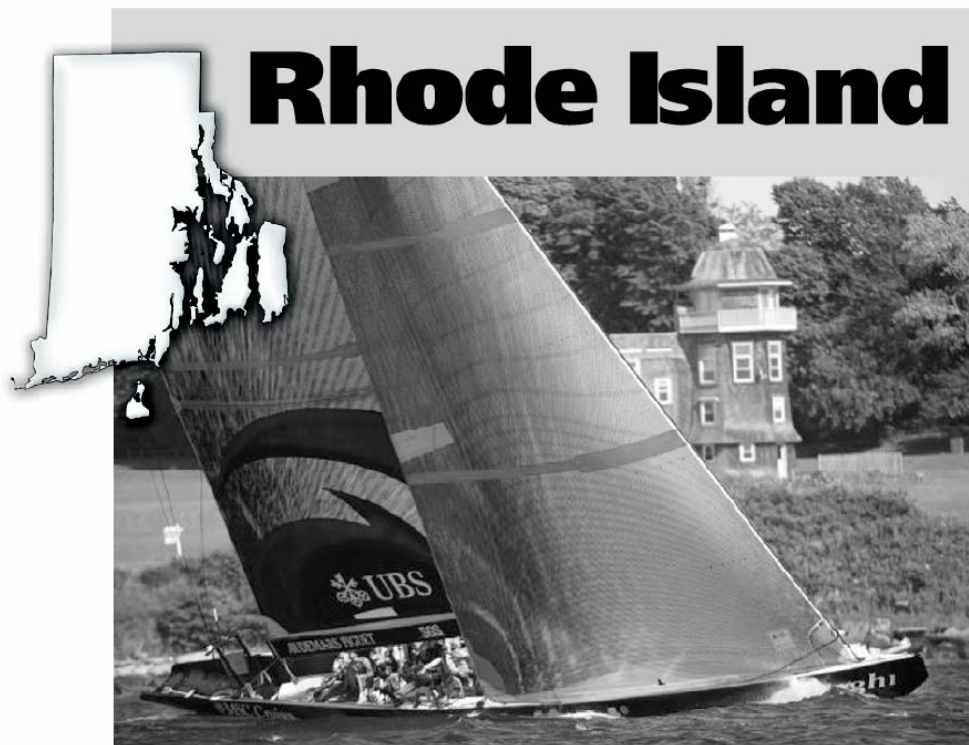


RIEDC Rhode Island
Economic Development Corporation

moving to



A brief orientation to the Ocean State, including vital relocation information such as government resources, real estate sales, important tax information, educational statistics and more.

December 2009

Rhode Island Economic Development Corporation

315 Iron Horse Way, Suite 101, Providence, RI 02908

401-278-9100 (p) ▪ 401-273-8270 (f) ▪ www.riedc.com

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Courtesy of the RI Tourism Division

INTRODUCTION TO RHODE ISLAND

Rhode Island, also known as the Ocean State, offers a range of lifestyles to those seeking the advantages of an exciting city or a relaxing country setting. Less than 50 miles wide, but graced with a 400-mile shoreline, the heart of Rhode Island is our beautiful Narragansett Bay. A rich saltwater heritage makes Rhode Island one of the sailing capitals of the world. Fresh and saltwater fishing, swimming at more than 100 beaches, camping, music festivals, picnicking, surfing, skin diving, and old fashioned clambakes make Rhode Island's summer an outdoor paradise.

Northern Rhode Island, including the bustling capital, **Providence**, is an area of wide expanses of quiet woodland and lake country. Northern Rhode Island is the birthplace of the American Industrial Revolution at the Old Slater Mill, the home of Brown University, the site of the State Capitol, the First Baptist Church in America built in 1775, and the Arcade, America's first shopping mall. Providence's Benefit Street, called a "mile of history," began as an Indian trail and was the social, intellectual, governmental, and artistic center of Providence for two centuries. The Blackstone Valley Region occupies the northwestern part of Providence County, offering an abundance of outdoor activities from hiking and canoeing to freshwater fishing.



