

## 2032 OCCUPATIONAL PROJECTIONS BY EDUCATION

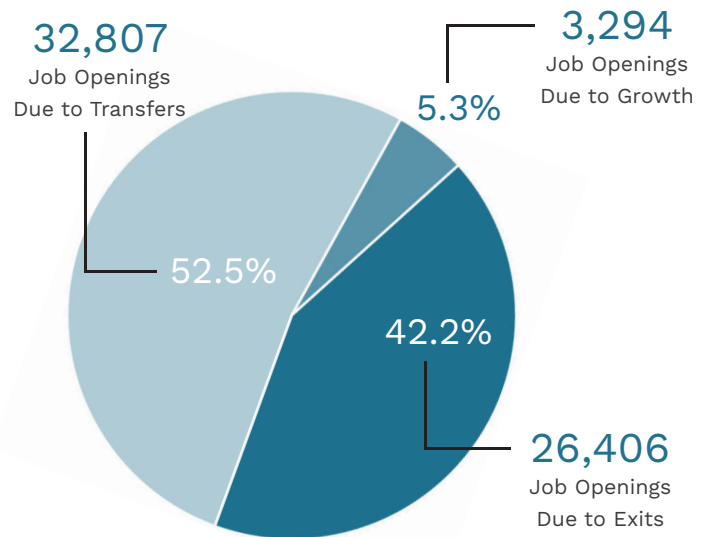
### THE BIG PICTURE

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 2022-2032 projection period, it is estimated that employers will need to fill nearly 33,000 new jobs and replace over 592,000 workers leaving their jobs for various reasons.

Parallel to the national distribution, jobs requiring a high school diploma for entry 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 average of 38 percent. Between 2022 and 2032, nearly 200,000 job openings are projected for occupations at this educational level.

Jobs requiring college degrees (Associate, Bachelor's, Master's, or Doctoral) make up 31.9 percent of the current occupational distribution in Rhode Island, comparable to the national average of 31.2 percent. During the projection period, it is estimated that there will be over 135,000 job openings in occupations requiring a minimum of an Associate degree in Rhode Island.

### ANNUAL OPENINGS



### EDUCATIONAL REQUIREMENTS FOR EMPLOYMENT IN RHODE ISLAND

Typical Education Needed For Job	Employment		Exits	Openings			Total Openings
	2022	2032		Transfers	Growth		
Grand Total	531,287	564,230	264,065	328,067	32,943	625,075	
Doctoral or professional degree	18,492	19,812	5,294	3,548	1,320	10,162	
Master's degree	15,562	17,428	5,386	5,588	1,866	12,840	
Bachelor's degree	124,040	133,571	38,447	53,124	9,531	101,102	
Associate degree	11,426	12,373	4,360	5,824	947	11,131	
Postsecondary non-degree award	36,777	40,054	18,177	24,122	3,277	45,576	
Some college, no degree	11,865	11,953	6,391	6,328	88	12,807	
High school diploma or equivalent	197,696	207,597	99,276	128,485	9,901	237,662	
No formal educational credential	115,429	121,442	86,734	101,048	6,013	193,795	

## NOTABLE OCCUPATIONS BY EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT IN RHODE ISLAND

### Doctoral or Professional Degree

Occupations requiring a doctoral or professional degree represent 3.5 percent (18,492) of the employment in Rhode Island in 2022. During the projection period, it is expected that the state's economy will generate 10,162 job openings requiring a doctoral or professional degree.

**Percent of Jobs in RI - 3.5%**

**Percent of Jobs in USA - 2.7%**

**Estimated Employment in RI - 18,492**

**Projected Employment in RI - 19,812**

Occupation	Employment		Total Openings	2023 Wage
	2022	2032		
Lawyers	3,998	4,356	628	\$71.91
Pharmacists	1,316	1,428	190	\$60.76
Physical Therapists	1,112	1,245	183	\$45.91
Dentists, General	682	714	41	\$107.61
Clinical and Counseling Psychologists	552	614	151	\$52.89
Postsecondary Teachers, All Other	551	575	190	\$80,860
Medical Scientists, Except Epidemiologists	525	573	213	\$47.74
Veterinarians	396	463	41	\$63.60
Business Teachers, Postsecondary	387	417	136	\$111,380
Health Specialties Teachers, Postsecondary	340	408	126	\$129,120

### Master's Degree

Occupations requiring a master's degree account for 2.9 percent (15,562) of the employment in Rhode Island. By 2032, the state's economy is projected to create approximately 12,840 job openings at this education level. Of these, 5,386 will be from workers exiting the workforce, 5,588 from transfers, and 1,866 from new job growth.

