



Department of Labor and Training
RHODE ISLAND

Rhode Island Employment Trends and Workforce Issues



2019 - 2020

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Labor Market Information Unit

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Rhode Island Employment Trends and Workforce Issues

Rhode Island Department of Labor & Training Labor Market Information Unit

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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 2020, there were 35,873 private businesses in the state employing 411,692 workers.

Nearly half the employers (49.5%) in the state have between one and four employees; however, they employ just 7.8 percent of the workforce. The largest employers, those with 1,000 or more employees, numbered 31 (0.1%) and employed 16.6 percent of Rhode Island's private sector workforce.

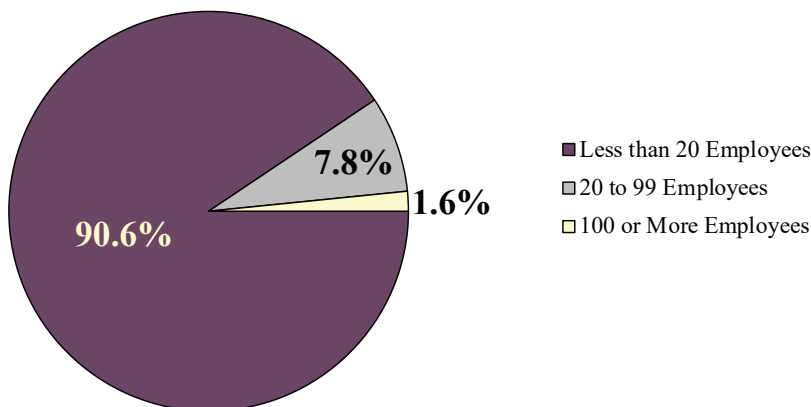
- Smaller employers, those with less than 20 employees, represented 90.6 percent of all employers in the state and employed one quarter (24.5%) of the workforce.
- Mid-sized companies (20 to 99 workers) employed 27.3 percent of the private sector employment and accounted for 7.8 percent of the firms.
- There are just 568 (1.6%) firms in the state employing 100 or more workers. Together, these firms employ nearly half (48.2%) of the state's private sector employees.

The state's 31 largest firms (1,000 or more employees) are found in the Health Care and Social Assistance (7), Finance and Insurance (5), Private Education (5), Retail Trade (5), Management of Companies and Enterprises (3), Transportation and Warehousing (2), Manufacturing (2), Administrative and Waste Management Services (1) and Accommodation & Food Services (1).

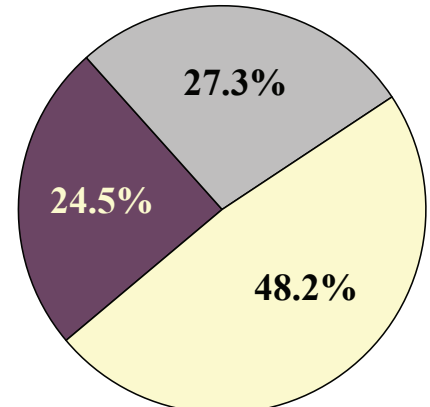
Size Class	Employers*		Employment	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Total:	35,873	100.0%	411,692	100.0%
Zero	7,236	20.2%	0	0.0%
1-4	17,765	49.5%	32,190	7.8%
5-9	4,651	13.0%	30,625	7.4%
10-19	2,846	7.9%	38,185	9.3%
20-49	2,110	5.9%	63,909	15.5%
50-99	697	1.9%	48,380	11.8%
100-249	371	1.0%	56,169	13.6%
250-499	112	0.3%	37,464	9.1%
500-999	54	0.2%	36,451	8.9%
1000+	31	0.1%	68,319	16.6%

*Based on size of firm

Percent of Employers by Size Class
March 2020



Percent of Employment by Size Class
March 2020



*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 2020**

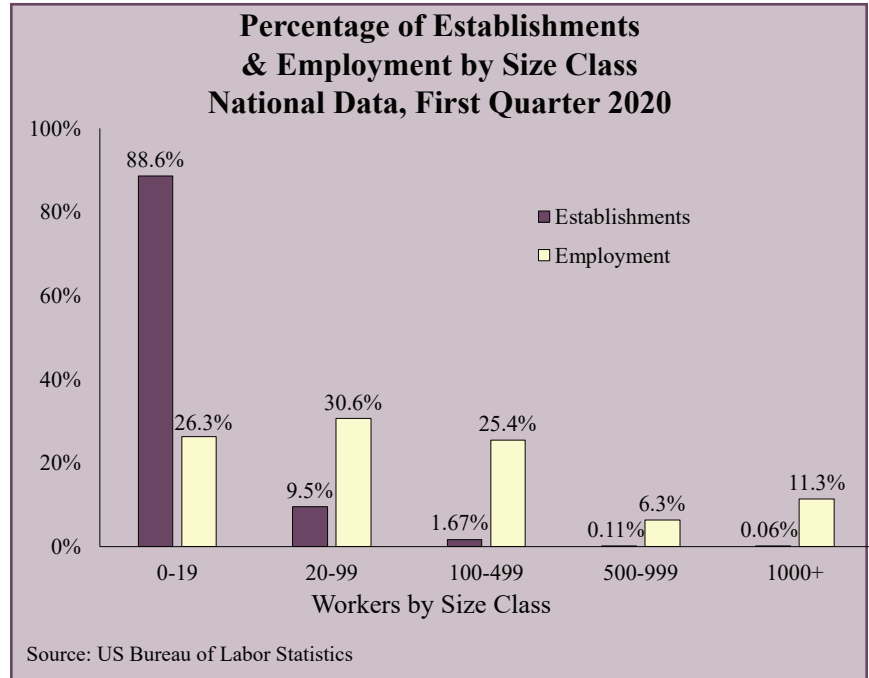
Major Industry	Firms/ Employees	Total	Total Number of Employees									
			0	1-4	5-9	10-19	20-49	50-99	100-249	250-499	500-999	1000+
Total	# of Firms	35,873	7,236	17,765	4,651	2,846	2,110	697	371	112	54	31
	# of Employees	411,692	0	32,190	30,625	38,185	63,909	48,380	56,169	37,464	36,451	68,319
Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing & Hunting	# of Firms	188	47	87	33	15	6					
	# of Employees	748	0	186	215	178	169					
Mining	# of Firms	15	1	4	1	6	3					
	# of Employees	184	0	13	*	85	*					
Utilities	# of Firms	43	9	14	7	5	6	1			1	
	# of Employees	1,100	0	23	*	68	171	*			*	
Construction	# of Firms	3,840	986	1,957	456	253	144	33	11			
	# of Employees	18,541	0	3,871	2,918	3,333	4,273	2,336	1,810			
Manufacturing	# of Firms	1,506	169	487	255	214	216	90	59	10	4	2
	# of Employees	39,129	0	1,027	1,667	2,980	6,805	6,349	9,456	3,393	*	*
Wholesale Trade	# of Firms	3,015	590	1,783	309	176	106	38	9	3	1	
	# of Employees	15,734	0	2,713	2,057	2,302	3,117	2,671	1,325	*	*	
Retail Trade	# of Firms	2,932	468	1,301	527	297	192	79	41	14	8	5
	# of Employees	46,999	0	2,751	3,501	3,943	5,913	5,333	5,885	4,836	5,285	9,552
Transportation & Warehousing	# of Firms	804	201	360	93	62	56	16	11	1	2	2
	# of Employees	10,685	0	646	625	879	1,716	1,120	1,539	*	*	*
Information	# of Firms	675	158	364	71	37	23	12	5	4	1	
	# of Employees	5,709	0	543	475	512	*	830	695	1,273	*	
Finance & Insurance	# of Firms	1,373	245	770	151	82	61	24	19	9	7	5
	# of Employees	28,056	0	1,363	1,004	1,094	1,844	1,703	2,718	3,274	4,649	10,407
Real Estate & Rental & Leasing	# of Firms	1,116	214	617	142	77	47	16	1	2		
	# of Employees	6,240	0	1,123	937	1,016	1,391	1,076	*	*		
Professional & Technical Services	# of Firms	5,841	1,512	3,354	484	250	161	56	16	6	2	
	# of Employees	26,737	0	5,241	3,172	3,287	4,754	3,837	2,687	*	*	
Managemt of Companies & Enterprises	# of Firms	185	35	96	20	12	7	5	4	3		3
	# of Employees	10,945	0	162	126	166	218	320	781	916		8,256
Administrative & Waste Services	# of Firms	3,032	973	1,334	308	167	144	57	36	9	3	1
	# of Employees	26,727	0	2,377	1,985	2,229	4,350	4,046	5,762	2,839	*	*
Educational Services	# of Firms	701	156	309	78	40	66	30	12	2	3	5
	# of Employees	21,390	0	523	512	539	2,089	2,022	2,024	630	2,051	11,000
Health Care & Social Assistance	# of Firms	3,525	280	1,865	560	332	213	120	*	*	17	7
	# of Employees	82,593	0	3,550	3,683	4,478	6,612	8,527	14,676	10,378	11,648	19,041
Arts, Entertainment, & Recreation	# of Firms	634	133	253	89	84	54	12	7	2		
	# of Employees	6,265	0	470	594	1,081	1,627	*	1,113	*		
Accommodation & Food Services	# of Firms	2,819	522	666	488	500	501	94	30	13	4	1
	# of Employees	45,875	0	1,564	3,349	6,964	14,982	6,401	4,255	4,339	*	*
Other services, (except Public Admin.)	# of Firms	3,527	518	2,066	574	237	104	14	10	3	1	
	# of Employees	17,905	0	3,945	3,725	3,051	3,105	904	1,323	*	*	
Unclassified	# of Firms	102	19	78	5							
	# of Employees	130	0	99	31							

* 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 2020, 88.6 percent of the establishments in the US had fewer than 20 workers. Establishments employing between 20 and 99 workers accounted for 9.5 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 91.8 percent in Montana to 84.7 percent in Ohio.
- In 2020, 89.7 percent of Rhode Island establishments employed less than 20 workers, ranking the state 11th 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 (90.4%) and lowest in Connecticut (89.0%).
- In Rhode Island, 29.1 percent of the state's jobs are in small establishments, compared to 26.3 percent nationally.
- The states with the greatest percentages of large establishments (100 employees or more) are Ohio (2.56%), Tennessee (2.53%) and Indiana (2.51%) compared to a US average of 1.85 percent. Wyoming (0.75%) and Montana (0.78%) have the smallest percentages of large establishments.
- Rhode Island (1.47%), 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 (1.26%) and Maine (1.28%), while Massachusetts (1.85%), Connecticut (1.77%) and New Hampshire (1.52%) ranked higher.
- In Rhode Island, 38.6 percent of the jobs are in large establishments compared to 43.0 percent nationally.
- While the percentage of establishments is skewed towards the smaller size classes, the distribution of employment is more balanced. Nationally, 26.3 percent of employees are found in establishments of the smallest size class (zero to 19 employees), 30.6 percent are found in establishments employing 20 to 99 workers and 43.0 percent of employees work in an establishment with greater than 100 workers.
- Nearly 16 percent of establishments and 12.1 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 (6.3% 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 2020

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.
<i>US Total</i>	100.0%	88.6%	9.5%	1.67%	0.11%	0.06%
Alabama	1.2%	87.3%	10.8%	1.76%	0.10%	0.06%
Alaska	0.2%	89.1%	9.2%	1.53%	0.10%	0.05%
Arizona	1.7%	87.2%	10.3%	2.18%	0.21%	0.11%
Arkansas	0.9%	89.1%	9.3%	1.46%	0.09%	0.06%
California	15.7%	91.5%	7.2%	1.21%	0.08%	0.05%
Colorado	2.1%	89.1%	9.4%	1.43%	0.09%	0.05%
Connecticut	1.2%	89.0%	9.2%	1.64%	0.08%	0.05%
Delaware	0.3%	90.1%	8.3%	1.45%	0.09%	0.09%
District of Columbia	0.4%	88.7%	9.1%	2.03%	0.14%	0.07%
Florida	7.2%	90.1%	8.3%	1.48%	0.09%	0.05%
Georgia	2.9%	87.7%	10.2%	1.92%	0.13%	0.07%
Hawaii	0.4%	87.9%	10.4%	1.45%	0.14%	0.05%
Idaho	0.6%	89.9%	8.9%	1.15%	0.08%	0.03%
Illinois	3.7%	88.6%	9.2%	1.95%	0.16%	0.09%
Indiana	1.6%	85.3%	12.2%	2.25%	0.17%	0.09%
Iowa	1.0%	87.6%	10.5%	1.70%	0.11%	0.05%
Kansas	0.8%	87.2%	10.8%	1.85%	0.12%	0.05%
Kentucky	1.2%	87.6%	10.3%	1.92%	0.13%	0.06%
Louisiana	1.3%	87.6%	10.6%	1.60%	0.08%	0.05%
Maine	0.5%	90.4%	8.4%	1.17%	0.07%	0.03%
Maryland	1.7%	87.6%	10.5%	1.79%	0.09%	0.05%
Massachusetts	2.5%	89.4%	8.7%	1.66%	0.11%	0.07%
Michigan	2.6%	88.0%	9.7%	2.09%	0.15%	0.09%
Minnesota	1.7%	87.5%	10.3%	1.97%	0.14%	0.08%
Mississippi	0.7%	87.6%	10.7%	1.62%	0.11%	0.05%
Missouri	2.0%	89.0%	9.3%	1.50%	0.10%	0.05%
Montana	0.5%	91.8%	7.5%	0.75%	0.01%	0.02%
Nebraska	0.7%	88.7%	9.7%	1.41%	0.12%	0.05%
Nevada	0.8%	86.9%	11.0%	1.78%	0.16%	0.11%
New Hampshire	0.5%	89.4%	9.1%	1.40%	0.08%	0.03%
New Jersey	2.8%	88.9%	9.2%	1.67%	0.11%	0.07%
New Mexico	0.6%	88.8%	9.6%	1.46%	0.05%	0.03%
New York	6.3%	89.8%	8.5%	1.53%	0.13%	0.09%
North Carolina	2.8%	87.0%	11.0%	1.77%	0.12%	0.06%
North Dakota	0.3%	88.1%	10.5%	1.30%	0.06%	0.04%
Ohio	2.9%	84.7%	12.7%	2.33%	0.15%	0.09%
Oklahoma	1.1%	88.0%	10.4%	1.57%	0.08%	0.04%
Oregon	1.5%	89.5%	9.0%	1.29%	0.08%	0.04%
Pennsylvania	3.5%	86.3%	11.4%	2.08%	0.14%	0.07%
Rhode Island	0.4%	89.7%	8.8%	1.34%	0.08%	0.05%
South Carolina	1.4%	87.6%	10.4%	1.73%	0.13%	0.06%
South Dakota	0.3%	89.4%	9.2%	1.26%	0.07%	0.02%
Tennessee	1.6%	85.7%	11.8%	2.28%	0.16%	0.08%
Texas	7.0%	85.9%	11.7%	2.16%	0.16%	0.08%
Utah	1.0%	88.3%	9.9%	1.62%	0.12%	0.06%
Vermont	0.2%	90.3%	8.5%	1.12%	0.08%	0.05%
Virginia	2.7%	88.6%	9.7%	1.56%	0.09%	0.06%
Washington	2.5%	89.8%	8.6%	1.45%	0.09%	0.05%
West Virginia	0.5%	88.8%	9.8%	1.33%	0.07%	0.05%
Wisconsin	1.7%	86.2%	11.6%	2.07%	0.15%	0.06%
Wyoming	0.3%	91.6%	7.7%	0.70%	0.03%	0.02%