Courtesy of the RI Tourism Division

Southern Rhode Island boasts some of the country's finest beaches, salt water fishing, boating, resorts, art colonies, shoreline campgrounds and extensive woodland recreation areas. Its rich Colonial and Indian lore is preserved in numerous historic shrines. Wickford Village, on Narragansett Bay, has one of New England's largest concentrations of varied 18th century buildings and homes and is considered the largest yachting center in New England.



Courtesy of the RI Tourism Division

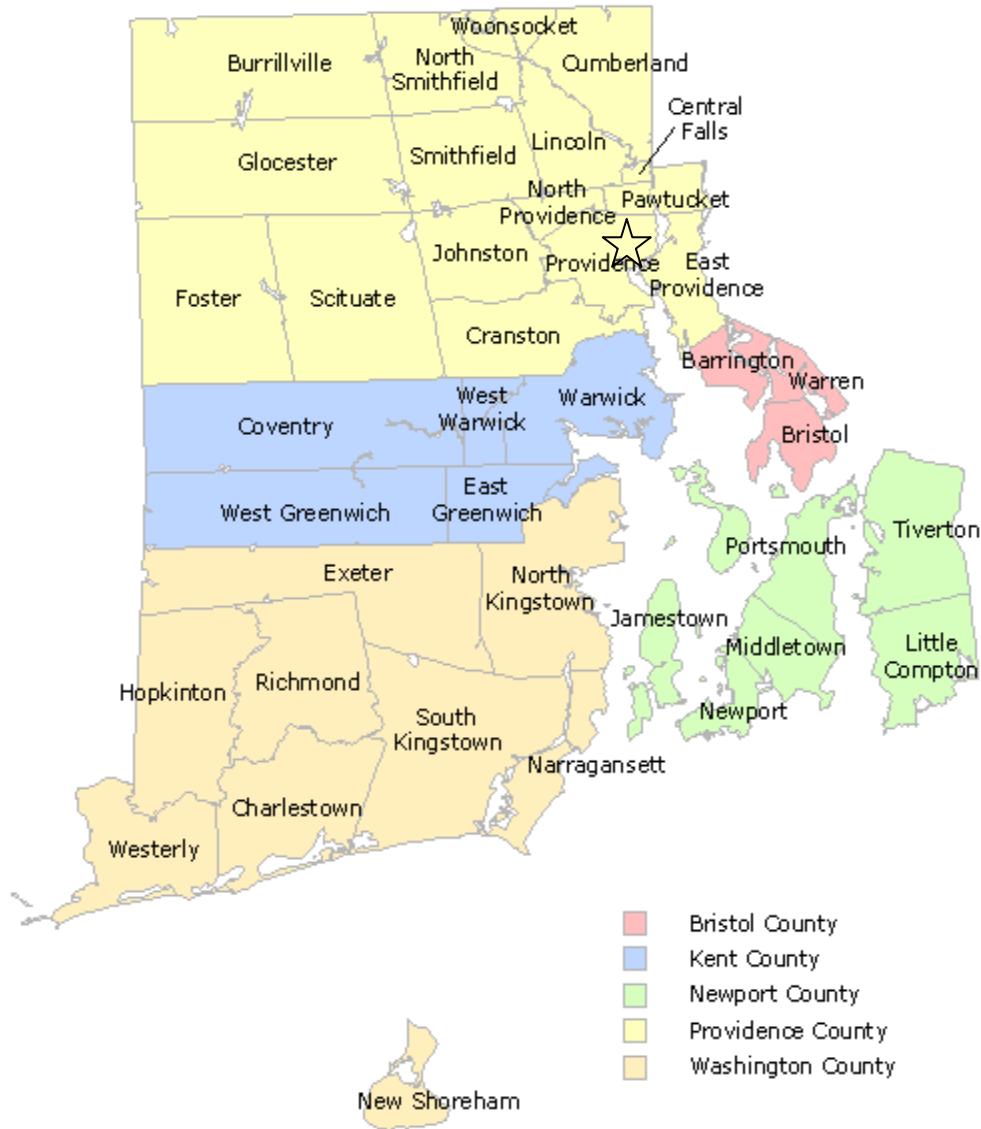
The **City of Newport**, founded in 1639, became world famous early as a commercial seaport. Numerous colonial landmarks remain standing and preserved. The city-by-the-sea is home of international sailboat races, and the site of the palatial "summer cottages" of the country's leading socialites at the turn of the century. Newport today is the home of the White Horse Tavern (1673), America's oldest continuously operated tavern; Touro Synagogue (1763), the oldest Jewish home of worship in the United States; and Fort Adams (1799), the second largest fortification on the Atlantic seaboard.

