania (+0.8%) and New York (+0.8%) had the smallest population growth over the period. The areas with the largest population growth during this time were the District of Columbia (+16.7%), Utah (+14.4%) and Texas (+14.1%).

Population Data for New England States
Census 2000 - 2010 - 2018

	2000 Census Population	2010 Census Population	2018 Census Estimate	Numerical Change 2000-2010	Numerical Change 2010-2018	Percent Change 2000-2010	Percent Change 2010-2018
Connecticut	3,405,565	3,574,097	3,572,665	168,532	-1,432	4.9%	0.0%
Maine	1,274,923	1,328,361	1,338,404	53,438	10,043	4.2%	0.8%
Massachusetts	6,349,097	6,547,629	6,902,149	198,532	354,520	3.1%	5.4%
New Hampshire	1,235,786	1,316,470	1,356,458	80,684	39,988	6.5%	3.0%
Rhode Island	**1,048,319**	**1,052,567**	**1,057,315**	**4,248**	**4,748**	**0.4%**	**0.5%**
Vermont	608,827	625,741	626,299	16,914	558	2.8%	0.1%
United States	281,421,906	308,745,538	327,167,439	27,323,632	18,421,901	9.7%	6.0%

Source: US Census Bureau, 2000 & 2010 Census and 2018 Census Population Estimates

- The growth rates in all of the New England states were below the national population increase of 6.0 percent. Population in Connecticut (-0.04%), Vermont (+0.1), Rhode Island (+0.5%) and Maine (+0.8%) all grew by less than one percent between 2010 and 2018. The population grew by 5.4 percent in Massachusetts and 3.0 percent in New Hampshire.

- The resident population in Rhode Island grew by 0.5 of a percent, or 4,748 individuals, to an estimated 1.06 million residents in 2018.

- The Northeast (+1.4%) and Midwest (+2.1%) were the slowest growing regions in the country between 2010 and 2018, while the South (+8.9%) and West (+8.4%) regions added the highest percentage of residents.

Local Population Trends

- Between 2010 and 2018, Rhode Island added 4,748 residents, a gain of 0.5% of the state's population.
- Of the 39 cities and towns, 19 communities lost population from 2010 to 2018.
- Bristol reflected the largest annual population percentage decline (-3.6%), followed by Narragansett (-2.5%) and Warwick (-2.2%).
- Twenty communities in Rhode Island reported population gains between 2010 and 2018, with Burrillville (+4.9%), Glocester (+4.8%) and Cumberland (+4.4%) reporting the largest growth on a percentage basis.
- Seventeen communities added over 100 residents since 2010, led by Cumberland (+1,471), Providence (+1,293), Cranston (+887) and Burrillville (+785).
- Eight communities lost over 200 residents between 2010 and 2018. Warwick (-1,825) lost the most residents, followed by Bristol (-823), Narragansett (-404), West Warwick (-317), Coventry (-316), Westerly (-278), Barrington (-221) and Middletown (-216).