Source: US Bureau of Labor Statistics

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

Private Industry - Employment*, First Quarter 2020

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.
<i>US Total</i>	100.0%	26.3%	30.6%	25.4%	6.3%	11.3%
Alabama	1.3%	28.7%	32.7%	25.7%	5.6%	7.3%
Alaska	0.2%	31.2%	30.8%	25.2%	5.7%	7.1%
Arizona	2.0%	21.1%	27.3%	27.2%	9.2%	15.2%
Arkansas	0.8%	28.8%	31.5%	23.9%	5.4%	10.4%
California	12.1%	28.5%	30.2%	23.8%	5.9%	11.5%
Colorado	1.8%	29.3%	33.8%	24.1%	5.4%	7.3%
Connecticut	1.1%	27.8%	30.9%	25.0%	4.7%	11.7%
Delaware	0.3%	24.9%	29.7%	24.2%	5.3%	16.0%
District of Columbia	0.4%	19.8%	28.5%	30.5%	7.3%	13.9%
Florida	6.3%	28.5%	30.6%	25.3%	5.8%	9.8%
Georgia	3.1%	24.3%	30.6%	27.4%	6.7%	11.0%
Hawaii	0.4%	28.4%	34.3%	22.9%	7.4%	7.0%
Idaho	0.5%	34.0%	33.8%	21.3%	5.2%	5.7%
Illinois	4.1%	22.1%	27.5%	27.2%	8.0%	15.2%
Indiana	2.1%	23.4%	30.5%	26.4%	7.4%	12.2%
Iowa	1.0%	28.8%	31.2%	25.6%	5.8%	8.7%
Kansas	0.9%	26.2%	31.7%	26.2%	6.4%	9.5%
Kentucky	1.3%	25.8%	30.1%	27.7%	6.7%	9.8%
Louisiana	1.3%	29.3%	34.5%	24.0%	4.9%	7.4%
Maine	0.4%	33.8%	32.6%	20.9%	5.3%	7.3%
Maryland	1.7%	26.6%	33.4%	25.6%	4.9%	9.6%
Massachusetts	2.5%	25.2%	28.8%	25.5%	6.4%	14.1%
Michigan	3.0%	22.4%	27.1%	27.9%	7.2%	15.5%
Minnesota	2.0%	22.7%	29.8%	27.3%	7.0%	13.2%
Mississippi	0.7%	29.5%	32.5%	24.1%	5.7%	8.2%
Missouri	1.9%	27.1%	31.5%	24.8%	6.0%	10.6%
Montana	0.3%	44.3%	37.6%	18.0%	N/D	N/D
Nebraska	0.6%	29.9%	31.4%	22.6%	6.7%	9.4%
Nevada	1.0%	24.6%	29.5%	22.2%	7.1%	16.5%
New Hampshire	0.5%	31.8%	32.3%	24.1%	5.2%	6.6%
New Jersey	2.8%	27.5%	29.7%	25.3%	6.3%	11.2%
New Mexico	0.5%	30.2%	34.1%	24.7%	3.1%	7.9%
New York	6.4%	25.8%	26.8%	23.6%	7.2%	16.6%
North Carolina	3.0%	25.7%	33.1%	24.8%	6.0%	10.5%
North Dakota	0.3%	32.3%	35.4%	21.6%	3.5%	7.3%
Ohio	3.7%	23.5%	32.0%	26.9%	6.2%	11.4%
Oklahoma	1.0%	29.9%	34.0%	24.4%	4.7%	7.0%
Oregon	1.3%	31.8%	32.6%	22.9%	4.9%	7.8%
Pennsylvania	4.1%	25.2%	30.7%	26.7%	6.7%	10.8%
Rhode Island	0.3%	29.1%	32.3%	22.3%	5.1%	11.1%
South Carolina	1.4%	26.5%	32.7%	25.4%	6.9%	8.5%
South Dakota	0.3%	33.8%	32.4%	22.2%	4.7%	6.9%
Tennessee	2.1%	24.1%	29.9%	27.3%	7.1%	11.6%
Texas	8.5%	24.3%	31.2%	27.1%	7.0%	10.4%
Utah	1.0%	27.2%	31.8%	24.7%	6.8%	9.4%
Vermont	0.2%	33.3%	32.4%	19.2%	5.9%	9.1%
Virginia	2.6%	27.0%	33.2%	25.1%	5.0%	9.7%
Washington	2.3%	27.2%	29.7%	23.5%	5.1%	14.4%
West Virginia	0.4%	33.1%	33.3%	21.4%	4.1%	8.2%
Wisconsin	2.0%	25.0%	32.0%	27.5%	6.8%	8.7%
Wyoming	0.2%	46.4%	37.5%	16.1%	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 - 2019 Recap

Rhode Island's 38,845 business establishments employed an average of 485,504 workers in 2019 and paid nearly \$26.7 billion in wages.

Private sector employment averaged 424,358 in 2019, representing 87.4 percent of the state's employment.

- Within the private sector, Health Care & Social Assistance (81,431) employed the most workers, accounting for 19.2 percent of the state's private sector employment.
- The Accommodation & Food Services (52,093), Retail Trade (48,014) and Manufacturing (39,740) sectors account for one-third of the state's private sector workforce.
- Administrative & Waste Services (29,325), Finance & Insurance (25,796), Professional & Technical Services (25,687) and Educational Services (20,986) all employed over 20,000 workers.

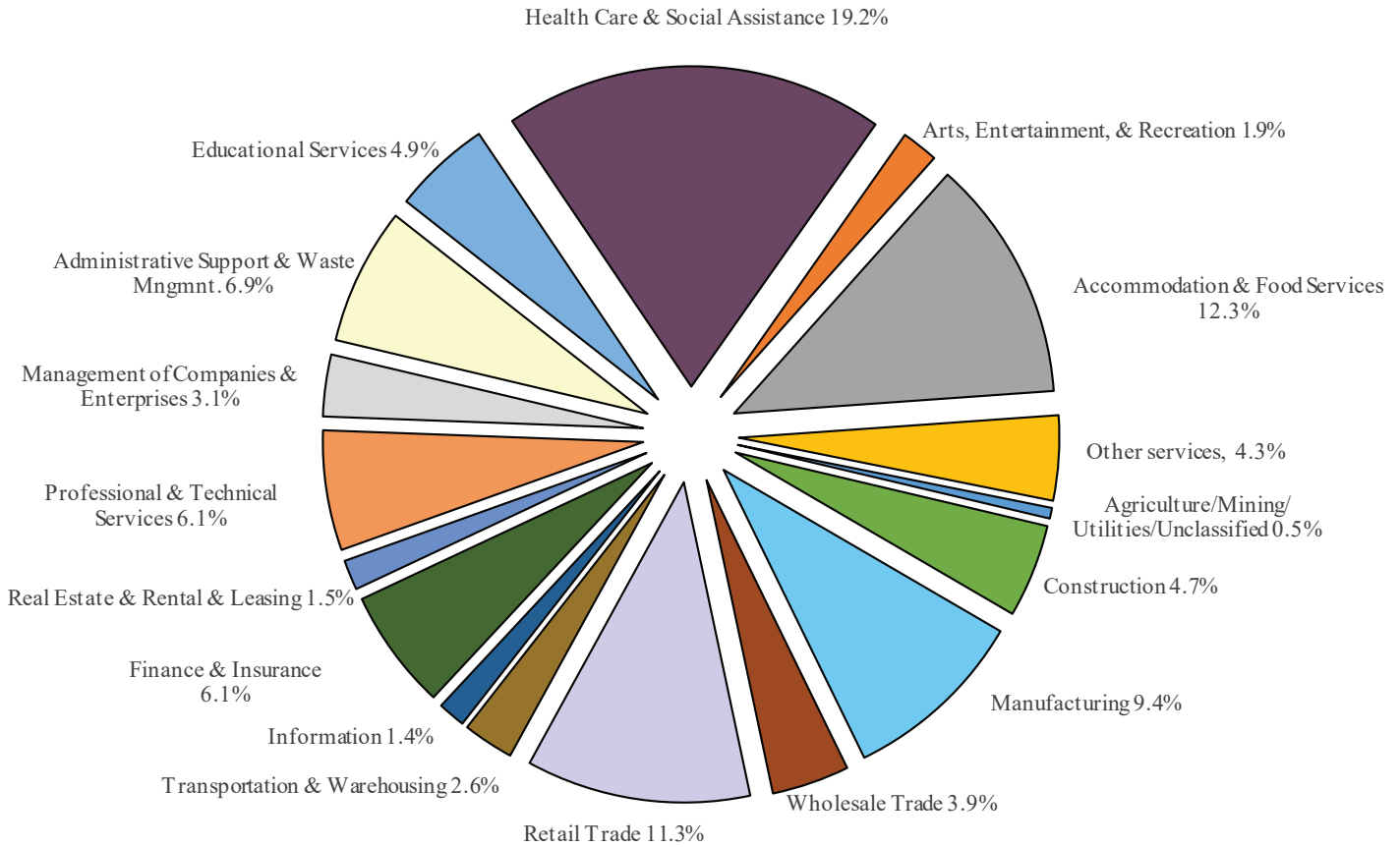
In 2019, the public sector employed 61,146 workers, accounting for 12.6 percent of the state's employment. More than half (32,594) of the public sector workers were employed in local governments, followed by the state (17,390) and federal (11,162) segments. *(The pie chart on the next page provides a breakout of Rhode Island's private sector employment by major industry group.)*

Private sector wages accounted for 84.2 percent of the \$26.7 billion in wages paid in 2019. Private sector workers averaged \$52,927, while pay for public sector workers averaged \$68,794. The 2019 average annual wage for all workers was \$54,926.

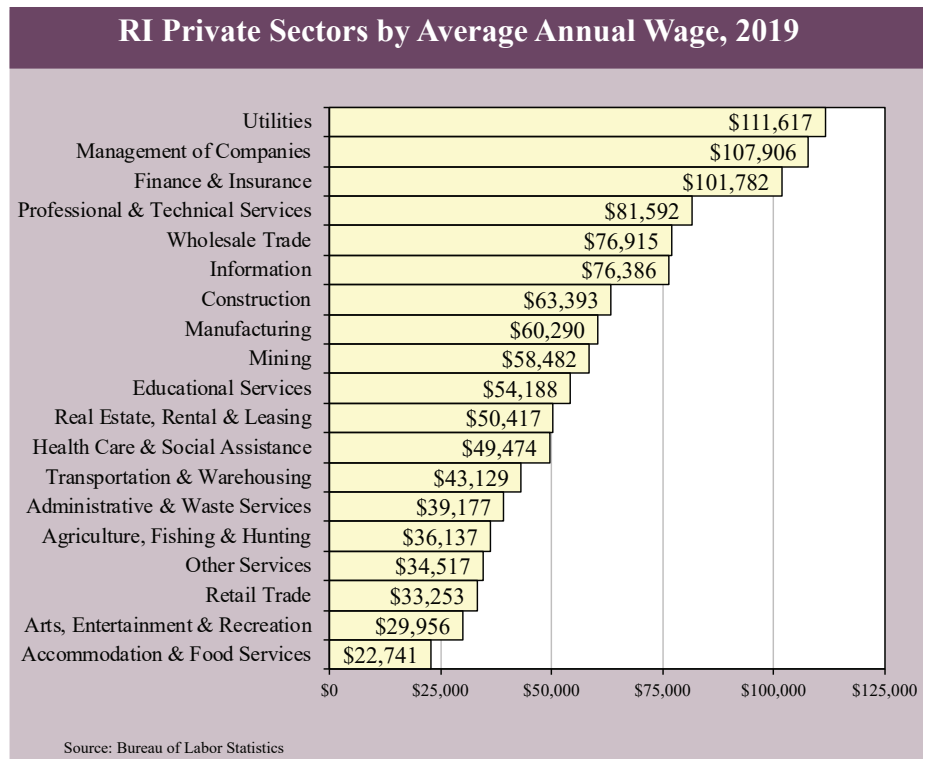
Annual Average Employment for 2019

Total Employment	485,504
Private Sector Employment	424,358
Health Care & Social Assistance	81,431
Accommodation & Food Services	52,093
Retail Trade	48,014
Manufacturing	39,740
Administrative & Waste Services	29,325
Finance & Insurance	25,796
Professional & Technical Services	25,687
Educational Services	20,986
Construction	19,981
Other Services	18,146
Wholesale Trade	16,590
Management of Companies & Enterprise	13,223
Transportation & Warehousing	10,876
Arts, Entertainment & Recreation	7,882
Real Estate, Rental & Leasing	6,422
Information	5,877
Utilities	1,115
Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing & Hunting	933
Mining	188
Government Employment	61,146
Federal Government	11,088
State Government	16,430
Local Government	32,688

Rhode Island Private Employment, 2019



- The highest wages were paid in the Utilities (\$111,617), Management of Companies (\$107,906), and Finance & Insurance (\$101,782) sectors.
- In addition, seven sectors; Professional & Technical Services (\$81,592), Wholesale Trade (\$76,915), Information (\$76,386), Construction (\$63,393), Manufacturing (\$60,290), Mining (\$58,482) and Educational Services (\$54,188), paid over the 2019 average annual private sector wage of \$52,927.
- Within the public sector, federal employees working in Rhode Island earned the highest annual average wage (\$84,535), followed by state (\$72,439) and local (\$61,460) government segments.



- Nine sectors had average annual wages below the private sector average (\$52,927), including Health Care & Social Assistance (\$49,474), the state’s largest sector.
- The lowest wages were paid in Accommodation & Food Services (\$22,741), Arts, Entertainment & Recreation (\$29,956) and Retail Trade (\$33,253) 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 2019 were Real Estate & Rental & Leasing (\$50,417), Transportation & Warehousing (\$43,129), Administrative & Waste Services (\$39,177), Agriculture, Fishing & Hunting (\$36,137) and Other Services (\$34,517).

The 2019 average annual wage in Rhode Island’s private sector (\$52,927) was \$6,286 (11.9%) less than the national average wage of \$59,213. Within New England, Rhode Island reported the fourth highest average annual wage, trailing Massachusetts (\$76,378), Connecticut (\$70,575) and New Hampshire (\$59,574).

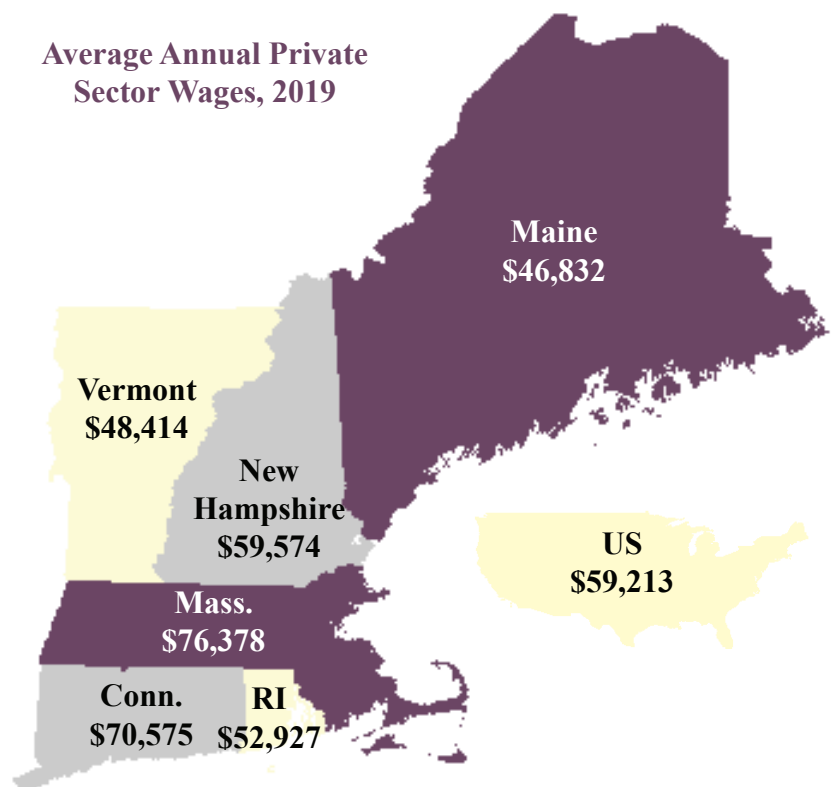
Average annual wages earned by Rhode Island workers were below the national average in nearly all economic sectors and most often ranked fourth in New England, trailing Connecticut, Massachusetts and New Hampshire.