In the **East Bay**, sailing and shipbuilding have played an important role in the life along the eastern shores of Narragansett Bay since the 17th century. The famous Herreshoff Boatyard, where the seven America's Cup defenders were built, shares the coastline with old fishing villages and century-old homes.

Forests, meadowland and suburban residential development characterize the **West Bay**. Sailing, clam digging, antique hunting, shopping in the commercial areas of Cranston and Warwick, and visiting the historic homesteads of General Nathaniel Greene and James Mitchell Varnum are rewarding activities.

CITIES AND TOWNS

Rhode Island is divided into 39 local municipalities, ranging in size from 1.21 to 59.54 square miles of land area. Although there are five counties, there is no actual county government.



Despite its small size, Rhode Island offers distinct community environments, ranging from revitalized urban areas like Providence to attractive suburban towns such as Lincoln, North Kingstown and Portsmouth. The northwest, southwest, and southeast corners of the state feature more rural settings. Rhode Island is especially well known for its historic and seaside communities like Newport and Bristol. There are also a number of bay and offshore islands that offer residential and recreational opportunities, such as Block Island (New Shoreham) and Jamestown.

More information on each of Rhode Island’s cities and towns is available on the web site of the RI Economic Development Corp. or the state’s official web site. See page 19.

CITY AND TOWN CONTACT INFORMATION

Barrington	Town hall phone: 401-247-1900 http://www.ci.barrington.ri.us/
Bristol	Town hall phone: 401-253-7000 http://www.bristolri.us/
Burrillville	Town hall phone: 401-568-4300 http://www.burrillville.org/
Central Falls	City hall phone: 401-727-7400 http://www.centralfallsri.us/
Charlestown	Town hall phone: 401-364-1200 http://www.charlestownri.org/
Coventry	Town hall phone: 401-821-6400 http://www.town.coventry.ri.us/
Cranston	City hall phone: 401-461-1000 http://www.cranstonri.com/
Cumberland	Town hall phone: 401-728-2400 http://www.cumberlandri.org/
East Greenwich	Town hall phone: 401-886-8665 http://www.eastgreenwichri.com/
East Providence	City hall phone: 401-435-7500 http://www.eastprovidenceri.net/
Exeter	Town hall phone: 401-295-7500 http://www.town.exeter.ri.us/
Foster	Town hall phone: 401-392-9200 http://www.ri.gov/towns/view.php?id=12
Glocester	Town hall phone: 401-568-6206 http://www.glocesterri.org/
Hopkinton	Town hall phone: 401-377-7777 http://hopkintonritownhall.com/
Jamestown	Town hall phone: 401-423-7220 http://www.jamestownri.com/
Johnston	Town hall phone: 401-351-6618 http://www.johnston-ri.us/
Lincoln	Town hall phone: 401-333-1100 http://www.lincolnri.com/
Little Compton	Town hall phone: 401-635-4400 http://www.riedc.com/riedc/ri_databank/31/293/
Middletown	Town hall phone: 401-849-5540 http://www.middletownri.com/
Narragansett	Town hall phone: 401-789-1044 http://www.narragansettri.com/townhall/index.ht
New Shoreham	Town hall phone: 401-466-3200 http://www.town.new-shoreham.ri.us/