Rhode Island City and Town Population Estimates

Geographic Area	Census 2010	Estimate 2018	Numeric Change	Percent Change
Rhode Island	**1,052,567**	**1,057,315**	**4,748**	**0.5%**
Bristol County	**49,875**	**48,649**	**-1,226**	**-2.5%**
Barrington	16,310	16,089	-221	-1.4%
Bristol	22,954	22,131	-823	-3.6%
Warren	10,611	10,429	-182	-1.7%
Kent County	**166,158**	**163,861**	**-2,297**	**-1.4%**
Coventry	35,014	34,698	-316	-0.9%
East Greenwich	13,146	13,103	-43	-0.3%
Warwick	82,672	80,847	-1,825	-2.2%
West Greenwich	6,135	6,339	204	3.3%
West Warwick	29,191	28,874	-317	-1.1%
Newport County	**82,888**	**82,542**	**-346**	**-0.4%**
Jamestown	5,405	5,490	85	1.6%
Little Compton	3,492	3,484	-8	-0.2%
Middletown	16,150	15,934	-216	-1.3%
Newport	24,672	24,590	-82	-0.3%
Portsmouth	17,389	17,313	-76	-0.4%
Tiverton	15,780	15,731	-49	-0.3%
Providence County	**626,667**	**636,084**	**9,417**	**1.5%**
Burrillville	15,955	16,740	785	4.9%
Central Falls	19,376	19,398	22	0.1%
Cranston	80,387	81,274	887	1.1%
Cumberland	33,506	34,977	1,471	4.4%
East Providence	47,037	47,476	439	0.9%
Foster	4,606	4,710	104	2.3%
Glocester	9,746	10,210	464	4.8%
Johnston	28,769	29,322	553	1.9%
Lincoln	21,105	21,771	666	3.2%
North Providence	32,078	32,559	481	1.5%
North Smithfield	11,967	12,485	518	4.3%
Pawtucket	71,148	71,847	699	1.0%
Providence	178,042	179,335	1,293	0.7%
Scituate	10,329	10,658	329	3.2%
Smithfield	21,430	21,719	289	1.3%
Woonsocket	41,186	41,603	417	1.0%
Washington County	**126,979**	**126,179**	**-800**	**-0.6%**
Charlestown	7,827	7,820	-7	-0.1%
Exeter	6,425	6,561	136	2.1%
Hopkinton	8,188	8,119	-69	-0.8%
Narragansett	15,868	15,464	-404	-2.5%
New Shoreham	1,051	1,034	-17	-1.6%
North Kingstown	26,486	26,320	-166	-0.6%
Richmond	7,708	7,702	-6	-0.1%
South Kingstown	30,639	30,650	11	0.0%
Westerly	22,787	22,509	-278	-1.2%

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 0.5 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 2018 the ratio had increased to over one out of eight.

Rhode Island	Census 2000	Census 2010	Estimate 2018*
Total Population	1,048,319	1,052,567	1,057,315
Foreign-Born	119,277	134,335*	139,063
Percent Foreign-Born	11.4%	12.8%	13.2%

*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 7,072 (0.7%) residents, the number of foreign-born residents increased by 12,682 (9.5%). Between 2000 and 2018, the number of foreign-born residents increased by 4,728 (+3.5%).

- In 2018, foreign-born residents in Rhode Island were most likely to have come from Latin America (45.8%). This also held true for the US as a whole (50.3%) and the New England states of Connecticut (46.0%) and Massachusetts (38.3%).

- Foreign-born residents of the remaining New England states were most likely to come from Asia: New Hampshire (37.8%), Vermont (31.9%) and Maine (30.1%).

- 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- and African-born foreigners than the United States.

Place of Birth of the Foreign-Born Population 2018

	RI	US	NE	CT	ME	MA	NH	VT
Foreign-Born	13.2%	13.7%	13.6%	14.6%	3.5%	17.4%	6.1%	4.9%
Place of Birth:								
Europe	18.7%	10.6%	20.4%	21.6%	22.8%	19.5%	24.7%	28.9%
Asia	20.8%	31.2%	28.5%	24.2%	30.1%	30.4%	37.8%	31.9%
Africa	12.8%	5.4%	8.2%	5.1%	19.4%	8.7%	7.4%	5.8%
Oceania	0.2%	0.6%	0.4%	0.3%	1.0%	0.3%	0.6%	1.6%
Latin America	45.8%	50.3%	38.9%	46.0%	8.6%	38.3%	19.7%	12.1%
Northern America	1.7%	1.8%	3.6%	2.8%	18.1%	2.7%	9.8%	19.7%