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

When compared to Rhode Island, Massachusetts and Connecticut paid higher annual average wages in all sectors, while New Hampshire paid higher annual average wages in all sectors except Arts, Entertainment & Recreation, Management of Companies & Enterprises, Utilities and Accommodation & Food Services.

Utilities was the highest paying sector in Rhode Island, paying workers an average of \$111,617, less than the \$113,361 earned nationally. In New England, only Massachusetts (\$137,106) and Connecticut (\$135,003) had a higher annual average wage in this sector.

Nationally, employees of Management of Companies (\$126,326) earned the highest average wage, as was the case in Vermont (\$108,463). Finance & Insurance was the highest paying sector in Connecticut (\$174,425), Massachusetts (\$166,075) and New Hampshire (\$110,875) while Utilities was the highest paying sector in Rhode Island (\$111,617) and Maine (\$87,527).



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 \$49,474, approximately 4.5 percent less than the national average (\$51,795). Regionally, New Hampshire (\$58,422) paid the highest wage to workers in this sector, followed by Massachusetts (\$57,419) and Connecticut (\$54,856).

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

Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing & Hunting, Mining, Quarrying & Oil & Gas Extraction, Transportation & Warehousing, Health Care & Social Assistance and Other Services. Vermont workers earned an annual average wage higher than Rhode Island workers in the Mining, Quarrying & Oil & Gas Extraction, Manufacturing, Transportation & Warehousing, Professional & Technical Services, Management of Companies & Enterprises, 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, 2019

	US	RI	CT	ME	MA	NH	VT
Total Private	\$59,213	\$52,927	\$70,575	\$46,832	\$76,378	\$59,574	\$48,414
Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing & Hunting	\$37,198	\$36,137	\$37,497	\$40,595	\$62,810	\$38,085	\$35,575
Mining, Quarrying, & Oil & Gas Extraction	\$107,973	\$58,482	\$77,618	\$59,419	\$75,920	\$66,592	\$62,375
Utilities	\$113,361	\$111,617	\$135,003	\$87,527	\$137,106	\$110,574	\$103,664
Construction	\$64,839	\$63,393	\$72,340	\$51,658	\$81,458	\$64,785	\$52,547
Manufacturing	\$69,928	\$60,290	\$85,031	\$57,231	\$89,716	\$73,338	\$60,753
Wholesale Trade	\$80,192	\$76,915	\$97,720	\$68,128	\$102,196	\$97,177	\$65,616
Retail Trade	\$33,612	\$33,253	\$35,832	\$30,121	\$36,945	\$33,977	\$32,900
Transportation & Warehousing	\$54,399	\$43,129	\$48,804	\$43,593	\$52,940	\$48,169	\$44,073
Information	\$119,654	\$76,386	\$120,413	\$57,365	\$128,139	\$97,220	\$62,852
Finance & Insurance	\$112,647	\$101,782	\$174,425	\$77,762	\$166,075	\$110,875	\$84,883
Real Estate & Rental & Leasing	\$61,325	\$50,417	\$72,630	\$44,140	\$83,122	\$59,432	\$45,540
Professional & Technical Services	\$100,705	\$81,592	\$111,054	\$74,270	\$141,400	\$100,832	\$84,131
Management of Companies & Enterprises	\$126,326	\$107,906	\$159,976	\$84,064	\$139,068	\$106,318	\$108,463
Administrative & Waste Services	\$43,041	\$39,177	\$47,437	\$38,531	\$52,961	\$51,735	\$44,186
Educational Services	\$52,689	\$54,188	\$69,528	\$46,353	\$71,328	\$58,209	\$48,872
Health Care & Social Assistance	\$51,795	\$49,474	\$54,856	\$49,993	\$57,419	\$58,422	\$48,420
Arts, Entertainment, & Recreation	\$40,035	\$29,956	\$30,171	\$25,927	\$42,503	\$23,558	\$24,459
Accommodation & Food Services	\$22,492	\$22,741	\$23,184	\$22,666	\$26,911	\$22,619	\$23,782
Other Services	\$39,942	\$34,517	\$34,867	\$35,371	\$40,459	\$39,284	\$37,387

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 424,359 in 2019, accounting for less than half a percent (0.34%) 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 (49.5%) of the country’s private sector workforce. In New England, Vermont (58.9%) has the highest percentage of private sector workers in these sectors, followed by Maine (57.0%), New Hampshire (55.1%), Rhode Island (52.1%), Connecticut (51.0%) and Massachusetts (48.5%).
- Health Care & Social Assistance, Rhode Island’s largest private economic sector, accounts for 19.2 percent of the state’s private sector employment, significantly greater than the nation’s share (16.0%) and seventh highest in the country, trailing only West Virginia (21.5%), Vermont (20.3%), Maine (20.2%), Massachusetts (20.0%), Pennsylvania (20.0%) and New York (20.0%).
- Accommodation & Food Services, the state’s second largest economic sector, employs 12.3 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 9.4 percent of Rhode Island’s private sector employment, below the national share (10.1%) and trailing all other New England states except Massachusetts (7.6%).
- Private Educational Service accounts for 4.9 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, 2019

	US	RI	CT	ME	MA	NH	VT
Total Private	126,307,286	424,359	1,445,490	523,572	3,197,332	580,165	257,230
Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing & Hunting	1.0%	0.2%	0.3%	1.3%	0.3%	0.4%	1.4%
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%	0.4%	0.3%	0.5%
Construction	5.9%	4.7%	4.1%	5.7%	5.1%	4.8%	5.9%
Manufacturing	10.1%	9.4%	11.2%	10.1%	7.6%	12.3%	11.7%
Wholesale Trade	4.7%	3.9%	4.1%	3.7%	3.9%	4.9%	3.5%
Retail Trade	12.4%	11.3%	12.1%	15.3%	11.0%	16.2%	14.3%
Transportation & Warehousing	4.3%	2.6%	3.6%	3.1%	2.8%	2.6%	2.6%
Information	2.3%	1.4%	2.2%	1.4%	2.9%	2.1%	1.7%
Finance & Insurance	4.8%	6.1%	7.0%	4.5%	5.3%	4.5%	3.4%
Real Estate & Rental & Leasing	1.8%	1.5%	1.4%	1.3%	1.5%	1.2%	1.2%
Professional & Technical Services	7.6%	6.1%	6.6%	5.4%	10.8%	6.7%	5.8%
Management of Companies & Enterprises	1.9%	3.1%	2.3%	2.3%	2.3%	1.6%	0.8%
Administrative & Waste Services	7.3%	6.9%	6.2%	5.6%	5.8%	6.1%	4.8%
Educational Services	2.3%	4.9%	4.1%	2.6%	4.6%	3.5%	3.9%
Health Care & Social Assistance	16.0%	19.2%	18.7%	20.2%	20.0%	16.2%	20.3%
Arts, Entertainment, & Recreation	1.9%	1.9%	2.0%	1.9%	2.0%	2.2%	1.8%
Accommodation & Food Services	11.1%	12.3%	8.9%	11.4%	9.9%	10.4%	12.7%
Other Services	3.6%	4.3%	4.6%	3.4%	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.

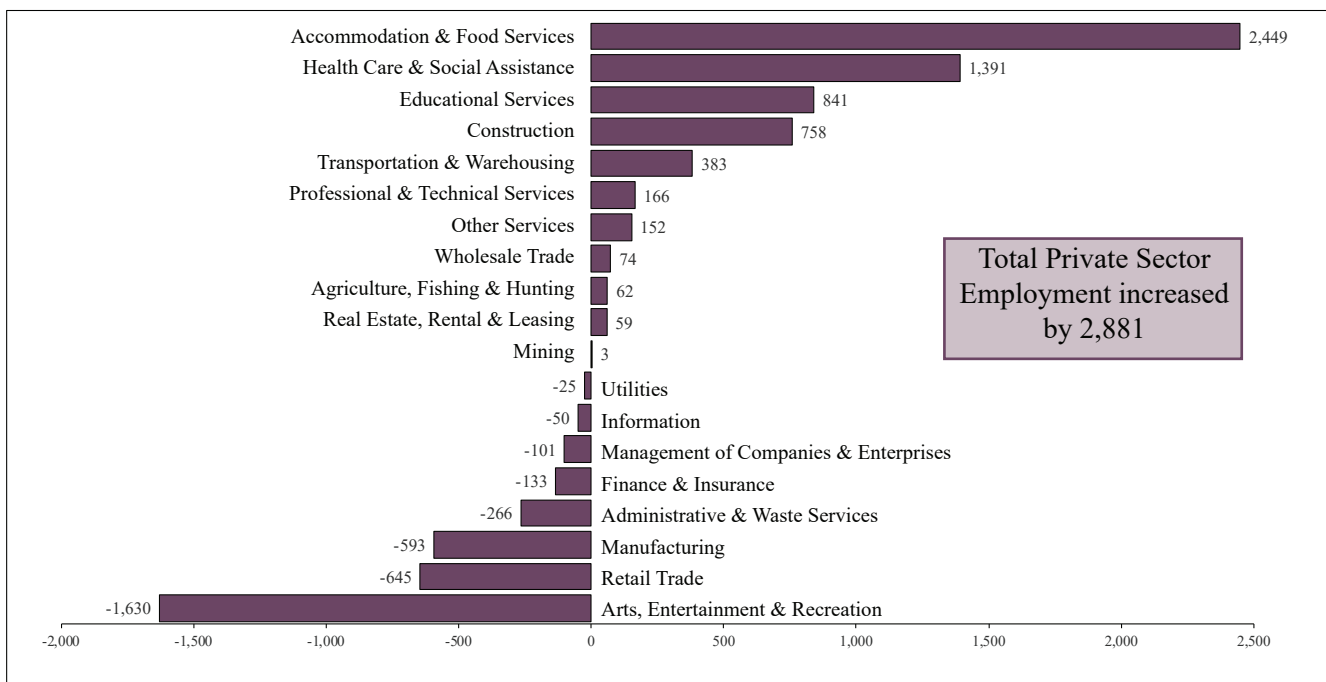
Job Gains Reported in 2019

Average employment increased by 2,881 (+0.7%) jobs in Rhode Island’s private sector between 2018 and 2019. The largest increases were reported in Accommodation & Food Services* (+2,449), Health Care & Social Assistance (+1,391), Educational Services (+841), Construction (+758) and Transportation & Warehousing (+383).

- Employment in the Accommodation & Food Services* sector increased by 2,449 (+4.9%) jobs due primarily to an increase in the Accommodation (+2,112; +42.3%) industry.
- Gains in Ambulatory Health Care Services (+792), Hospitals (+592) and Social Assistance (+144) employment countered the loss in Nursing Residential Care Facilities (-137), resulting in a gain of 1,391 (+1.7%) jobs in Health Care & Social Assistance.
- Sizeable employment gains in the Specialty Trade Contractors (+371), Heavy & Civil Engineering Construction (+214) and Construction of Buildings (+173) industries helped propel job growth within the Construction sector (+758,+3.9%).
- Gains in Transit & Ground Passenger Transportation (+210), Couriers & Messengers (+150) and Support Activities for Transportation (+92) outweighed losses in Truck Transportation (-114) for a net gain of 383 jobs in the Transportation & Warehousing sector.
- The Professional & Technical Services sector added 166 (+0.7%) while the Other Services sector added 152 (+0.8%) jobs.
- The Manufacturing sector lost 593 (-1.5%) jobs in 2019. Large job losses were reported in Transportation Equipment Manufacturing (-238), Miscellaneous Manufacturing (-231) and Chemical Manufacturing (-133). A sizeable job gain was reported in Computer & Electronic Product Manufacturing (+347).
- Seven other sectors also reported job declines over the year; Arts, Entertainment & Recreation* (-1,630), Retail Trade (-645), Administrative & Waste Services (-266), Finance & Insurance (-133), Management of Companies (-101), Information (-50) and Utilities (-25).

*A non-economic code change resulted in movement of some employment between the Arts, Entertainment & Recreation sector and the Accommodation & Food Services sector.

Change in Average Annual Employment by Industry Sector, 2018-2019



Rhode Island Average Annual Job Changes 2018 - 2019

	Average Employment 2019	2018	Total Change Net	Total Change Percent	2019 Average Annual Wage
Total Private Only	424,358	421,477	2,881	0.7%	\$52,927
Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing & Hunting	933	871	62	7.1%	\$36,137
111 Crop production	621	579	42	7.3%	\$31,922
112 Animal production	189	169	20	11.8%	\$27,477
114 Fishing, hunting and trapping	70	73	-3	-4.1%	\$99,851
Mining	188	185	3	1.6%	\$58,482
212 Mining, except oil and gas	188	185	3	1.6%	\$58,430
Utilities	1,115	1,140	-25	-2.2%	\$111,617
221 Utilities	1,115	1,140	-25	-2.2%	\$111,617
Construction	19,981	19,223	758	3.9%	\$63,393
236 Construction of buildings	4,856	4,683	173	3.7%	\$64,550
237 Heavy and civil engineering construction	2,149	1,935	214	11.1%	\$86,346
238 Specialty trade contractors	12,976	12,605	371	2.9%	\$59,154
Manufacturing	39,740	40,333	-593	-1.5%	\$60,290
311 Food manufacturing	3,188	3,193	-5	-0.2%	\$40,431
312 Beverage and tobacco product manufacturing	602	512	90	17.6%	\$42,606
313 Textile mills	1,806	1,874	-68	-3.6%	\$51,766
314 Textile product mills	489	533	-44	-8.3%	\$42,577
315 Apparel manufacturing	118	109	9	8.3%	\$30,437
316 Leather and allied product manufacturing	111	104	7	6.7%	\$35,923
321 Wood product manufacturing	482	461	21	4.6%	\$51,064
322 Paper manufacturing	1,291	1,312	-21	-1.6%	\$48,073
323 Printing and related support activities	1,660	1,730	-70	-4.0%	\$46,133
324 Petroleum and coal products manufacturing	85	81	4	4.9%	\$87,494
325 Chemical manufacturing	2,818	2,951	-133	-4.5%	\$90,277
326 Plastics and rubber products manufacturing	2,091	2,147	-56	-2.6%	\$62,220
327 Nonmetallic mineral product manufacturing	674	678	-4	-0.6%	\$59,440
331 Primary metal manufacturing	1,411	1,441	-30	-2.1%	\$58,471
332 Fabricated metal product manufacturing	4,645	4,713	-68	-1.4%	\$52,442
333 Machinery manufacturing	1,926	1,971	-45	-2.3%	\$61,875
334 Computer and electronic product manufacturing	3,839	3,492	347	9.9%	\$87,310
335 Electrical equipment and appliance mfg.	1,130	1,138	-8	-0.7%	\$86,200
336 Transportation equipment manufacturing	5,388	5,626	-238	-4.2%	\$61,360
337 Furniture and related product manufacturing	1,122	1,174	-52	-4.4%	\$51,870
339 Miscellaneous manufacturing	4,864	5,095	-231	-4.5%	\$52,978
Wholesale Trade	16,590	16,516	74	0.4%	\$76,915
423 Merchant wholesalers, durable goods	8,113	8,030	83	1.0%	\$70,072
424 Merchant wholesalers, nondurable goods	5,884	5,783	101	1.7%	\$70,049
425 Electronic markets and agents and brokers	2,593	2,703	-110	-4.1%	\$113,883
Retail Trade	48,014	48,659	-645	-1.3%	\$33,253
441 Motor vehicle and parts dealers	6,072	6,016	56	0.9%	\$49,925
442 Furniture and home furnishings stores	1,360	1,317	43	3.3%	\$39,566
443 Electronics and appliance stores	1,177	1,211	-34	-2.8%	\$48,642
444 Building material and garden supply stores	3,806	3,822	-16	-0.4%	\$37,426
445 Food and beverage stores	11,600	11,764	-164	-1.4%	\$26,444
446 Health and personal care stores	4,819	5,012	-193	-3.9%	\$45,325
447 Gasoline stations	2,091	1,988	103	5.2%	\$29,347
448 Clothing and clothing accessories stores	3,922	4,217	-295	-7.0%	\$22,483
451 Sporting goods, hobby, book and music stores	1,312	1,377	-65	-4.7%	\$23,079
452 General merchandise stores	7,043	7,162	-119	-1.7%	\$22,574
453 Miscellaneous store retailers	2,939	2,914	25	0.9%	\$26,626
454 Nonstore retailers	1,873	1,859	14	0.8%	\$52,142