CITY AND TOWN CONTACT INFORMATION

Newport	City hall phone: 401-846-9600 http://www.cityofnewport.com/
North Kingstown	Town hall phone: 401-294-3331 http://www.northkingstown.org/
North Providence	Town hall phone: 401-232-0900 http://www.riedc.com/riedc/ri_databank/31/263/
North Smithfield	Town hall phone: 401-767-2200 http://www.northsmithfieldri.com/
Pawtucket	City hall phone: 401-728-0500 http://www.pawtucketri.com/
Portsmouth	Town hall phone: 401-683-3255 http://www.portsmouthri.com/
Providence	City hall phone: 401-421-7740 http://www.providenceri.com/
Richmond	Town hall phone: 401-539-2497 http://www.richmondri.com/
Scituate	Town hall phone: 401-647-2822 http://www.scituateri.org/
Smithfield	Town hall phone: 401-233-1000 http://www.smithfieldri.com/
South Kingstown	Town hall phone: 401-789-9331 http://www.southkingstownri.com/
Tiverton	Town hall phone: 401-625-6700 http://www.tiverton.org/
Warren	Town hall phone: 401-245-7340 http://www.townofwarren-ri.gov/
Warwick	City hall phone: 401-738-2000 http://www.warwickri.gov/
West Greenwich	Town hall phone: 401-392-3800 http://www.west-greenwich.ri.us/
West Warwick	Town hall phone: 401-822-9200 http://www.westwarwickri.org/
Westerly	Town hall phone: 401-348-2500 http://www.townofwesterly.com/
Woonsocket	City hall phone: 401-762-6400 http://www.ci.woonsocket.ri.us/

HOUSING

Rhode Island possesses a remarkably diverse range of housing choices, from traditional single family homes to condominium communities and rental apartments. Providence, which boasts one of the most historic collections of homes in the nation, has undergone a residential building boom, with many new rental apartments and condominiums. These developments range from new high-rise towers to revitalized historic mill buildings.

Several of the immediate suburban towns, such as Cranston, Warwick and North Providence, offer a wide range of single and multifamily housing, with easy access to nearby employment and retail centers.

The oceanfront and rural sections of the state contain traditional, historic and executive-style homes and condominiums. Communities such as Newport, Narragansett, Bristol and Little Compton are scenic areas with nearby recreational opportunities.

While the housing market continues to fluctuate across the nation, Rhode Island has maintained local home prices and rents well below those of many other Northeast markets such as Boston, New York or Washington, DC.

Metropolitan Area	Third Quarter 2009 Median Housing Price
New York	\$381,900
Washington, DC	\$324,700
Boston	\$348,000
Providence	\$229,700



Historic Benefit Street – Providence. RI

Source: National Association of Realtors,
<http://www.realtor.org/Research.nsf/Pages/MetroPrice>

The Rhode Island Housing & Mortgage Finance Corp., located in Providence, offers a number of grant and loan products and services to assist with homeownership and rental housing. They can be reached at (401) 457-1234.

The Rhode Island Association of Realtors, located in Warwick, is an excellent resource for real estate information, including on-line searches of the Multiple Listing Service (MLS). The following table lists the number of sales, and the median price, of existing single family homes sold in each Rhode Island community during 2007 and 2008, as reported by the statewide MLS. Further information is available by calling (401) 785-3650.

RI TAX RATES

The table below contains the 2009/2010 municipal tax rates for the 39 cities and towns for Rhode Island. This list was last updated 10/8/2009. Per \$1,000 of Assesed Value. Tax Roll Year 2009 (Assessed 12/31/08) Source: [Department of Municipal Affairs](#)