**Percent of Jobs in RI - 2.9%**

**Percent of Jobs in USA - 1.9%**

**Estimated Employment in RI - 15,562**

**Projected Employment in RI - 17,428**

Occupation	Employment		Total Openings	2023 Wage
	2022	2032		
Nurse Practitioners	1,441	2,087	391	\$61.89
Instructional Coordinators	1,367	1,410	544	\$30.66
Education Administrators, Kindergarten -Secondary	1,205	1,229	467	\$111,070
Educational, Guidance, and Career Counselors	1,041	1,102	433	\$31.27
Occupational Therapists	798	881	210	\$46.90
Physician Assistants	771	905	229	\$61.02
Education Administrators, Postsecondary	740	774	290	\$52.77
Librarians and Media Collections Specialists	730	762	283	\$34.79
Healthcare Social Workers	654	717	322	\$36.90
Speech-Language Pathologists	595	712	168	\$45.69

### Bachelor's Degree

Jobs that typically require a bachelor's degree make up 23.4 percent (124,040) of the state's employment in 2022. Over the projection period, Rhode Island is expected to generate 101,102 job openings in occupations requiring a bachelor's degree.

**Percent of Jobs in RI - 23.3%**

**Percent of Jobs in USA - 24.5%**

**Estimated Employment in RI - 124,040**

**Projected Employment in RI - 133,571**

Occupation	Employment		Total Openings	2023 Wage
	2022	2032		
Registered Nurses	11,924	12,703	2,533	\$45.60
General and Operations Managers	6,932	7,497	3,875	\$58.77
Accountants and Auditors	6,679	7,124	3,125	\$44.30
Secondary School Teachers (Except Special and Career/Technical Education)	5,034	5,116	1,637	\$83,130
Management Analysts	4,823	5,320	2,334	\$40.86
Elementary School Teachers (Except Special Education)	4,382	4,431	1,448	\$89,050
Market Research Analysts & Marketing Specialists	3,748	4,345	2,355	\$37.09
Project Management Specialists	3,031	3,263	1,449	\$47.76
Human Resources Specialists	2,508	2,705	1,352	\$31.25
Middle School Teachers (Except Special and Career/Technical Education)	2,380	2,411	787	\$85,430

## NOTABLE OCCUPATIONS BY EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT IN RHODE ISLAND

### Associate Degree

Associate degree-level jobs represent 2.2 percent (11,426) of Rhode Island's employment. By 2032, approximately 11,131 job openings are expected for occupations at this education level.

**Percent of Jobs in RI - 2.2%**

**Percent of Jobs in USA - 2.1%**

**Estimated Employment in RI - 11,426**

**Projected Employment in RI - 12,373**

Occupation	Employment		Total Openings	2023 Wage
	2022	2032		
Preschool Teachers (Except Special Education)	1,432	1,525	872	\$18.74
Paralegals and Legal Assistants	1,324	1,387	859	\$32.79
Radiologic Technologists and Technicians	998	1,061	222	\$39.65
Computer Network Support Specialists	957	1,058	414	\$66.62
Dental Hygienists	891	923	199	\$40.36
Occupational Therapy Assistants	431	545	426	\$29.12
Respiratory Therapists	422	476	83	\$38.41
Veterinary Technologists and Technicians	409	499	254	\$17.97
Physical Therapist Assistants	381	480	376	\$30.00
Human Resources Assistants (Except Payroll and Timekeeping)	353	338	231	\$24.41

### Postsecondary Non-Degree Award

Occupations requiring a postsecondary non-degree award represent 6.9 percent (36,777) of employment in Rhode Island. Over the next decade, the state's economy is projected to create 45,576 openings at this education level.

**Percent of Jobs in RI - 6.9%**

**Percent of Jobs in USA - 6.1%**

**Estimated Employment in RI - 36,777**

**Projected Employment in RI - 40,054**

Occupation	Employment		Total Openings	2023 Wage
	2022	2032		
Nursing Assistants	9,064	10,008	7,465	\$20.00
Heavy and Tractor-Trailer Truck Drivers	3,540	3,985	2,204	\$28.22
Hairdressers, Hairstylists, and Cosmetologists	3,370	3,736	2,669	\$16.60
Automotive Service Technicians and Mechanics	3,263	3,488	1,669	\$22.58
Medical Assistants	3,227	3,599	2,742	\$21.15
Firefighters	1,732	1,775	841	\$31.54
Licensed Practical and Licensed Vocational Nurses	1,660	1,806	609	\$36.94
Heating, Air Conditioning, and Refrigeration Mechanics and Installers	1,396	1,589	770	\$29.93
First-Line Supervisors: Firefighting & Prevention Workers	902	921	325	\$38.80
Dental Assistants	815	844	675	\$22.65

### High School Diploma or GED

Occupations requiring a high school diploma or equivalent represent 37.2 percent (197,696) of Rhode Island's employment in 2022. During the projection period, there will be about 237,662 job openings in this category, with 99,276 due to exits, 128,485 from transfers, and 9,901 from growth.