Rhode Island Average Annual Job Changes 2018 - 2019

	Average Employment		Total Change		2019 Average Annual Wage
	2019	2018	Net	Percent	
Transportation & Warehousing	10,876	10,493	383	3.7%	\$43,129
481 Air transportation	381	366	15	4.1%	\$52,750
483 Water transportation	193	187	6	3.2%	\$71,363
484 Truck transportation	2,337	2,451	-114	-4.7%	\$55,652
485 Transit and ground passenger transportation	2,934	2,724	210	7.7%	\$28,796
487 Scenic and sightseeing transportation	170	172	-2	-1.2%	\$34,351
488 Support activities for transportation	1,394	1,302	92	7.1%	\$43,649
492 Couriers and messengers	2,205	2,055	150	7.3%	\$43,526
493 Warehousing and storage	1,237	1,212	25	2.1%	\$45,190
Information	5,877	5,927	-50	-0.8%	\$76,386
511 Publishing industries, except Internet	1,418	1,449	-31	-2.1%	\$91,007
512 Motion picture and sound recording industries	829	756	73	9.7%	\$44,642
515 Broadcasting, except Internet	602	601	1	0.2%	\$60,591
517 Telecommunications	1,832	1,962	-130	-6.6%	\$88,191
518 ISPs, search portals, and data processing	569	556	13	2.3%	\$104,423
519 Other information services	627	603	24	4.0%	\$40,587
Finance & Insurance	25,796	25,929	-133	-0.5%	\$101,782
522 Credit intermediation and related activities	11,790	11,807	-17	-0.1%	\$79,511
523 Securities, commodity contracts, investments	4,639	5,008	-369	-7.4%	\$189,673
524 Insurance carriers and related activities	9,331	9,084	247	2.7%	\$86,250
525 Funds, trusts, and other financial vehicles	36	30	6	20.0%	\$96,459
Real Estate, Rental & Leasing	6,422	6,363	59	0.9%	\$50,417
531 Real estate	4,692	4,686	6	0.1%	\$52,206
532 Rental and leasing services	1,670	1,620	50	3.1%	\$44,642
533 Lessors of nonfinancial intangible assets	60	57	3	5.3%	\$71,391
Professional & Technical Services	25,687	25,521	166	0.7%	\$81,592
541 Professional and technical services	25,687	25,521	166	0.7%	\$81,592
Management of Companies & Enterprise	13,223	13,324	-101	-0.8%	\$107,906
551 Management of companies and enterprises	13,223	13,324	-101	-0.8%	\$107,906
Administrative & Waste Services	29,325	29,591	-266	-0.9%	\$39,177
561 Administrative and support services	27,550	27,719	-169	-0.6%	\$37,926
562 Waste management & redemption services	1,775	1,871	-96	-5.1%	\$58,587
Educational Services	20,986	20,145	841	4.2%	\$54,188
611 Educational services	20,986	20,145	841	4.2%	\$54,188
Health Care & Social Assistance	81,431	80,040	1,391	1.7%	\$49,474
621 Ambulatory health care services	26,954	26,162	792	3.0%	\$61,633
622 Hospitals	23,682	23,090	592	2.6%	\$59,647
623 Nursing and residential care facilities	17,801	17,938	-137	-0.8%	\$34,353
624 Social assistance	12,994	12,850	144	1.1%	\$26,421
Arts, Entertainment & Recreation	7,882	9,512	-1,630	-17.1%	\$29,956
711 Performing arts and spectator sports	1,318	1,224	94	7.7%	\$47,601
712 Museums, historical sites, zoos, and parks	1,011	998	13	1.3%	\$33,315
713 Amusements, gambling, and recreation	5,553	7,290	-1,737	-23.8%	\$25,155
Accommodation & Food Services	52,093	49,644	2,449	4.9%	\$22,741
721 Accommodation	7,104	4,992	2,112	42.3%	\$33,950
722 Food services and drinking places	44,989	44,652	337	0.8%	\$20,972
Other Services Except Public Administration	18,146	17,994	152	0.8%	\$34,517
811 Repair and maintenance	4,419	4,358	61	1.4%	\$45,756
812 Personal and laundry services	5,683	5,702	-19	-0.3%	\$28,073
813 Membership associations and organizations	7,245	7,206	39	0.5%	\$33,273
814 Private households	799	729	70	9.6%	\$29,471

Annual Labor Force Data

During 2019, 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 1.3 percentage points below the 2006 pre-recession average. The number of employed residents is down 8,600 and the number of unemployed residents is down 8,400 from the 2006 levels. In 2019, the state's labor force is down 17,000 from 2006.
- The US annual average unemployment rate in 2006 was 4.6 percent, three-tenths of a percentage point lower than the Rhode Island rate of 4.9 percent. Rhode Island, along with Massachusetts (4.9%), had the highest annual rate in New England and tied for the twelfth highest rate in the country in 2006.
- Since 2009, the height of the recession in Rhode Island, the state has gained back 30,800 employed residents and has 42,500 fewer residents considered unemployed. The unemployment rate has dropped 7.4 percentage points, from the 11.0 percent average recorded in 2009 to 3.6 percent in 2019. The labor force in 2019 is down 11,700 from the peak of the recession in 2009.
- Rhode Island's annual average unemployment rate of 11.0 percent in 2009 was one and seven-tenths higher than the US average of 9.3 percent. The state had the highest rate in New England and was tied for the sixth highest rate in the nation.
- Over the year, the number of employed residents is up 3,300 while the number of unemployed is down 2,300. The state's average unemployment rate is down 0.4 of a percentage point from the 2018 average. The labor force posted an increase of 1,000 more Rhode Islanders either with a job or looking for a job in 2019 than in the prior year.
- The US annual average unemployment rate in 2019 was 3.7 percent, one-tenth of a percentage point above the Rhode Island rate of 3.6 percent. Rhode Island had the fifth highest rate in New England, and was tied for the twentieth 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
2018	554,600	532,500	22,100	4.0	19
2019	555,600	535,800	19,800	3.6	20
Change					
2006-2019	-17,000	-8,600	-8,400	-1.3	---
2009-2019	-11,700	30,800	-42,500	-7.4	---
2018-2019	1,000	3,300	-2,300	-0.4	---

*Ranked highest annual average rate to lowest.

Social Distancing and the COVID-19 Crisis

Rhode Island experienced record-breaking employment in February 2020, with an estimated 507,200 RI-based jobs, the highest job count on record. Several economic sectors were at all-time highs and the state's unemployment rate was at a thirty year low. But, by March, the COVID Crisis had come to Rhode Island, thousands of workers were suddenly unemployed as the state experienced recession level job losses of 108,000 in just two months resulting from the coronavirus pandemic.

On March 13th, Rhode Island casinos closed; a few days later, day care centers were ordered closed, restaurants were closed to take-out orders only, and social gatherings were limited to no more than ten people. As the month continued, fitness centers, hair & nail salons, recreation & entertainment facilities, and all non-essential retail were all ordered to close. Elective surgeries were cancelled, and medical appointments were limited to telephone and video interviews all in an effort to stop the spread of the COVID-19 virus. Rhode Island's "Stay at Home" order would continue until May 9, 2020.

Between March 8 and May 9, 2020, the Department of Labor and Training recorded 162,670 initial claim filings for Unemployment Insurance Benefits, averaging 18,074 filings per week. Prior to the crisis the number of initial claims filed in 2020 averaged 1,222 per week. Over 95 percent of the initial claims filed during this period were COVID-19 related.

Initial Claims were filed by workers employed in all economic sectors with the largest number of initial claims being filed by those employed in sectors most severely impacted by "social distancing" policies first announced on March 13, 2020. Nearly half of the initial claims filed during the two-month period were filed by workers employed in one of the state's three largest economic sectors. Accommodation & Food Services (21.5%) accounted for the largest number of initial claims, followed by Health Care & Social Assistance (15.7%) and Retail Trade (11.8%).

Industries in all three of these sectors were either totally or partial impacted by closures necessitated by social distancing.

Industries Sectors

The Accommodation & Foods Services sector with nearly 35,000 initial claims recorded the most initial claims received during the period accounting for 21.5 percent of the total initial claims filed. Over 60 percent of the workers employed in this sector's workforce filed a claim.

Health Care & Social Assistance workers filed 25,569 initial claims accounting for 15.7 percent of the total initial claims filed and nearly one-third of the sector's total workforce. Several industries within this sector were totally or partially impacted by the social distancing guidelines as Day Care Centers were order closed, medical appointments were limited to telephone and video interviews, and elective surgeries were cancelled. Over 40 percent of the workers in Ambulatory Health Services, which includes offices of medical providers and Social Assistance which includes Day Care Centers filed initial claims for unemployment insurance benefits.

Non-essential retail establishments were ordered to close on March 30 affecting over 40 percent of the sector's workforce. The Retail Trade sector recorded over 19,000 initial claims, the third largest number of initial claims filed accounting for 11.8 percent of the total filed. The industries that were most severely impacted included Clothing & Accessories Stores, Motor Vehicle & Parts Dealers, Department Stores, Furniture Stores & Home Furnishing Stores and Miscellaneous Retail Stores such as florists, gift & novelty stores and office supplies and used merchandise.

Initial Claims Filed by Week

Week Ending Date	Initial Claims Filed
Total	162,670
March 14, 2020	1,092
March 21, 2020	37,171
March 28, 2020	27,599
April 4, 2020	28,072
April 11, 2020	22,309
April 18, 2020	17,930
April 25, 2020	12,921
May 2, 2020	9,460
May 9, 2020	6,116

A total of 8,825 initial claims were filed by workers in the Other Services sector accounting for 5.4 percent of the total initial claims filed and 47.4 percent of the sector's workforce. Nearly 80 percent of the workers employed in Personal & Laundry Services which includes Salons and Barbershops, filed initial claims accounting for over half the initial claims filed from this sector.

Schools were closed on March 13th resulting in nearly 6,700 initial claims being filed by employees in the Educational Services (Public and Private) sector accounting for 4.1 percent of the total initial claims. Just 14 percent of the sector's workforce filed claims as the transition to virtual learning allowed much of the sector's workforce to work from home. Also affected by the closing of schools were employees in the School and Bus Transportation industry. Initial claims were received from nearly 2,700 of the industry's employees accounting for 99 percent of the industry's workforce which is included in the Transportation and Utilities sector of the economy.

Other sectors of the economy not directly affected by social distancing had also seen increases in initial claims filings as availability issues associated with collecting benefits were relaxed allowing workers who were required to quarantine, care for out-of-school children or felt at risk due to age or medical conditions, to collect benefits.

Companies

One-third of the businesses located in Rhode Island had at least one worker file an initial claim against their company during the two month period between March 9 and May 8, 2020. The number of initial claims filed by company workers ranged from one initial claim by employees of more than 5,600 companies to over 900 initial claims filed by employees of three companies.

Smaller employers were more affected by the shut-down than large employers. Approximately 40 percent of the workers in employed in small (less than 20 workers) and mid-size (20 to 99 workers) companies filed initial claims compared with 30 percent of the workers employed in large companies(100 to 499 workers) and 21 percent of the workers employed in the largest companies (500 or more workers).

Demographics

Women accounted for 51.4 percent of the 162,700 initial claims filed while men accounted for 47.3 percent. These percentages were on par with the shares Men (46.9%) and Women (53.2%) represent of the total covered employment. Younger workers, those between the ages of 16 and 24, and 25 and 34 accounted for larger shares of initial claims filings than their shares of covered employment. Together these workers account for less than a third (32.9%) of the covered employment but represented over 40 percent of the initial claims filings.

In terms of race and ethnicity, white workers accounted for nearly 62 percent of the claims filed while representing 77 percent of the covered employed. Over one quarter of White, non- Hispanic workers filed initial claims while over one-third of both Black, non-Hispanic and Hispanic workers filed initial claims.

Reopening Rhode Island

In May, Rhode Island began the process of reopening the state's economy. Reopening occurred in Phases with the state moving from one phase to the next based on pre-established criteria which monitored the spread of the virus. Between April and November, the state has regained 64,400 jobs, nearly 60 percent of the jobs lost. But in December, a resurgence of Covid-19 cases lead to an economic "pause" which once again restricted activities for gyms, recreation facilities and restaurants resulting in a loss of 5,800 jobs.

The state ended the year with an unemployment rate of 7.9 percent, the tenth highest rate in the country. There were 495,900 Rhode Islanders residents employed in December 2020 and 42,800 unemployed, up 22,400 over the year. The state's labor force was down 23,600 from December 2019. The number of jobs in the state is still down 49,400 or 9.7 percent since February's all-time high of 507,200 with employment in the Leisure & Hospitality (-17,400), Education & Health Services (-11,900) and Professional & Business Services (-3,400) industries significantly below pre-pandemic levels.

From more information go to <https://dlt.ri.gov/documents/pdf/lmi/socialdistancing.pdf>

Job Change by Wage Class

Period July 2009 - February 2020

Wage Categories

\$65,000 & above \$40,000 – \$64,999 Below \$40,000

Between July 2009 (lowest job level during the Rhode Island Recession) and February 2020 (RI all-time peak job level), fifteen employment sectors added jobs in Rhode Island totaling 57,500, while two employment sectors reported job declines totaling 4,800 jobs. The net job gain during this period was 52,700 jobs.

When combined, the fifteen employment sectors which added jobs between July 2009 and February 2020, averaged an annual wage* of \$54,189 in 2019 (the latest annual wage data available). In comparison, the two employment sectors which lost employment during this period, averaged an annual wage of \$62,364 in 2019.

Of the 57,500 jobs added between July 2009 and February 2020, a total of 37 percent or 21,300 jobs were added from employment sectors averaging an annual wage below \$40,000. The Accommodation & Food Services sector added 12,300 jobs, the largest gain among those sectors earning wages below \$40,000. The Administrative & Waste Services sector grew by 6,700 during this period, followed by the Retail Trade (+1,400), Arts, Entertainment & Recreation (+700) and Other Services (+200) sectors.

Total Nonfarm Job Growth by Wage Category

July 2009 - February 2020

Net Job Change: 52,700

	<u>Numeric Change</u>	<u>Percent Change</u>	<u>2019 Annual Wage</u>		<u>Numeric Change</u>	<u>Percent Change</u>	<u>2019 Annual Wage</u>
TOTAL JOBS CREATED	57,500	100.0%	\$54,189	TOTAL JOBS LOST	-4,800	-100.0%	\$62,364
\$65,000 & above	17,800	31.0%	\$81,653	\$65,000 & above	-3,100	-64.6%	\$76,386
Professional & Technical Services	5,600	31.5%	\$81,592	Information	-3,100	-100.0%	\$76,386
Government	4,400	24.7%	\$68,794				
Mgmt. of Companies	4,000	22.5%	\$107,906				
Finance & Insurance	2,700	15.2%	\$101,782				
Wholesale Trade	1,100	6.2%	\$76,915				
\$40,000 - \$64,999	18,400	32.0%	\$52,197	\$40,000 - \$64,999	-1,700	-35.4%	\$60,290
Health Care & Social Assistance	6,800	37.0%	\$49,474	Manufacturing	-1,700	-100.0%	\$60,290
Educational Services	4,400	23.9%	\$54,188				
Construction	3,500	19.0%	\$63,393				
Transportation & Utilities	3,100	16.8%	\$49,498				
Real Estate, Rental & Leasing	600	3.3%	\$50,417				
Below \$40,000	21,300	37.0%	\$30,828	Below \$40,000	0	0.0%	\$0
Accommodation & Food Services	12,300	57.7%	\$22,741				
Administrative & Waste Services	6,700	31.5%	\$39,177				
Retail Trade	1,400	6.6%	\$33,253				
Arts, Entertainment & Recreation	700	3.3%	\$29,956				
Other Services	200	0.9%	\$34,517				

The 2019 average annual wage among those five sectors earning an annual wage below \$40,000, and added jobs between July 2009 and February 2020, was \$30,828.