Municipality	Residential Property			Commercial Real Estate	Motor Vehicle	Retail & Wholesale	Business Personal Prop
	Rate	% Full Val.	Base Yr				
Barrington	\$16.10	100%	2008	\$16.10	\$42.00	\$0.00	\$16.10
Bristol	\$10.37	100%	2007	\$10.37	\$17.35	\$0.00	\$10.37
Burrillville (*#)	\$12.62	100%	2006	\$12.62	\$40.00	\$0.00	\$12.62
Central Falls (h)	\$10.78	100%	2006	\$28.40	\$48.65	0.00	\$58.95
Charlestown (*)	\$7.44	100%	2007	\$7.44	\$13.08	\$0.00	\$7.44
Coventry (*\$)	\$15.46	100%	2007	\$18.63	\$18.75	\$0.00	\$15.46
Cranston	\$19.11	100%	2008	\$28.66	\$42.44	\$0.00	\$28.66
Cumberland (*#)	\$12.81	100%	2007	\$12.81	\$19.87	\$1.99	\$25.62
East Greenwich (*h#)	\$16.64	100%	2008	\$16.64	\$22.88	\$0.00	\$16.64
East Providence (h)	\$15.43	100%	2006	\$19.68	\$37.10	\$0.00	\$46.30
East Side of Prov (h)	\$23.70	100%	2006	\$28.00	\$76.68	\$0.00	\$52.50
Exeter (*#)	\$14.16	100%	2008	\$14.16	\$32.59	\$0.00	\$14.16
Foster	\$17.12	100%	2008	\$17.12	\$36.95	\$0.00	\$23.55
Glocester (*#)	\$17.98	100%	2007	\$20.43	\$24.37	\$0.00	\$35.80
Hopkinton (*)	\$14.79	100%	2005	\$14.79	\$21.18	\$0.00	\$14.79
Jamestown	\$8.11	100%	2006	\$8.11	\$14.42	\$0.00	\$8.11
Johnston	\$19.49	100%	2006	\$19.49	\$41.46	\$0.00	\$57.72
Lincoln (*h#)	\$17.54	100%	2006	\$21.94	\$30.66	\$0.00	\$29.16
Little Compton	\$4.61	100%	2006	\$4.61	\$13.90	\$0.00	\$9.22
Middletown (#)	\$13.24	100%	2008	\$17.61	\$16.05	\$0.00	\$13.24
Narragansett	\$8.58	100%	2008	\$12.87	\$16.46	\$0.00	\$16.46
New Shoreham (#\$)	\$3.58	80%	2006	\$3.58	\$9.75	\$0.00	\$3.58
Newport (h)	\$9.52	100%	2008	\$13.20	\$23.45	\$0.00	\$13.20
North Kingstown (#\$)	\$13.97	100%	2006	\$13.97	\$22.04	\$0.00	\$13.97
North Providence (h)	\$19.65	100%	2007	\$25.60	\$41.95	\$0.00	\$63.75
North Smithfield (#)	\$13.73	100%	2006	\$17.34	\$37.62	\$0.00	\$41.00
Pawtucket	\$17.78	100%	2008	\$23.88	\$53.30	\$0.00	\$52.09
Portsmouth (#)	\$11.27	100%	2007	\$11.27	\$22.50	\$0.00	\$11.27
Providence (h)	\$24.21	100%	2006	\$28.60	\$76.78	\$0.00	\$53.63
Richmond (*)	\$14.94	100%	2007	\$14.94	\$22.64	\$0.00	\$14.94
Scituate	\$24.40	50%	2006	\$32.94	\$30.20	\$0.00	\$36.60
Smithfield	\$13.98	100%	2006	\$13.98	\$39.00	\$0.00	\$51.10
South Kingstown (*)	\$12.09	100%	2006	\$12.09	\$18.71	\$0.00	\$12.09
Tiverton (*)	\$14.35	100%	2008	\$14.35	\$19.14	\$0.00	\$14.35
Warren	\$13.49	100%	2006	\$13.49	\$26.00	\$0.00	\$13.49
Warwick	\$14.14	100%	2006	\$21.21	\$34.60	\$0.00	\$28.28
West Greenwich	\$18.35	100%	2007	\$18.35	\$19.02	\$0.00	\$27.54
West Warwick	\$16.82	100%	2006	\$Varies	\$28.47	\$0.00	\$33.52
Westerly (*)	\$8.87	100%	2006	\$8.87	\$29.67	\$0.00	\$8.87
Woonsocket (h#)	\$22.36	100%	2008	\$33.54	\$46.58	\$0.00	\$46.58

General Offices

The constitution of the State of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations was adopted in 1842, and has been amended 42 times. Five general state offices were established under the Constitution. They are Governor, Lieutenant Governor, Attorney General, Secretary of State and General Treasurer. All state elected officers serve four-year terms. General elections are held on the first Tuesday in November every four years.