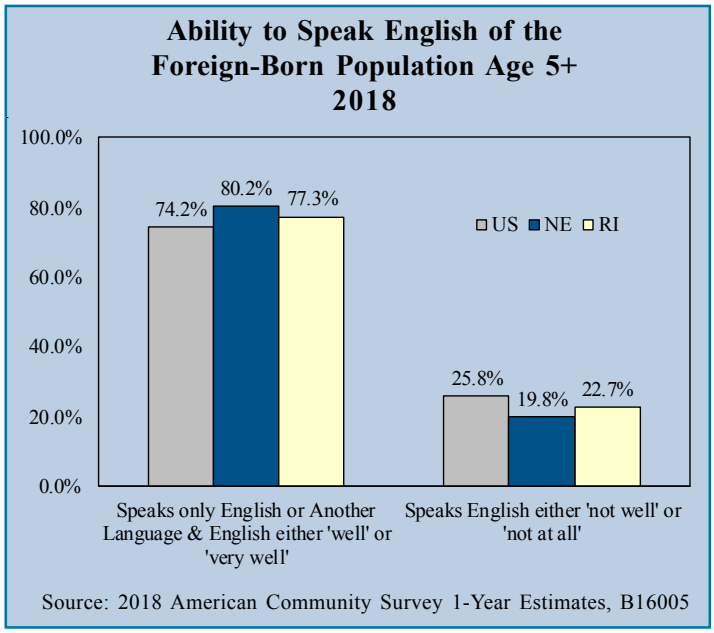
Source: 2018 American Community Survey 1-Year Estimates, Table B05002

- Of the European-born Rhode Islanders, the majority were born in Portugal (52.2%), while the majority of those African-born residents were from Western Africa (85.6%).

- Of the Latin-born Rhode Islanders, 48.0 percent were from the Caribbean, 35.4 percent from Central America and 16.6 percent from South America.

- Rhode Island (22.7%) had a higher percentage of foreign-born residents that speak English either 'not well' or 'not at all' than New England (19.8%) but lower than the United States (25.8%).

- Rhode Island's foreign-born population (24.7%) was more than three times as likely to have not graduated high school than those residents who were born in the US (8.1%).

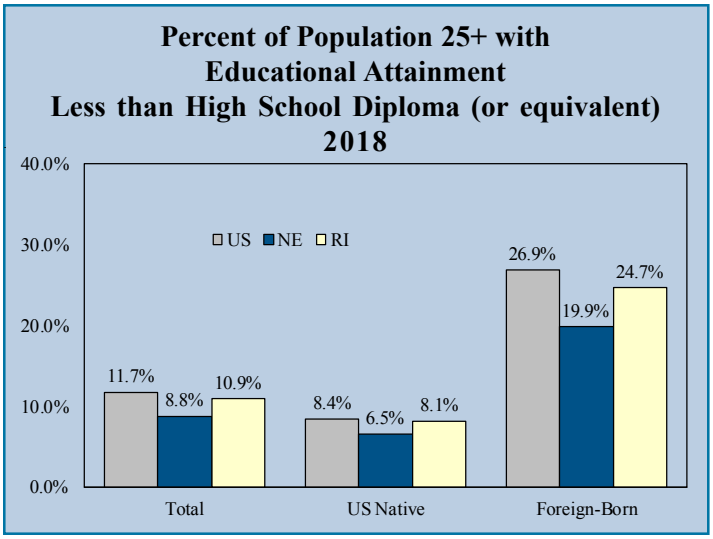


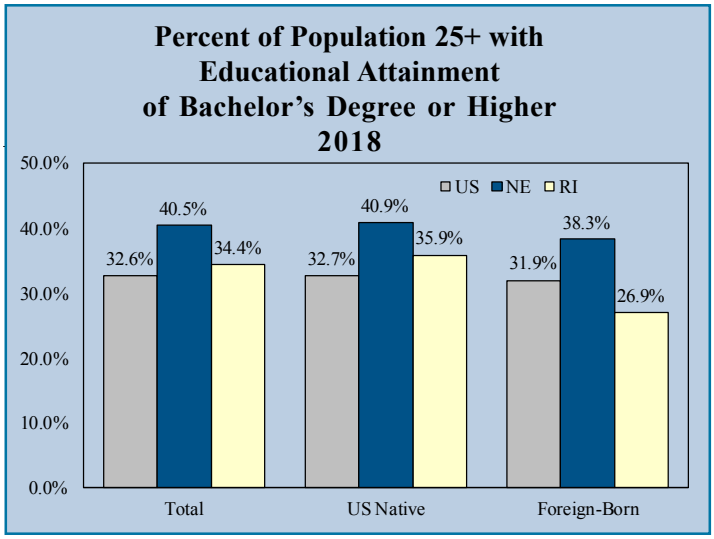
- Foreign-born Rhode Islanders (24.7%) were more likely than New England (19.9%) but less likely than US (26.9%) foreign-born residents to have not graduated from high school.