Those employment sectors earning below \$40,000 represented 32 percent of total employment in February 2020.

A total of 18,400, or 32 percent of the 57,500 jobs added between July 2009 and February 2020, 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 6,800 jobs, followed by the Educational Services (+4,400), Construction (+3,500), Transportation & Utilities (+3,100) and Real Estate, Rental & Leasing (+600) sectors.

In all, those five sectors earning wages between \$40,000 and \$64,999, and added jobs during this period, averaged an annual wage of \$52,197 in 2019.

The Manufacturing sector reported a loss of 1,700 jobs between July 2009 and February 2020, the only sector averaging between \$40,000 and \$64,999 to report a job decline during this period. The 2019 average annual wage in Manufacturing was \$60,290.

Those sectors earning wages between \$40,000 and \$64,999, represented 37 percent of total employment in February 2020.

Among the 57,500 jobs added between July 2009 and February 2020, 17,800 (+31.0%) jobs were added from sectors earning an annual wage of \$65,000 and above. There was a total of five sectors which earned these respective wages and added jobs between July 2009 and February 2020. The 2019 average annual wage of these five sectors was \$81,563.

Employment in the Professional & Business Services and Government sectors grew by 5,600 and 4,400, respectively, while a sizable employment gain was also reported in the Management of Companies & Enterprises (+4,000) sector. The Finance & Insurance (+2,700) and Wholesale Trade (+1,100) sectors also reported sizable job gains between July 2009 and February 2020.

The Information (-3,100) was the lone employment sector earning \$65,000 and above to shed employment between July 2009 and February 2020. Wages within this sector averaged \$76,386 in 2019.

Those sectors earning wages above \$65,000, represented 31 percent of total employment in February 2020.

**Annual wages are based on the 2019 Quarterly Census of Employment & Wages program; a Bureau of Labor Statistics program which produces annual wages at the statewide level. Annual wages for 2020 will not be available until May 2021.*

Period February 2020 - April 2020: Pandemic Job Losses

Wage Categories

\$65,000 & above \$40,000 – \$64,999 Below \$40,000

In February 2020, the Rhode Island economy established a peak employment level of 508,400. One month later, the coronavirus pandemic began to partially shut down the national and local economies. The number of Rhode Island based jobs fell by 98,100 (-19.3%) in April. The April job count stood at 410,300, the lowest job level since February 1984. All employment sectors within the state lost jobs during this two-month shutdown.

Between February and April 2020, the number of jobs among those employment sectors whose 2019 average annual earnings fell below \$40,000, declined by 62,400 (-38.9%). This wage category accounted for nearly 64 percent of the 98,100 jobs lost. The Accommodation & Food Services sector lost 34,200 (-64.5%) jobs, the largest loss among those sectors earning wages below \$40,000. Smaller but sizable job losses were also reported among the Retail Trade (-9,400), Administrative & Waste Services (-7,700), Other Services (-6,200) and Arts, Entertainment & Recreation (-4,900) sectors. Those sectors earning wages below \$40,000, represented 23.9 percent of total employment in April 2020.

The number of jobs within those employment sectors earning between \$40,000 and \$64,999 fell by 27,800 jobs (-14.6%), accounting for 28 percent of the 98,100 jobs lost. The Health Care & Social Assistance lost 15,800 jobs between February and April 2020, an 18.8 percent decrease. The number of jobs in Educational Services fell by 4,200, followed by Transportation & Utilities (-2,900), Construction (-2,600) and Manufacturing (-2,200). The Real Estate, Rental & Leasing sector lost 100 jobs during this period, the smallest decrease among all employment sectors earning between \$40,000 and \$64,999.

Those sectors earning wages between \$40,000 and \$64,999, represented 39.7 percent of total employment in April 2020.

All six employment sectors whose 2019 average annual earnings were \$65,000 and above combined to lose 7,900 (-5.0%) jobs, accounting for 8 percent of the 98,100 total jobs lost between February and April 2020. A loss of 3,000 jobs was reported in the Professional & Technical Services sector, followed by job losses in the Finance & Insurance (-1,900), Government (-1,700), Wholesale Trade (-700), Management of Companies (-400) and Information (-200) sectors.

Those sectors earning wages above \$65,000 represented 36.4 percent of total employment in April 2020.

**COVID-19 Economic Shutdown
Employment Industry Wage Category
February 2020 - April 2020**

Wage Category	Total Jobs Lost	% of Total Jobs Lost
Below \$40,000	-62,400	-63.6%
\$40,000-\$64,999	-27,800	-28.3%
\$65,000 & Above	-7,900	-8.1%
	-98,100	-100.0%

Period April 2020 - September 2020: Recovery Begins

Wage Categories

\$65,000 & above \$40,000 – \$64,999 Below \$40,000

In September 2020, the Rhode Island economy had recovered 56,400, or 57.5 percent of the 98,100 jobs that were lost during the economic shutdown in March and April. A total of fourteen employment sectors added 56,900 jobs between April and September 2020, while three sectors lost employment totaling 500 jobs.

Hit the hardest in terms of the number of jobs lost due to the pandemic shutdown, the below \$40,000 wage category added 37,700 jobs between April and September, accounting for 66.8 percent of the 56,400 total jobs added. This wage category has reclaimed 60.4 percent of the 62,400 jobs lost between February and April 2020. All employment sectors earning below \$40,000 in 2019 added jobs during the recovery period. The Accommodation & Food Services sector added 21,900, or 64 percent of the 34,200 jobs it lost. The Retail Trade sector added 6,600 jobs between April and September, followed by the Administrative & Waste Services (+3,400), Other Services (+3,000) and Arts, Entertainment & Recreation (+2,800) sectors.

Those sectors earning wages below \$40,000, represented 29.1 percent of total employment in September 2020.

Employment sectors earning wages between \$40,000 and \$64,999 in 2019, reported six sectors adding a total of 16,200 jobs between April and September, while one sector lost 100 jobs during this period. The net job gain for this wage group was 16,100, accounting for 28.5 percent of the 56,400 jobs added during the recovery period. In all, those employment sectors earning wages between \$40,000 and \$64,999 have also recouped 57.9 percent of the 27,800 jobs it lost from the pandemic shutdown.

Having lost 15,800 jobs in March and April, the Health Care & Social Assistance has added back 10,600 jobs, recovering 67 percent of the jobs it lost. The number of jobs in the Educational Services sector is up 2,800 from April, followed by Manufacturing (+1,500), Construction (+1,000), Real Estate, Rental & Leasing (+200) and Mining & Logging (+100).

Rhode Island-Based Jobs by Wage Category (in thousands)

	Employment			Job Change		Total Jobs Recovered		Job Difference	
	Feb-20	Apr-20	Sep-20	Feb-Apr 20		Apr-Sep 20		Feb-Sep 20	
Total Nonfarm	508.4	410.3	466.7	-98.1	-19.3%	56.4	57.5%	-41.7	-42.5%
High Wage (>\$65,000)	157.3	149.4	152.0	-7.9	-5.0%	2.6	32.9%	-5.3	-67.1%
Professional & Technical Services	26.4	23.4	24.5	-3.0	-11.4%	1.1	36.7%	-1.9	-63.3%
Finance & Insurance	29.3	27.4	29.0	-1.9	-6.5%	1.6	84.2%	-0.3	-15.8%
Government	66.0	64.3	64.0	-1.7	-2.6%	-0.3	-17.6%	-2.0	-117.6%
Wholesale Trade	16.8	16.1	16.0	-0.7	-4.2%	-0.1	-14.3%	-0.8	-114.3%
Management of Companies	13.3	12.9	13.2	-0.4	-3.0%	0.3	75.0%	-0.1	-25.0%
Information	5.5	5.3	5.3	-0.2	-3.6%	0.0	0.0%	-0.2	-100.0%
Mid Wage (\$40,000 - \$64,999)	190.5	162.7	178.8	-27.8	-14.6%	16.1	57.9%	-11.7	-42.1%
Health Care & Social Assistance	83.9	68.1	78.7	-15.8	-18.8%	10.6	67.1%	-5.2	-32.9%
Educational Services	27.0	22.8	25.6	-4.2	-15.6%	2.8	66.7%	-1.4	-33.3%
Transportation & Utilities	13.2	10.3	10.2	-2.9	-22.0%	-0.1	-3.4%	-3.0	-103.4%
Construction	20.3	17.7	18.7	-2.6	-12.8%	1.0	38.5%	-1.6	-61.5%
Manufacturing	39.4	37.2	38.7	-2.2	-5.6%	1.5	68.2%	-0.7	-31.8%
Real Estate, Rental & Leasing	6.5	6.4	6.6	-0.1	-1.5%	0.2	200.0%	0.1	100.0%
Mining	0.2	0.2	0.3	0.0	0.0%	0.1	*	0.1	*
Low Wage (<\$40,000)	160.6	98.2	135.9	-62.4	-38.9%	37.7	60.4%	-24.7	-39.6%
Accommodation & Food Services	53.0	18.8	40.7	-34.2	-64.5%	21.9	64.0%	-12.3	-36.0%
Retail Trade	48.5	39.1	45.7	-9.4	-19.4%	6.6	70.2%	-2.8	-29.8%
Administrative & Waste Services	28.7	21.0	24.4	-7.7	-26.8%	3.4	44.2%	-4.3	-55.8%
Other Services	22.2	16.0	19.0	-6.2	-27.9%	3.0	48.4%	-3.2	-51.6%
Arts, Entertainment & Recreation	8.2	3.3	6.1	-4.9	-59.8%	2.8	57.1%	-2.1	-42.9%

*did not lose jobs during the March and April shutdown **Source:** RI Department Labor & Training, Current Employment Statistics (CES)

Transportation & Utilities was the only sector among the \$40,000 and \$64,999 wage category that has lost jobs during the recovery period, accounting for 100 of the 500 total jobs lost between April and September. In all, Transportation & Utilities is down 3,000 jobs from February 2020.

Those sectors earning wages between \$40,000 and \$64,999 represented 38.3 percent of total employment in September 2020.

In 2019, there were a total of six employment sectors in Rhode Island that earned annual wages above \$65,000. Among these six sectors, three added a total of 3,000 jobs during the recovery period, while two sectors lost 400 jobs between April and September. The net job gain for this wage group is 2,600, accounting for 4.6 percent of the 56,400 total jobs added during the recovery period. In all, the above \$65,000 wage group has reclaimed 32.9 percent of the 7,900 jobs lost from the pandemic shutdown.

The Finance & Insurance sector added 1,600 jobs between April and September, followed by the Professional & Business Services (+1,100) and Management of Companies & Enterprises (+300) sectors. The number of jobs within the Information sector remained unchanged during this period.

The Government and Wholesale Trade sectors were the two sectors among the above \$65,00 wage group to report a job loss during the recovery period, shedding 300 and 100 jobs, respectively. These two sectors accounted for 80 percent of the 500 total jobs lost between April and September.

Those sectors earning wages above \$65,000 represented 32.6 percent of total employment in September 2020.

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 1999 and the first quarter of 2019, 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.

Percentage of Private Employment

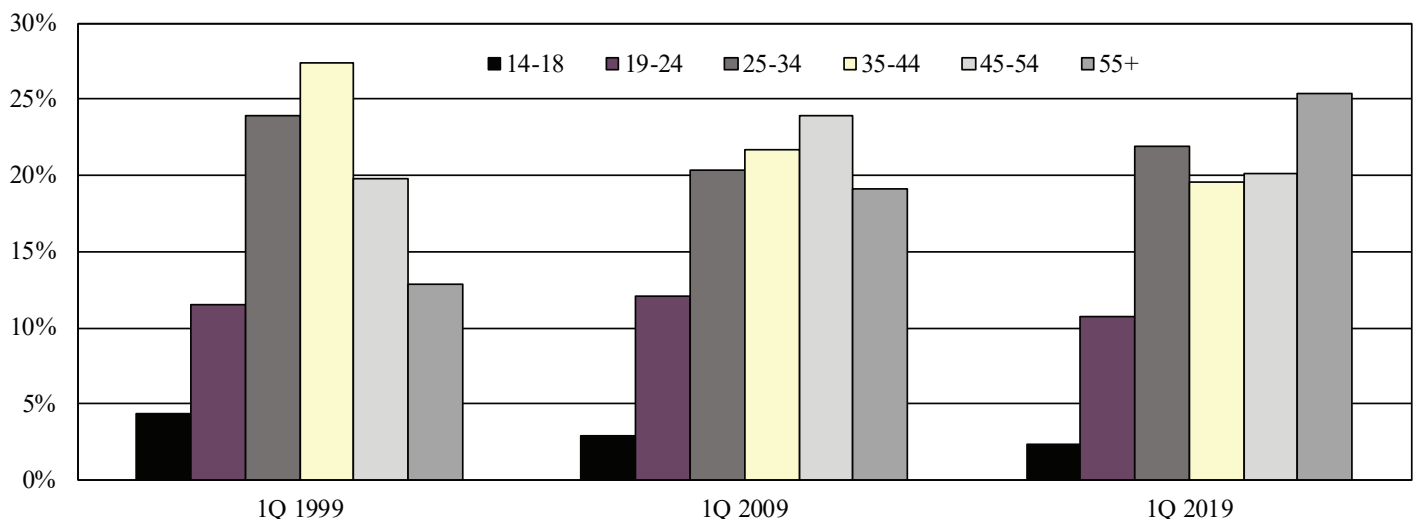
Age Group	1Q 1999	1Q 2009	1Q 2019
14-18	4.4%	2.9%	2.3%
19-24	11.6%	12.1%	10.7%
25-34	24.0%	20.3%	21.9%
35-44	27.4%	21.7%	19.5%
45-54	19.8%	23.9%	20.1%
55+	12.8%	19.2%	25.4%

Private Sector Employment

Between 1999 and 2019, 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 1999, which fell to 19.5 percent in 2019. Meanwhile, age groups 45-54 and 55+ both reported an increase in the percentage of workers between 1999 and 2019. A notable increase was reported in age group 55+, which represented 25.4 percent of private sector employment in 2019, up from the 12.8 percent it represented in 1999.

In comparison, age group demographics in the neighboring state of Connecticut shared a similar finding to Rhode Island. Between 1999 and 2019, age group 55+ reported a large increase in the percentage of private sector workers. This age group represented 26.2 percent of Connecticut’s private sector workforce, up from the 13.7 percent it represented in 1999. The younger age group of 19-24 also reported a slight increase of 0.1 percent during this period, while age group 45-54 remained unchanged 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 2019 than in 1999. A noticeable decrease occurred amongst the middle age group of 35-44 which represented 19.2 percent of Connecticut’s private sector workforce in 2019, down from the 27.8 percent it represented in 1999.