His Excellency, Donald L. Carcieri
Governor
222 State House
Providence, RI 02903

Honorable Elizabeth Roberts
Lieutenant Governor
116 State House
Providence, RI 02903

Honorable Frank T. Caprio
General Treasurer
102 State House
Providence, RI 02903

Honorable Patrick Lynch
Attorney General
72 Pine Street
Providence, RI 02903

Honorable Ralph Mollis
Secretary of State
218 State House
Providence, RI 02903

GENERAL ASSEMBLY

Rhode Island's lawmaking body, the General Assembly, consists of a 38-member Senate and a 75-member House of Representatives. Each senator or representative is elected from a Senate or House District. The General Assembly meets annually beginning on the first Tuesday in January. All General Assembly members serve two-year terms. More information on the General Assembly, including district maps, is available on the web at <http://www.rilin.state.ri.us>

UNITED STATES CONGRESS

Rhode Island sends two senators and two representatives to the U. S. Congress.

Senators

Honorable John F. Reed
Federal Courthouse
One Exchange Terrace
Providence, RI 02903

<http://www.senate.gov/~reed>

Honorable Sheldon Whitehouse
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510
202-224-2921

http://www.senate.gov/pagelayout/senators/one_item_and_teasers/whitehouse.htm

Representatives

Honorable Patrick J. Kennedy, 1st District
249 Roosevelt Avenue
Suite 200
Pawtucket, R.I. 02860
(401) 729-5600

<http://patrickkenedy.house.gov/>

Honorable James R. Langevin, 2nd District
The Summit East, Suite 200
300 Centerville Road
Warwick, RI 02886

<http://www.house.gov/langevin/>

STATE ADMINISTRATION

The administration of state government is divided into 12 major departments under the Department of Administration.

• Department of Revenue	• Department of Environmental Management
• Department of Business Regulation	• Department of Health
• Department of Children, Youth & Families	• Department of Human Services
• Department of Corrections	• Department of Labor & Training
• Department of Elderly Affairs	• Department of Mental Health, Retardation and Hospitals
• RI Public Utilities Commission	• Department of Transportation

Four other departments operate under elected state offices: The Office of the Secretary of State, the Office of the Attorney General, the Office of the General Treasurer, and the Executive Office.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

The Rhode Island Economic Development Corporation, located in Providence, is the state's primary economic development agency and offers its business services to existing Rhode Island companies and those considering moving operations to Rhode Island. The agency's phone number is (401) 278-9100. (<http://www.riedc.com>)

In addition, the Quonset Development Corp. manages the on-going redevelopment of the former U.S. Navy installation at Quonset Point in North Kingstown into a world-class business park and recreational area. The agency can be reached at (401) 295-0044. (<http://qdcric.com/>)

JUDICIAL SYSTEM

The Judicial system of the State of Rhode Island consists of the Supreme Court, Superior Court, Family Court, and seven divisions of the District Court. Several of Rhode Island's cities also have municipal courts.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT

Local governments are varied and range from Mayor, administrator or manager and council to town council. Many rural towns continue the traditional New England Town Meeting form of government. In Rhode Island, local communities maintain control in areas such as primary and secondary education, subdivision of land, and zoning. The principal source of municipal revenue is the local property tax.

RESIDENCY

Any United States citizen may become a Rhode Island resident and a resident of a particular city or town by establishing his domicile in this state and that town for 30 days. Voter registration is available after 30 days of residency at the local Board of Canvassers office.

(<http://www.rilin.state.ri.us/BOC/>)

ECONOMY



In 1793, Samuel Slater ignited the Industrial Revolution from Rhode Island by bringing together innovative technologies for creating manufactured goods. For over 200 years, Rhode Island has remained a hotbed of innovation, entrepreneurship, and change.

RIEDC's Every Company Counts is a public/private partnership of more than 170 business development organizations and individuals that connect small businesses to the tools they need to succeed. Every Company Counts offers small businesses streamlined

access to accurate and current information, a network of proven service providers, expert advice and special events and seminars designed to educate, inspire and connect entrepreneurs. Visit www.everycompanycounts.com or call toll-free 888-384-9704 for more information.