- Rhode Island's foreign-born population (26.9%) was less likely to have a bachelor's degree or higher than those residents who were US natives (35.9%).

- Foreign-born Rhode Islanders (26.9%) were less likely than New England (38.3%) and US (31.9%) 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 (9.0 percentage points) than in New England (2.6 percentage points) and the United States (0.8 percentage points).





Source: 2018 American Community Survey 1-Year Estimates, Table B06009
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, 2018 American Community Survey 1-Year Estimates, 32.6 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 11.7 percent of the population. In comparison, 34.4 percent of Rhode Islanders have a bachelor's degree or higher, while 10.9 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 (34.4%) who have obtained at least a Bachelor's degree, but is above the national average (32.6%).

Educational Attainment for the United States and New England for Population Aged 25 Years and Older, 2018

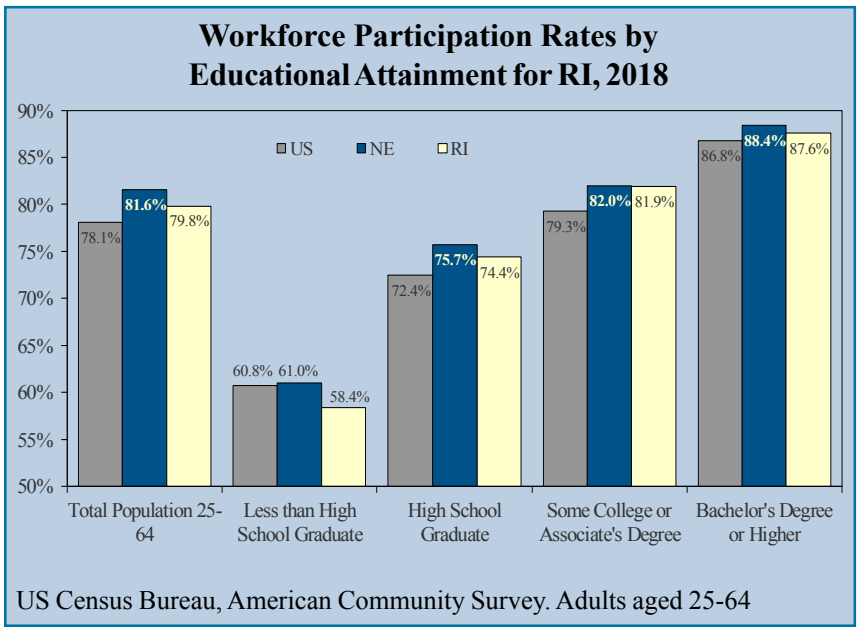
	RI	United States	New England	CT	MA	ME	NH	VT
Population (25 Years and Older)	740,695	223,158,847	10,466,773	2,493,396	4,832,728	983,382	970,748	445,824
Not a High School Graduate or Equivalent	10.9%	11.7%	8.8%	9.1%	9.2%	7.0%	6.9%	6.5%
Less than 9th Grade	4.7%	5.0%	3.8%	3.9%	4.4%	2.6%	2.4%	1.9%
9th to 12th Grade, No Diploma	6.2%	6.7%	4.9%	5.2%	4.9%	4.4%	4.4%	4.6%
High School Graduate, GED, or Alternative	28.4%	26.9%	25.9%	26.9%	23.3%	31.4%	27.7%	28.6%
Some College, No Degree	18.0%	20.3%	16.7%	16.6%	15.3%	20.4%	18.4%	17.7%
Associate's Degree	8.3%	8.6%	8.2%	7.9%	7.6%	9.7%	10.2%	8.6%
Bachelor's Degree or Higher	34.4%	32.6%	40.5%	39.6%	44.5%	31.5%	36.8%	38.7%
Bachelor's Degree	19.9%	20.0%	22.8%	21.8%	24.4%	20.1%	22.4%	23.1%
Graduate or Professional Degree	14.5%	12.6%	17.6%	17.8%	20.1%	11.4%	14.5%	15.6%