Percentage of Rhode Island Private Sector Employment by Age Group

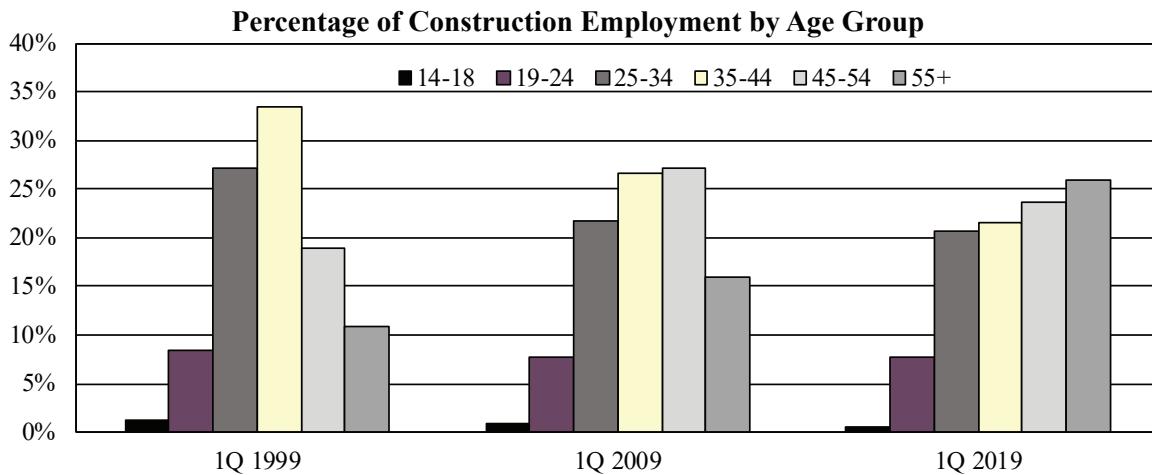


*The LEHD program gathers demographic data on a state-by-state basis, and not on the national level. Massachusetts recently started providing the LEHD program with data so historical data is not available. Since LEHD data is not available nationally, a workforce by age comparison cannot be conducted.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

Construction

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 rise. Between 1999 and 2019, 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 25.9 percent of the construction workforce in 2019, up from the 10.9 percent it represented in 1999. 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 21.6 percent of the construction workforce in 2019, which was down from the 33.5 percent it represented in 1999.

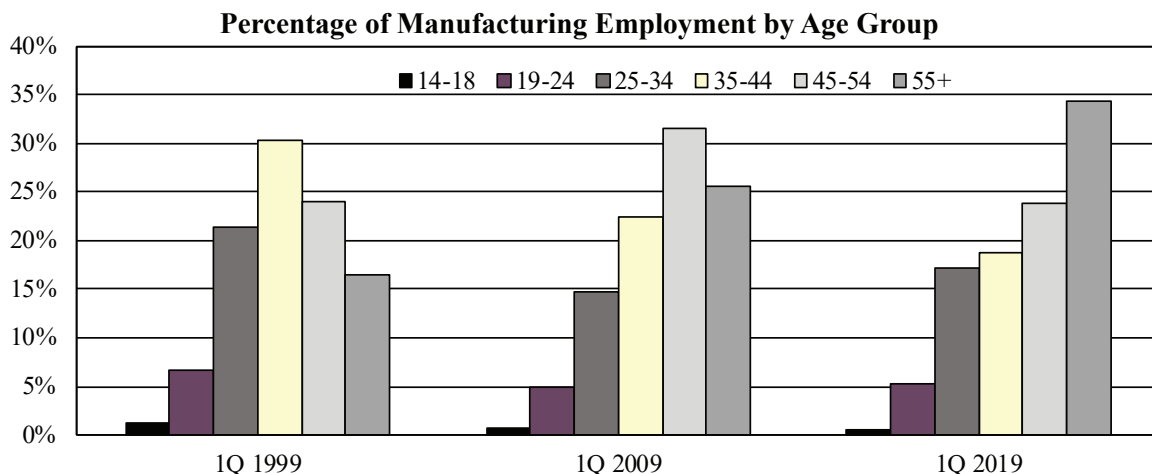
Age Group	1Q 1999	1Q 2009	1Q 2019
14-18	1.3%	0.9%	0.5%
19-24	8.3%	7.7%	7.7%
25-34	27.1%	21.8%	20.7%
35-44	33.5%	26.6%	21.6%
45-54	18.9%	27.2%	23.7%
55+	10.9%	15.9%	25.9%



Manufacturing

Based on the LEHD data, the percentage of manufacturing workers in Rhode Island's oldest age group rose between 1999 and 2019. Age group 55+ increased by a large margin, representing just over one-third, or 34.3 percent of the manufacturing workforce in 2019, while making up only 16.4 percent of the manufacturing workforce in 1999. The age group below the 55+ group, age group 45-54 did experience a very minor decrease in the percentage of manufacturing workers, falling from 24 percent in 1999 to 23.9 percent in 2019. The younger age groups of 14-18, 19-24, 25-34 and 35-44 all reported a smaller percentage of manufacturing workers in 2019 than in 1999. The age group of 35-44 reported the largest decrease of workers, falling from 30.2 percent in 1999, to 18.7 percent in 2019.

Age Group	1Q 1999	1Q 2009	1Q 2019
14-18	1.3%	0.8%	0.6%
19-24	6.7%	4.9%	5.3%
25-34	21.3%	14.8%	17.1%
35-44	30.2%	22.5%	18.7%
45-54	24.0%	31.5%	23.9%
55+	16.4%	25.5%	34.3%

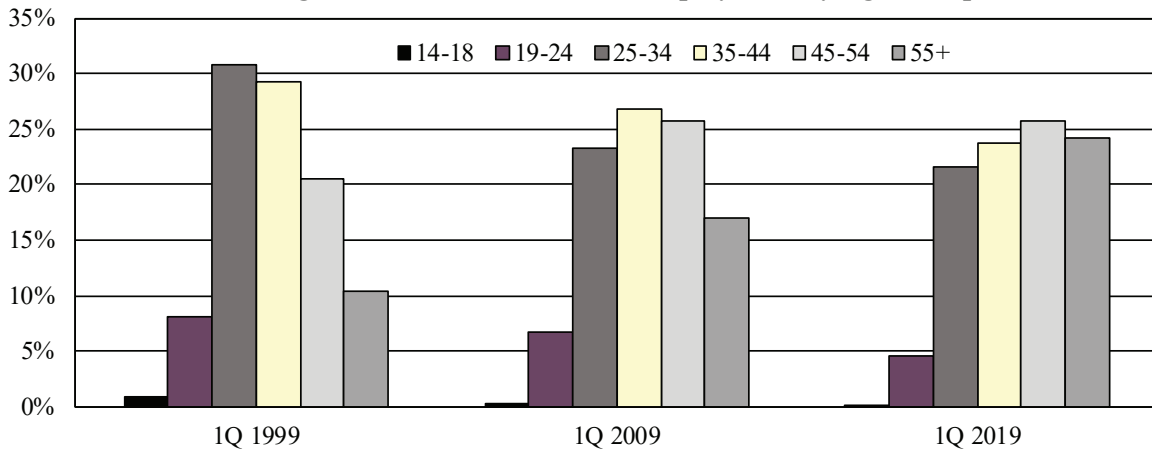


Finance & Insurance

In 2019, the percentage of Rhode Island workers age 55+ in the Financial & Insurance sector totaled 24.2 percent, up from the 10.4 percent this age group represented in 1999. An increase in the percentage of workers was also reported in age group 45-54 which accounted for 25.8 percent of the sectors workforce in 2019, up from the 20.5 percent it accounted for in 1999. 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 2019 than in 1999, an indication that the employment makeup of the Financial & Insurance sector is aging.

Age Group	1Q 1999	1Q 2009	1Q 2019
14-18	0.9%	0.3%	0.1%
19-24	8.1%	6.7%	4.6%
25-34	30.9%	23.3%	21.6%
35-44	29.2%	26.9%	23.7%
45-54	20.5%	25.7%	25.8%
55+	10.4%	17.1%	24.2%

Percentage of Finance & Insurance Employment by Age Group

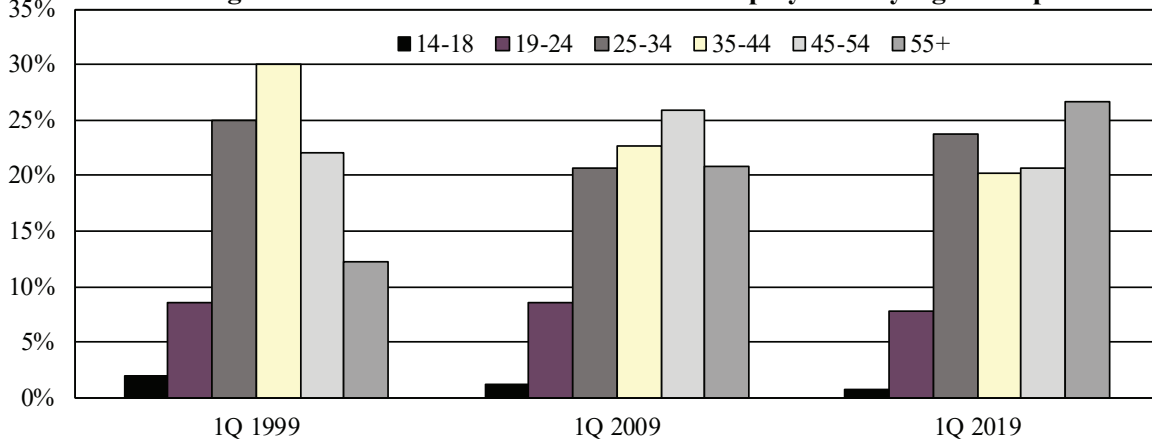


Health Care & Social Assistance

Between 1999 and 2019, age group 55+ was the only age group within the Health Care & Social Assistance sector to report an increase in the percentage of workers. The 55+ age group grew substantially, representing 34.3 percent of the sectors workforce in 2019, up from the 16.4 percent it represented in 1999. Age groups 14-18, 19-24, 25-34, 35-44 and 45-54, all reported a lower percentage of workers in 2019 than in 1999, with age group 35-44 reporting the largest decrease. In 2019, age group 35-44 represented 18.7 percent of all Health Care & Social Assistance employment, down from the 30.2 percent it represented in 1999.

Age Group	1Q 1999	1Q 2009	1Q 2019
14-18	2.0%	1.3%	0.8%
19-24	8.6%	8.6%	7.8%
25-34	24.9%	20.7%	23.8%
35-44	30.0%	22.7%	20.2%
45-54	22.1%	25.9%	20.7%
55+	12.3%	20.8%	26.6%

Percentage of Health Care & Social Assistance Employment by Age Group



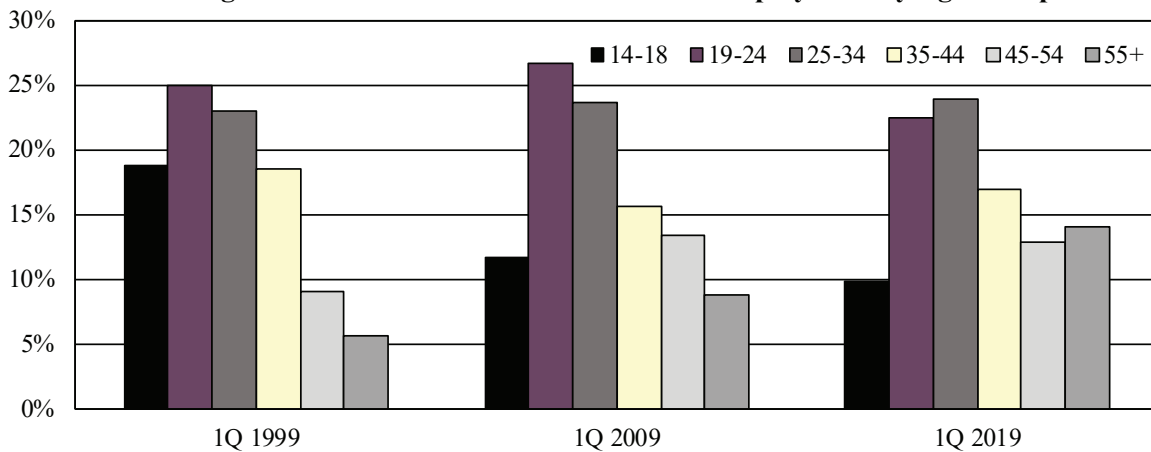
Accommodation & Food Services

In 1999, 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. The remaining age groups of 35-44, 45-54 and 55+ combined to account for one-third of the workforce. In 2019, the three younger age groups accounted for 56.2 percent of the sectors total workforce, down from the 1999 figures. The older three age groups accounted for 43.8 percent of the sectors total workforce in 2019, up from the 1999 figures. The 55+ age group experienced the largest increase of workers among all age groups, accounting for 14 percent of the Accommodation & Food Services workforce in 2019, up from the 5.7 percent it represented in 1999. In 2019, the number of workers in the youngest age group of 14-18 fell to 9.9 percent of the sectors workforce, down from the 18.8 percent it accounted for in 1999.

Percentage of Accommodation & Food Services Employment

Age Group	1Q 1999	1Q 2009	1Q 2019
14-18	18.8%	11.8%	9.9%
19-24	24.9%	26.7%	22.5%
25-34	23.0%	23.7%	23.8%
35-44	18.6%	15.6%	16.9%
45-54	9.0%	13.4%	12.9%
55+	5.7%	8.8%	14.0%

Percentage of Accommodation & Food Services Employment by Age Group



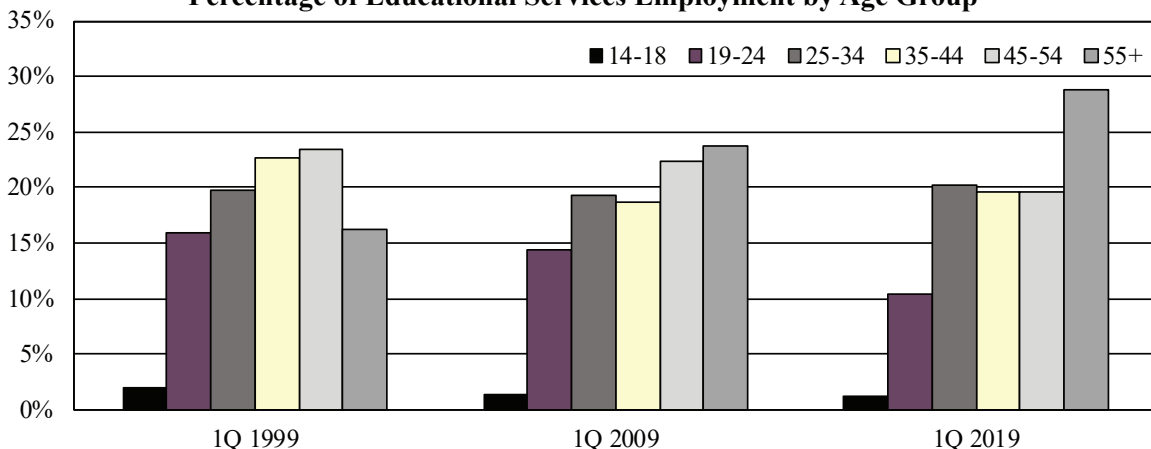
Educational Services

According to LEHD data, age group 55+ increased by a large margin in the percentage of Educational Services workers. In 2019, this age group accounted for 28.8 percent of the sectors workforce, up from the 16.2 percent of the workforce it represented in 1999. The 25-34 age group also reported a slight increase in the number of workers, accounting for 20.3 percent of the workforce in 2019, while representing 19.8 percent of the workforce in 1999. The four remaining age groups reported a decrease in the percentage of Educational Services workers, with the largest decreases coming from the 19-24 age group. This age group represented 15.9 percent of the educational services workforce in 1999, which fell to 10.4 percent in 2019.