In addition to our vital small business community, Rhode Island has several flourishing industries engaged in advanced research, design, manufacturing and services:

- The health and life sciences industry is one of Rhode Island's strongest segments with enormous growth potential. **Amgen**, one of the most prominent biopharmaceutical companies in the world, has invested more than \$1.5 billion here - employing more than 1,500 people in an expanding manufacturing facility.
- Rhode Island has a long history of consumer product manufacturing, dating back to the early 1900s with the textile industry and jewelry industry. Today, Rhode Island is the manufacturing headquarters of many large global consumer product companies, including **CVS, Hasbro, AT Cross** and **Tiffany**, as well as hundreds of other small innovative companies. Our history of design is due in large part to being the home of the **Rhode Island School of Design** which offers undergraduate and graduate courses in design and business. Rhode Island is also the home of the **Center for Design and Business**, a joint venture between RISD and Bryant University which holds an annual conference on business success through design and innovation. (www.centerdesignbusiness.org)
- Rhode Island supports a cluster of world-renowned marine related industries, including boatbuilding and repair, shipbuilding, fishing, aquaculture, marine electronics, and marine trades. Rhode Island is also producing some of the most sophisticated marine and environmental research and development. Defense giants **Electric Boat** and **Raytheon Systems Company** have large research and manufacturing facilities in the state. The **University of Rhode Island, Brown University, Roger Williams University**, and the **Naval Underwater Warfare Center** also contribute to the wealth of marine and defense-related R&D taking place here.
- Home-grown companies such as **Teknor Apex** and **Taco** are shining examples of the 300+ progressive manufacturers with corporate or divisional headquarters here. They are joined by a significant number of foreign companies who have discovered Rhode Island's advantages. High-tech leaders such as French-owned **American Power Conversion** and Italian-owned **GTECH Lottery Systems** are here. International manufacturing companies ranging from Japan's **Toray Plastics (America) Inc.** and Sweden's **Hexagon** to French-owned **Uvex Safety Manufacturing, Inc.** all have major manufacturing facilities in Rhode Island.

TAXES

STATE PERSONAL INCOME TAX

The Rhode Island personal income tax is based on Federal Adjusted Gross Income, but subject to modification. (Certain types of income may be taxable for Federal purposes but exempt from state taxation, or vice versa.) The Rhode Island tax rate is applied after subtracting allowable deductions and exemptions. The State of Rhode Island also allows a number of tax credits to offset the amount of personal income tax due.

As can be see from the table below, Rhode Island has effective tax rate that's slightly lower then some of its neighbors.

Average Annual Income State Ranking List

National

Average Income \$39,527 Federal Tax \$10,406 Effective Tax Rate 13.4%

States	Average Income	Federal Tax	Effective Tax Rate
Connecticut	\$55,340	\$17,580	17.0%
Massachusetts	\$47,960	\$13,290	15.0%
New York	\$44,810	\$13,840	15.0%
New Hampshire	\$42,880	\$10,000	13.0%
Rhode Island	\$38,550	\$9,290	13.0%

<http://www.incometaxlist.com/> (Updated 2008)

For current tax forms, rates and schedules, call the Division of Taxation at 401-574-8829 or visit: <http://www.tax.state.ri.us/taxforms/>

CAPITAL GAINS TAX ELIMINATION

All capital assets purchased prior to January 1, 2002 and sold on or after January 1, 2007, are deemed to have a holding period beginning January 1, 2002. For tax years beginning in 2007, the capital gains rate for assets held more than five (5) years shall be as follows:

- (i) 0.83% of the net capital gain as reported for federal income tax purposes under 26 U.S.C. §1(h)(1)(a) and 26 U.S.C. § 1(h)(1)(b).
- (ii) 1.67% of the net capital gain as reported for federal income tax purposes under 26 U.S.C. §1(h)(1)(c).
- (iii) 2.08% of the net capital gain as reported for federal income tax purposes under 26 U.S.C. §1(h)(1)(d).
- (iv) 2.33% of the net capital gain as reported for federal income tax purposes under 26 U.S.C. §1(h)(1)(e).