**Percent of Jobs in RI - 37.2%**

**Percent of Jobs in USA - 38.0%**

**Estimated Employment in RI - 197,696**

**Projected Employment in RI - 207,597**

Occupation	Employment		Total Openings	2023 Wage
	2022	2032		
Customer Service Representatives	10,694	10,294	8,229	\$21.01
Office Clerks, General	9,277	8,946	5,357	\$21.34
Home Health and Personal Care Aides	8,065	9,998	6,025	\$18.25
Stockers and Order Fillers	6,526	7,508	6,870	\$17.75
Sales Representatives, Wholesale & Manufacturing (Except Technical and Scientific Products)	5,567	5,898	3,133	\$37.71
First-Line Supervisors of Retail Sales Workers	5,353	5,684	3,256	\$27.97
Carpenters	5,087	5,447	2,480	\$29.34
Receptionists and Information Clerks	5,041	5,162	3,546	\$18.13
Secretaries and Administrative Assistants	5,019	4,526	2,512	\$23.82
First-Line Supervisors of Office and Administrative Support Workers	4,658	4,502	2,455	\$34.83

## NOTABLE OCCUPATIONS BY EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT IN RHODE ISLAND

### No Educational Credential

Jobs requiring no formal educational credential make up 21.7 percent (115,429) of employment in Rhode Island. By 2032, it is projected that there will be 193,795 job openings in this category, including 86,734 from worker exits, 101,048 from transfers, and 6,013 new positions from growth.

**Percent of Jobs in RI - 21.7%**

**Percent of Jobs in USA - 22.1%**

**Estimated Employment in RI - 115,429**

**Projected Employment in RI - 121,442**

Occupation	Employment		Total Openings	2023 Wage
	2022	2032		
Retail Salespersons	12,373	13,098	10,083	\$16.58
Fast Food and Counter Workers	11,281	11,642	13,510	\$13.85
Cashiers	10,589	10,355	10,148	\$14.52
Waiters and Waitresses	8,273	8,176	9,938	\$15.36
Janitors and Cleaners	7,631	7,928	5,409	\$17.37
Laborers & Freight, Stock, & Material Movers, Hand	7,391	8,031	6,266	\$18.15
Cooks, Restaurant	7,110	8,763	6,471	\$18.20
Landscaping and Groundskeeping Workers	6,223	6,615	4,984	\$21.62
Food Preparation Workers	4,240	4,103	3,711	\$14.76
Construction Laborers	4,083	4,574	2,184	\$26.51

## TYPICAL WORK EXPERIENCE FOR EMPLOYMENT IN RHODE ISLAND

Typical Work Experience Needed	Employment		Exits	Openings Due To		Total Openings
	2022	2032		Transfers	Growth	
Grand Total	531,287	564,230	264,065	328,067	32,943	625,075
5 years or more	20,299	21,859	6,119	10,030	1,560	17,709
Less than 5 years	60,256	65,527	26,015	35,659	5,271	66,945
None	450,732	476,844	231,931	282,378	26,112	540,421

## TYPICAL ON-THE-JOB TRAINING FOR EMPLOYMENT IN RHODE ISLAND

Typical Education Needed For Job	Employment		Exits	Openings Due To		Total Openings
	2022	2032		Transfers	Growth	
Grand Total	531,287	564,230	264,065	328,067	32,943	625,075
Internship/residency	9,824	10,641	2,746	2,359	817	5,922
Apprenticeship	11,974	13,214	4,245	6,390	1,240	11,875
Long-term on-the-job training	18,293	19,349	7,663	9,234	1,056	17,953
Moderate-term on-the-job training	92,737	97,629	40,270	54,268	4,892	99,430
Short-term on-the-job training	195,511	204,218	134,391	158,086	8,707	301,184
None	202,948	219,179	74,750	97,730	16,231	188,711

Visit <https://dlt.ri.gov/labor-market-information/data-center/2032-industry-occupational-projections>



A publication of the Labor Market Information Division

RI Department of Labor and Training, 1511 Pontiac Ave., Cranston, RI 02920 [www.dlt.ri.gov](http://www.dlt.ri.gov) TTY via RI Relay 711

Equal Opportunity Employer. Auxiliary aids and services available upon request to individuals with disabilities.

Published: October 2024