Percentage of Educational Services Employment

Age Group	1Q 1999	1Q 2009	1Q 2019
14-18	2.0%	1.4%	1.3%
19-24	15.9%	14.4%	10.4%
25-34	19.8%	19.3%	20.3%
35-44	22.7%	18.7%	19.7%
45-54	23.4%	22.4%	19.6%
55+	16.2%	23.7%	28.8%

Percentage of Educational Services Employment by Age Group



Occupational Outlook 2028

Rhode Island employment is projected to reach 547,985 in 2028, an increase of 20,352 (3.9%) from its 2018 employment level. Nationally, employment is projected to increase by 5.2 percent.

The occupational groups projected to grow at the fastest rates include Personal Care & Service occupations (10.9%), Computer & Mathematical Occupations (10.4%), Building & Grounds Cleaning & Maintenance Occupations (9.4%), Construction & Extraction Occupations (9.1%) Life, Physical & Social Science Occupations (8.9%), and Architecture & Engineering Occupations (7.8%). These occupational groups are expected to generate nearly 9,000 new jobs during the 2018 – 2028 Projection Period.

The 2018–2028 projections are developed using models based on historical data, which in this set of projections cover the time period through 2018; all input data therefore precedes the pandemic.

Employment by Major Occupational Group

	Employment		Percent Change	Projected Employment			
	2018	2028		Exits	Transfers	Growth	Total
Statewide, All Occupations	527,633	547,985	3.9%	234,372	371,517	20,352	626,241
Management	24,798	26,581	7.2%	6,201	14,891	1,784	22,876
Business & Financial Operations	30,349	32,554	7.3%	8,381	20,385	2,207	30,973
Computer & Mathematical	14,131	15,601	10.4%	2,481	8,354	1,471	12,306
Architecture & Engineering	8,929	9,625	7.8%	2,107	4,902	696	7,705
Life, Physical, & Social Science	3,660	3,987	8.9%	755	2,598	329	3,682
Community & Social Service	8,907	9,376	5.3%	3,045	6,373	467	9,885
Legal	6,091	6,396	5.0%	1,568	2,431	306	4,305
Education, Training, & Library	32,656	33,422	2.4%	13,813	16,108	768	30,689
Arts, Design, Entertainment, Sports & Media	9,648	9,927	2.9%	3,794	6,985	281	11,060
Healthcare Practitioners & Technical	37,927	38,985	2.8%	9,520	10,422	1,042	20,984
Healthcare Support	18,737	19,851	6.0%	9,692	11,960	1,115	22,767
Protective Service	12,693	13,191	3.9%	6,842	8,374	498	15,714
Food Preparation & Serving Related	49,978	53,128	6.3%	36,318	53,795	3,149	93,262
Building & Grounds Cleaning & Maint.	18,912	20,696	9.4%	10,712	15,019	1,785	27,516
Personal Care & Service	22,193	24,600	10.9%	15,846	17,944	2,410	36,200
Sales & Related	49,617	50,239	1.3%	27,538	42,704	619	70,861
Office & Administrative Support	73,970	71,581	-3.2%	36,103	49,607	-2,389	83,321
Farming, Fishing & Forestry	675	723	7.1%	273	854	48	1,175
Construction & Extraction	24,354	26,560	9.1%	8,044	19,663	2,210	29,917
Installation, Maintenance & Repair	21,087	21,714	3.0%	6,638	14,337	627	21,602
Production	30,323	29,664	-2.2%	11,267	21,231	-658	31,840
Transportation & Material Moving	27,998	29,584	5.7%	13,434	22,580	1,587	37,601

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 257,000 job openings and account for forty-one percent of the total openings through 2028. 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
Cashiers	24,219
Retail Salespersons	20,740
Waiters & Waitresses	20,268
Combined Food Preparation & Serving Workers (Including Fast Food)	19,932
Office Clerks, General	12,894
Nursing Assistants	12,664
Laborers & Freight, Stock & Material Movers, Hand	11,954
Customer Service Representatives	11,391
Personal Care Aides	10,911
Janitors and Cleaners	10,023
Landscaping & Groundskeeping Workers	8,469
Cooks, Restaurant	8,327
Stock Clerks & Order Fillers	8,221
Counter Attendants, Cafeteria, Food Concession & Coffee Shop	8,162
Registered Nurses	7,613
Bartenders	7,509
Bookkeeping, Accounting & Auditing Clerks	7,501
Secretaries & Administrative Assistants	6,594
Maids & Housekeeping Cleaners	6,114
General & Operations Managers	5,779
First-Line Supervisors of Food Preparation & Serving Workers	5,779
Receptionists and Information Clerks	5,624
Childcare Workers	5,540
Sales Representatives, Wholesale & Manufacturing (Except Technical & Scientific Products)	5,491
First-Line Supervisors of Retail Sales Workers	5,433

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
Personal Care Aides	1,334
Combined Food Preparation & Serving Workers	1,141
Cooks, Restaurant	867
Maids & Housekeeping Cleaners	576
Nursing Assistants	574
Helpers--Production Workers	557
Landscaping & Groundskeeping Workers	540
Registered Nurses	528
Management Analysts	527
Waiters & Waitresses	468
Laborers & Freight, Stock & Material Movers, Hand	460
Software Developers, Applications	449
Janitors & Cleaners	447
Market Research Analysts & Marketing Specialists	423
General & Operations Managers	415
Financial Managers	396
Construction Laborers	393
Carpenters	360
First-Line Supervisors: Construction Trades & Extraction Workers	339
Retail Salespersons	324
Maintenance & Repair Workers, General	322
Accountants & Auditors	302
Electricians	258
Bus Drivers, School or Special Client	258
Light Truck or Delivery Services Drivers	258

Fastest Growing Occupations

The fastest growing occupations in Rhode Island are considered to be those with both a projected 2028 employment level of 500 or more and a growth rate of at least 7.6 percent, twice the average state rate.

Occupational Group	Employment		Percent Change	Openings Due to			Total
	2018	2028		Exits	Transfers	Growth	
Hotel, Motel & Resort Desk Clerks	679	935	37.70	443	924	256	1,623
Operations Research Analysts	462	573	24.03	121	216	111	448
Software Developers, Applications	1,899	2,348	23.64	295	1,201	449	1,945
Taxi Drivers & Chauffeurs	1,094	1,348	23.22	657	668	254	1,579
Veterinary Technologists & Technicians	525	643	22.48	169	302	118	589
Personal Care Aides	6,203	7,537	21.51	5,077	4,500	1,334	10,911
Physician Assistants	418	507	21.29	64	173	77	314
Helpers--Production Workers	2,650	3,207	21.02	1,558	2,759	558	4,875
Nonfarm Animal Caretakers	1,152	1,370	18.92	877	1,167	219	2,263
Market Research Analysts & Marketing Specialists	2,258	2,681	18.73	581	1,943	423	2,947
Cooks, Restaurant	4,840	5,707	17.91	2,799	4,661	867	8,327
Bus Drivers, School or Special Client	1,587	1,845	16.26	1,332	834	258	2,424
Speech-Language Pathologists	457	529	15.75	97	166	72	335
Computer Hardware Engineers	832	961	15.50	173	473	129	775
Software Developers, Systems Software	736	848	15.22	110	448	112	670
Maids & Housekeeping Cleaners	3,824	4,400	15.06	2,911	2,628	575	6,114
Nurse Practitioners	906	1,038	14.57	180	307	125	612
Paralegals & Legal Assistants	1,159	1,324	14.24	414	899	165	1,478
Home Health Aides	1,194	1,362	14.07	687	745	169	1,601
First-Line Supervisors of Housekeeping & Janitorial Workers	706	804	13.88	317	540	99	956
Financial Managers	2,857	3,253	13.86	661	1,695	395	2,751
Web Developers	531	603	13.56	97	334	71	502
Management Analysts	3,922	4,449	13.44	1,300	2,645	528	4,473
Clinical, Counseling, & School Psychologists	1,312	1,482	12.96	312	667	171	1,150
Fitness Trainers & Aerobics Instructors	1,134	1,274	12.35	718	1,282	141	2,141
Electrical Engineers	529	594	12.29	113	257	65	435
Plumbers, Pipefitters, & Steamfitters	1,976	2,217	12.20	614	1,714	241	2,569
Insurance Sales Agents	1,630	1,821	11.72	636	1,042	190	1,868
Welders, Cutters, Solderers, & Brazers	1,548	1,729	11.69	419	1,376	181	1,976
Mental Health & Substance Abuse Social Workers	518	578	11.58	162	373	60	595
Combined Food Preparation & Serving Workers, Including Fast Food	9,982	11,123	11.43	8,414	10,377	1,141	19,932
Manicurists & Pedicurists	1,215	1,349	11.03	712	752	134	1,598
Construction Laborers	3,647	4,040	10.78	1,286	2,992	394	4,672
Physical Therapists	1,052	1,163	10.55	203	259	111	573
Heating, Air Conditioning, & Refrigeration Mechanics & Installers	1,499	1,657	10.54	430	1,111	159	1,700
Self-Enrichment Education Teachers	1,206	1,333	10.53	734	715	127	1,576
Electrical & Electronics Engineering Technicians	580	641	10.52	202	393	61	656
Operating Engineers & Other Construction Equipment Operators	549	606	10.38	196	470	57	723
Electrical & Electronic Equipment Assemblers	483	533	10.35	0	0	50	50
Sheet Metal Workers	738	814	10.30	214	570	72	856
Painters, Transportation Equipment	459	506	10.24	145	380	48	573
Industrial Engineers	774	853	10.21	164	391	79	634
Electricians	2,530	2,788	10.20	817	2,266	258	3,341
Construction Managers	541	596	10.17	120	290	55	465
Counter & Rental Clerks	892	982	10.09	474	727	90	1,291
Logisticians	602	661	9.80	148	454	59	661
Meeting, Convention, & Event Planners	458	502	9.61	154	393	44	591
Computer & Information Systems Managers	1,305	1,430	9.58	234	832	125	1,191
Landscaping & Groundskeeping Workers	5,848	6,388	9.23	2,508	5,421	540	8,469

2028 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 2018-2028 projection period, it is estimated that employers will need to find workers to fill over 20,000 new jobs and to replace over 600,000 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. Thirty seven percent of Rhode Island jobs typically require a high school education; slightly lower than the national percentage (38.8%). Between 2018 and 2028, there are over 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 (29.6%) of the current occupational distribution in Rhode Island, slightly higher than the national average (28.6%). During the projection period it is estimated that there will be more than 135,000 openings for occupations requiring a minimum of an Associate degree in Rhode Island.

Employment by Education, Work Experience and Training Requirements

	Employment		Openings Due to			Total Openings
	2018	2028	Exits	Transfers	Growth	
Typical Education Needed for Entry	527,633	547,985	234,372	371,517	20,352	626,241
Doctoral or professional degree	20,889	21,274	4,966	5,958	390	11,314
Master's degree	10,796	11,560	3,251	5,777	743	9,771
Bachelor's degree	112,827	119,871	31,711	64,487	7,047	103,245
Associate degree	11,775	12,348	3,755	6,626	573	10,954
Postsecondary non-degree award	35,013	36,684	15,214	22,066	1,673	38,953
Some college, no degree	13,542	13,415	7,089	7,569	-126	14,532
High school diploma or equivalent	196,647	200,553	87,956	143,236	3,914	235,106
No formal educational credential	121,635	127,713	80,381	115,749	6,080	202,210
Typical Work Experience	527,633	547,985	234,372	371,517	20,352	626,241
5 years or more	21,354	22,939	5,571	13,933	1,585	21,089
Less than 5 years	50,519	53,400	18,563	35,397	2,886	56,846
None	455,760	471,646	210,238	322,187	15,881	548,306
Typical Training Requirements	527,633	547,985	234,372	371,517	20,352	626,241
Internship/residency	9,728	9,812	1,988	2,864	85	4,937
Apprenticeship	10,839	11,874	3,466	8,914	1,037	13,417
Long-term on-the-job training	21,141	21,423	7,009	13,415	284	20,708
Moderate-term on-the-job training	77,143	78,875	29,363	53,983	1,734	85,080
Short-term on-the-job training	208,033	214,775	127,584	178,695	6,744	313,023
None	200,749	211,226	64,962	113,646	10,468	189,076

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 of office and administrative support workers, retail sales supervisors, restaurant cooks and some 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 47.4 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 Construction Trade Supervisors, Executive Secretaries, Detectives & Criminal Investigators, and Chefs & Head Cooks.
- Seventy-five 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 Human Resource Managers.

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.

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 2011. The largest loss occurred between 2004 and 2005 (-6,663).

Between 2010 and 2019, only West Virginia (-3.3%), Illinois (-1.2%), Vermont (-0.3%) and Connecticut (-0.2%) recorded losses in population. Mississippi (+0.3%), New York (+0.4%), Rhode Island (+0.6%) and Pennsylvania (+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 (+17.3%), Utah (+16.0%), Texas (+15.3%) and Colorado (+14.5%).

Rhode Island Population

2000	1,048,319
2010	1,052,567
2011	1,053,649
2012	1,054,621
2013	1,055,081
2014	1,055,936
2015	1,056,065
2016	1,056,770
2017	1,055,673
2018	1,058,287
2019	1,059,361

Population Data for New England States Census 2000 - 2010 - 2019

	2000	2010	2019	Numerical Change		Percent Change	
	Census Population	Census Population	Census Estimate	2000-2010	2010-2019	2000-2010	2010-2019
Connecticut	3,405,565	3,574,097	3,565,287	168,532	-8,810	4.9%	-0.2%
Maine	1,274,923	1,328,361	1,344,212	53,438	15,851	4.2%	1.2%
Massachusetts	6,349,097	6,547,629	6,892,503	198,532	344,874	3.1%	5.3%
New Hampshire	1,235,786	1,316,470	1,359,711	80,684	43,241	6.5%	3.3%
Rhode Island	1,048,319	1,052,567	1,059,361	4,248	6,794	0.4%	0.6%
Vermont	608,827	625,741	623,989	16,914	-1,752	2.8%	-0.3%
United States	281,421,906	308,745,538	328,239,523	27,323,632	19,493,985	9.7%	6.3%

Source: US Census Bureau, 2000 & 2010 Census and 2019 Census Population Estimates

- The growth rates in all of the New England states were below the national population increase of 6.3 percent. Population in Vermont (-0.3%), Connecticut (-0.2%) and Rhode Island (+0.6%) all grew by less than one percent between 2010 and 2019. The population grew by 5.3 percent in Massachusetts, 3.3 percent in New Hampshire and 1.2 percent in Maine.
- The resident population in Rhode Island grew by 0.6 of a percent, or 6,794 individuals, to an estimated 1.06 million residents in 2019.
- The Northeast (+1.2%) and Midwest (+2.1%) were the slowest growing regions in the country between 2010 and 2019, while the South (+9.6%) and West (+8.9%) regions added the highest percentage of residents.

Local Population Trends



- Between 2010 and 2019, Rhode Island added 6,794 residents, a gain of 0.6% of the state's population.
- Of the 39 cities and towns, 19 communities lost population from 2010 to 2019.
- Bristol reflected the largest annual population percentage decline (-4.5%), followed by Narragansett (-3.3%), Warwick (-2.0%) and New Shoreham (-2.0%).
- Twenty communities in Rhode Island reported population gains between 2010 and 2019, with Glocester (+5.9%), Burrillville (+5.6%), Cumberland (+5.2%) and North Smithfield (+5.1%) reporting the largest growth on a percentage basis.
- Seventeen communities added over 100 residents since 2010, led by Providence (+1,841), Cumberland (+1,757), Cranston (+1,069) and Pawtucket (+969).
- Nine communities lost over 200 residents between 2010 and 2018. Warwick (-1,668) lost the most residents, followed by Bristol (-1,039), Narragansett (-519) and Westerly (-406).