US Census Bureau, 2018 American Community Survey 1-Year Estimates, Table S1501

- Rhode Island (89.1%) ranks last in New England and 32nd nationally in the percentage of adults (25+ years) who have at least graduated from high school.
- Rhode Island (34.4%) ranks fifth in New England and 15th nationally in the percentage of adults who have completed a Bachelor's degree or higher.
- Rhode Island (14.5%) ranks fourth in New England and 10th 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 14.3 percentage points higher than those with high school diplomas.

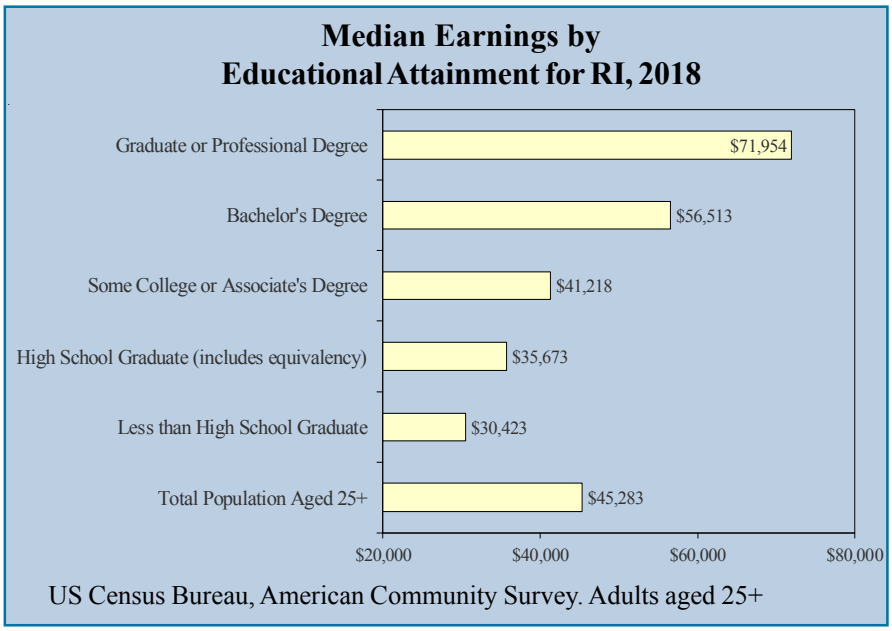
Rhode Islanders experienced an 13.2 percentage point increase in workforce participation between those with a high school diploma and those with at least a bachelor's degree.



Higher levels of education are associated with higher earnings.

- Median earnings for Rhode Islanders with a high school diploma or equivalency are $5,250 more than median earnings for individuals without a high school diploma.
- Median earnings for Rhode Islanders with a bachelor's degree are $20,840 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 $15,441 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 1,200 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

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

This workforce product was funded by a grant awarded by the U.S. Department of Labor's Employment and Training Administration. The product was created by the recipient, the Labor Market Information Division of the RI Department of Labor and Training, and does not necessarily reflect the official position of the U.S. Department of Labor. The US Department of Labor makes no guarantees, warranties, or assurances of any kind, express or implied, with respect to such information, including any information on linked sites and including, but not limited to, accuracy of the information or its completeness, timeliness, usefulness, adequacy, continued availability, or ownership as this is the responsibility of RI Labor Market Information Division. This product is copyrighted by the institution that created it. Internal use by an organization and/or personal use by an individual for non-commercial purposes is permissible. All other uses require the prior authorization of the copyright owner.

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