Rhode Island City and Town Population Estimates

Geographic Area	Census 2010	Estimate 2019	Numeric Change	Percent Change
State of Rhode Island	1,052,567	1,059,361	6,794	0.6%
Bristol County	49,875	48,479	-1,396	-2.8%
Barrington	16,310	16,053	-257	-1.6%
Bristol	22,954	21,915	-1,039	-4.5%
Warren	10,611	10,511	-100	-0.9%
Kent County	166,158	164,292	-1,866	-1.1%
Coventry	35,014	34,819	-195	-0.6%
East Greenwich	13,146	13,120	-26	-0.2%
Warwick	82,672	81,004	-1,668	-2.0%
West Greenwich	6,135	6,387	252	4.1%
West Warwick	29,191	28,962	-229	-0.8%
Newport County	82,888	82,082	-806	-1.0%
Jamestown	5,405	5,498	93	1.7%
Little Compton	3,492	3,474	-18	-0.5%
Middletown	16,150	15,888	-262	-1.6%
Newport	24,672	24,334	-338	-1.4%
Portsmouth	17,389	17,226	-163	-0.9%
Tiverton	15,780	15,662	-118	-0.7%
Providence County	626,667	638,931	12,264	2.0%
Burrillville	15,955	16,854	899	5.6%
Central Falls	19,376	19,568	192	1.0%
Cranston	80,387	81,456	1,069	1.3%
Cumberland	33,506	35,263	1,757	5.2%
East Providence	47,037	47,618	581	1.2%
Foster	4,606	4,745	139	3.0%
Glocester	9,746	10,323	577	5.9%
Johnston	28,769	29,471	702	2.4%
Lincoln	21,105	21,987	882	4.2%
North Providence	32,078	32,686	608	1.9%
North Smithfield	11,967	12,582	615	5.1%
Pawtucket	71,148	72,117	969	1.4%
Providence	178,042	179,883	1,841	1.0%
Scituate	10,329	10,730	401	3.9%
Smithfield	21,430	21,897	467	2.2%
Woonsocket	41,186	41,751	565	1.4%
Washington County	126,979	125,577	-1,402	-1.1%
Charlestown	7,827	7,826	-1	0.0%
Exeter	6,425	6,519	94	1.5%
Hopkinton	8,188	8,060	-128	-1.6%
Narragansett	15,868	15,349	-519	-3.3%
New Shoreham	1,051	1,030	-21	-2.0%
North Kingstown	26,486	26,323	-163	-0.6%
Richmond	7,708	7,741	33	0.4%
South Kingstown	30,639	30,348	-291	-0.9%
Westerly	22,787	22,381	-406	-1.8%

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 0.6 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 2019 the ratio had increased to over one out of eight.

Rhode Island	Census 2000	Census 2010	Estimate 2019*
Total Population	1,048,319	1,052,567	1,059,361
Foreign-Born	119,277	134,335*	145,074
Percent Foreign-Born	11.4%	12.8%	13.7%

*Source: American Community Survey 1-Year Estimates

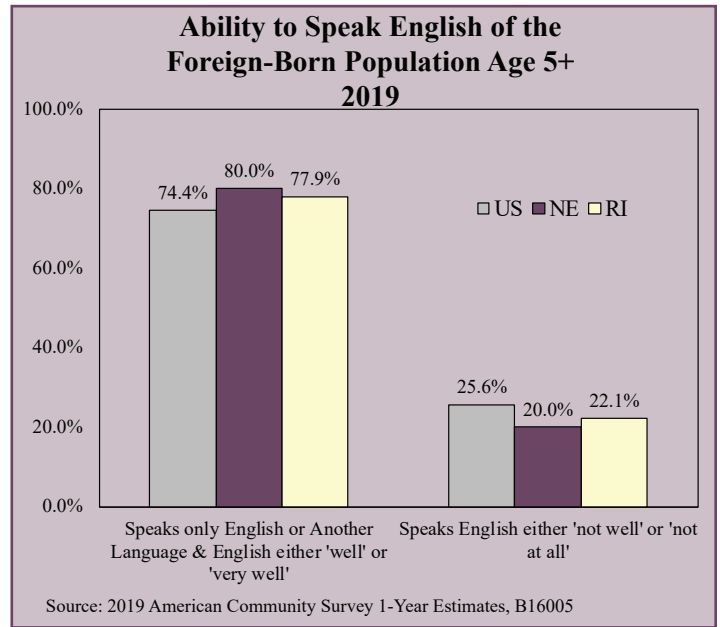
- The rate of growth of the foreign-born population has outpaced the total population growth from 2000 to 2010. While total population increased by 4,248 (0.4%) residents, the number of foreign-born residents increased by 15,058 (12.6%). Between 2000 and 2019, the number of foreign-born residents increased by 25,797 (+21.6%).
- In 2019, foreign-born residents in Rhode Island were most likely to have come from Latin America (46.7%). This also held true for the US as a whole (50.3%) and the New England states of Connecticut (45.3%) and Massachusetts (38.4%).
- Foreign-born residents of the remaining New England states were most likely to come from Asia: New Hampshire (35.3%), Vermont (31.2%) and Maine (27.9%).
- 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 2019

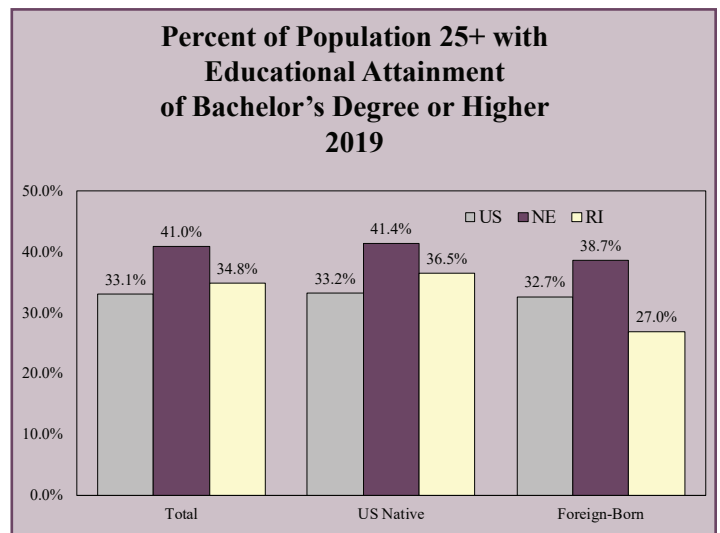
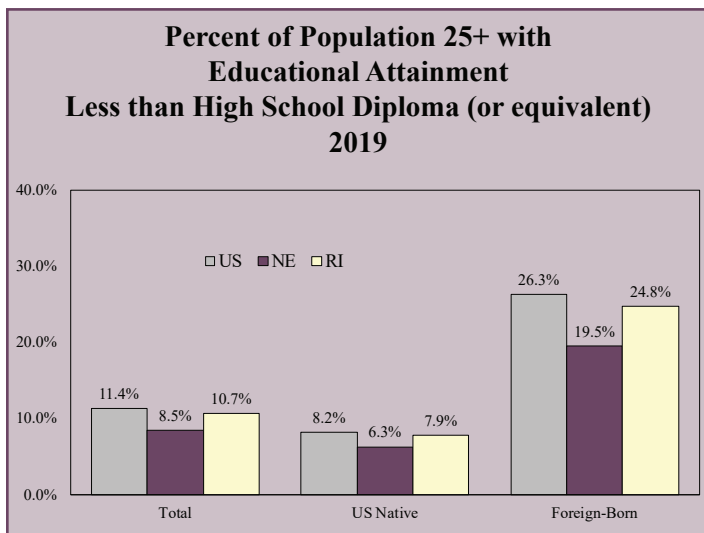
	RI	US	NE	CT	ME	MA	NH	VT
Foreign-Born	13.7%	13.7%	13.7%	14.8%	3.9%	17.3%	6.4%	4.7%
<i>Place of Birth:</i>								
Europe	20.2%	10.4%	20.6%	22.6%	21.6%	19.3%	23.8%	28.1%
Asia	19.2%	31.4%	28.4%	25.0%	27.9%	30.5%	35.3%	31.2%
Africa	12.1%	5.5%	8.2%	4.3%	17.7%	9.1%	7.5%	12.0%
Oceania	0.2%	0.7%	0.4%	0.3%	1.9%	0.4%	0.7%	0.2%
Latin America	46.7%	50.3%	39.0%	45.3%	11.2%	38.4%	23.7%	8.8%
Northern America	1.5%	1.8%	3.3%	2.5%	19.7%	2.3%	9.1%	19.7%

Source: 2019 American Community Survey 1-Year Estimates, Table DP02

- Of the European-born Rhode Islanders, the majority were born in Portugal (51.2%), while the majority of those African-born residents were from Western Africa (79.9%).
- Of the Latin-born Rhode Islanders, 58.7 percent were from the Caribbean, 28.4 percent from Central America and 12.9 percent from South America.
- Rhode Island (22.1%) had a higher percentage of foreign-born residents that speak English either 'not well' or 'not at all' than New England (20.0%) but lower than the United States (25.6%).
- Rhode Island's foreign-born population (24.8%) was more than three times as likely to have not graduated high school than those residents who were born in the US (7.9%).



- Foreign-born Rhode Islanders (24.8%) were more likely than New England (19.5%) but less likely than US (26.3%) foreign-born residents to have not graduated from high school.
- Rhode Island's foreign-born population (27.0%) was less likely to have a bachelor's degree or higher than those residents who were US natives (36.5%).
- Foreign-born Rhode Islanders (27.0%) were less likely than New England (38.7%) and US (32.7%) 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 (9.5 percentage points) than in New England (2.7 percentage points) and the United States (0.5 percentage points).



Source: 2019 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, 2019 American Community Survey 1-Year Estimates, 33.1 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 11.4 percent of the population. In comparison, 34.8 percent of Rhode Islanders have a bachelor's degree or higher, while 10.7 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 (34.8%) who have obtained at least a Bachelor's degree, but is above the national average (33.1%).

Educational Attainment for the United States and New England for Population Aged 25 Years and Older, 2019

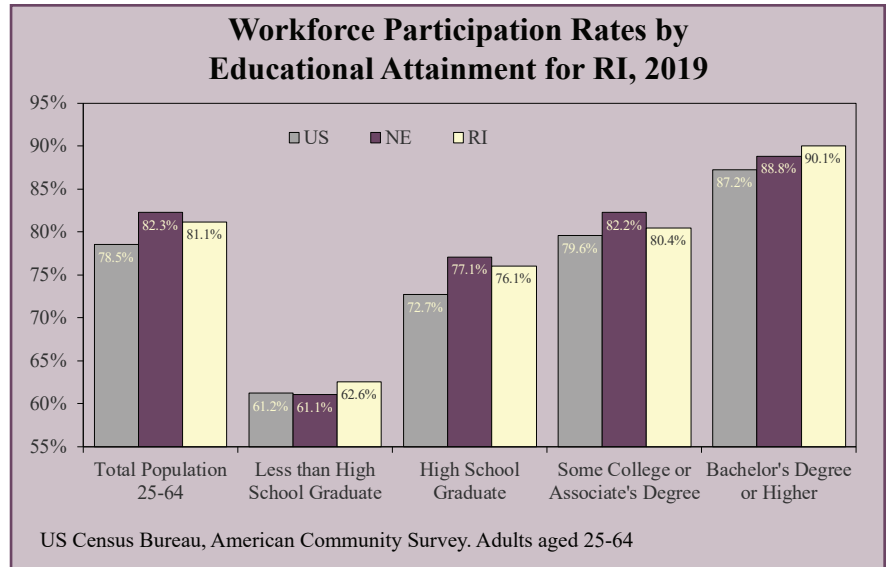
	RI	United States	New England	CT	MA	ME	NH	VT
Population (25 Years and Older)	746,952	224,898,568	10,510,408	2,496,420	4,850,576	991,152	979,750	445,558
Not a High School Graduate or Equivalent	10.7%	11.4%	8.5%	9.3%	8.7%	6.8%	6.7%	6.9%
Less than 9th Grade	5.0%	4.8%	3.7%	4.0%	4.2%	2.1%	2.0%	2.1%
9th to 12th Grade, No Diploma	5.7%	6.6%	4.8%	5.3%	4.5%	4.7%	4.7%	4.8%
High School Graduate, GED, or Alternative	28.4%	26.9%	26.2%	26.8%	23.9%	31.4%	28.1%	29.0%
Some College, No Degree	17.4%	20.0%	16.2%	16.5%	15.0%	18.6%	17.8%	16.7%
Associate's Degree	8.6%	8.6%	8.1%	7.6%	7.4%	10.0%	9.9%	8.7%
Bachelor's Degree or Higher	34.8%	33.1%	41.0%	39.8%	45.0%	33.2%	37.6%	38.7%
Bachelor's Degree	20.9%	20.3%	23.2%	22.0%	24.7%	20.8%	22.9%	22.7%
Graduate or Professional Degree	13.9%	12.8%	17.8%	17.8%	20.3%	12.4%	14.7%	16.0%

US Census Bureau, 2019 American Community Survey 1-Year Estimates, Table S1501

- Rhode Island (89.3%) ranks last in New England and 33rd nationally in the percentage of adults (25+ years) who have at least graduated from high school. Wyoming ranked highest at 94.5 percent.
- Rhode Island (34.8%) ranks fifth in New England and tied for 15th nationally in the percentage of adults who have completed a Bachelor's degree or higher. The District of Columbia ranked highest at 59.7 percent.
- Rhode Island (13.9%) ranks fifth in New England and 13th nationally in the percentage of adults with a graduate or professional degree. The District of Columbia ranked highest at 34.0 percent.

Nationally, individuals aged 25-64 with bachelor's degrees or higher have civilian workforce participation rates that are 14.5 percentage points higher than those with high school diplomas.

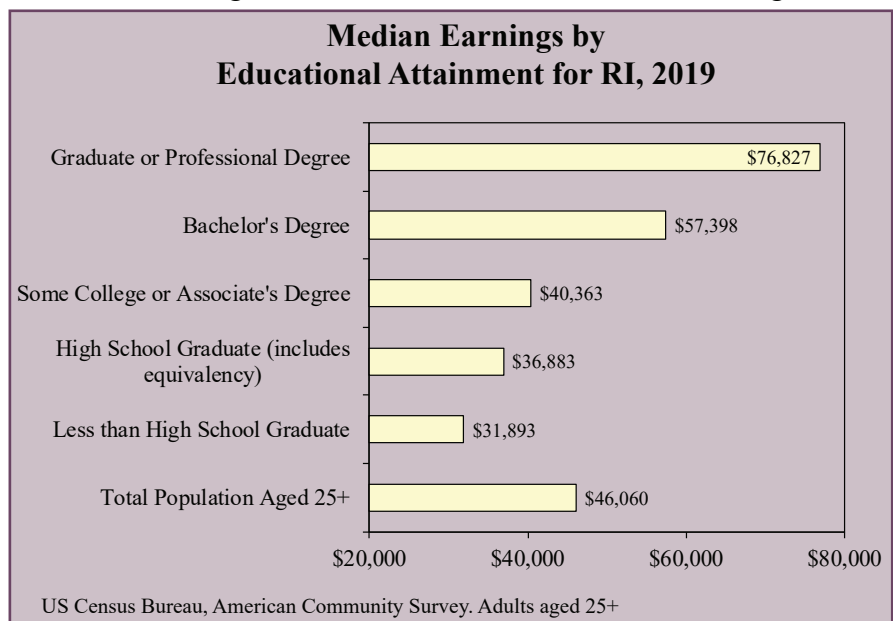
Rhode Islanders experienced a 14.0 percentage point increase in workforce participation between those with a high school diploma and those with at least a bachelor's degree.



Higher levels of education are associated with higher earnings.

- Median earnings for Rhode Islanders with a high school diploma or equivalency are \$4,990 more than median earnings for individuals without a high school diploma.
- Median earnings for Rhode Islanders with a bachelor's degree are \$20,515 more than median earnings for individuals with a high school diploma or equivalency.
- Median earnings for Rhode Islanders with a graduate or professional degree are \$19,429 more than median earnings for individuals with a 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)

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