ESTATE AND GIFT TAX

Rhode Island's Estate Tax regulations are modeled after the federal law, rules and regulations that were in effect on January 1, 2001. This law allows a general \$675,000.00 exemption to an

estate and an additional exemption of all assets transferred to a spouse. An estate is required to file either Rhode Island Estate Tax Form 100 for estates less than \$675,000.00 or Form 100A for estates in excess of the exemption. There is no Gift Tax in Rhode Island.

SALES AND USE TAX

A 7% tax is generally applied to retail sales of tangible personal property, property purchased out-of-state for use in Rhode Island, to leasing or renting of tangible personal property, utility bills (business and industry only), the first 30 days of rentals of quarters in hotels, rooming houses and tourist camps, and food sold by eating establishments. *Principal exemptions are grocery foods, clothing, boats, airplanes, prescription drugs and patent medicines, water, gas, electric and fuel bills for residential use, professional and occupational services and certain items subject to separate tax.*

MUNICIPAL PROPERTY TAXES

Real estate, motor vehicles and commercial tangible personal property are taxed by each of Rhode Island's 39 municipalities. In 2008-2009, tax rates on residential real estate in the state's 39 cities and towns ranged from \$3.30 to \$23.70 per \$1,000 of assessed valuation. Many local communities offer homestead exemptions that lower the value of real estate that is subject to taxation. There are no other property taxes, with the exception of Fire District Taxes in several rural communities. Intangible property is not taxed. *Boats are exempt* from local property tax.

MOTOR VEHICLES TAX PHASE OUT

Rhode Island law requires that local property taxes on motor vehicles be phased out over eight years beginning in 1999. As of June 2005, the proposed state budget will increase the vehicle tax exemption from \$4,000 to \$5,000 of the assessed value. The state will reimburse municipalities for the lost revenue.

TEMPORARY DISABILITY TAX

Employers are required by the Temporary Disability Insurance Act to deduct 1.5% of the first in wages paid to each Rhode Island worker in calendar year 2009 and remit it to the Department of Employment Security. Temporary Disability Insurance is a worker-financed system that provides for payment of benefits to workers during periods of physician-certified illness or injury that is not related to the worker's job.

(<http://www.dlt.ri.gov/lmi/news/quickref.htm>)

MOTOR FUEL TAX

Gasoline and motor fuel are taxed at a rate set by the Tax Administrator. Effective July 1, 2002, the tax rate is 32¢ per gallon on all taxable fuels sold or used in the state. Distributors must be licensed. The fee for a filling station license, valid indefinitely, is \$5. The fee for a peddler license, valid indefinitely, is \$5. In addition there is an *Environmental Protection Fee* of 1¢ per gallon.

(<http://www.tax.state.ri.us/info/synopsis2004/SYNOPSIS%2004.htm>)

ENERGY RELATED PROPERTY TAX EXEMPTIONS

For local tax purposes, solar, wind, or cogeneration equipment shall not be assessed at more than the value of the conventional heating, cooling, or energy production capacity that would otherwise be necessary to install in the building.

CIGARETTE TAX

Currently, all cigarettes are subject to an excise tax of \$3.46 with an additional 7% sales tax per pack of 20.

DRIVER'S LICENSES & MOTOR VEHICLE REGISTRATION

The Registry of Motor Vehicles has branches across the state. Out-of-state drivers' licenses can be exchanged for a RI license at a cost of \$31.50 for an initial period of two (2) years. Licenses are then renewed for a period of five (5) years. The agency's web site is: <http://www.dmv.state.ri.us/>.

Motor vehicles are registered for two years at a cost of \$60. You will need to bring proof of ownership of your vehicle - your title or an active registration and proof of lienholder with full name and address. Vehicles less than 10 years old must also have a VIN inspection by a local police department **prior to registering**. A current Rhode Island driver's license or current out-of-state license with proof of Rhode Island residency is required. You must have auto insurance with a company that is licensed to insure Rhode Island residents. A safety inspection must be performed within five (5) business days of registering.

Rhode Island's graduated licensing system for teen drivers went into effect in 1999:

Level 1: Limited Instruction Permit	
Requirements:	You may drive a motor vehicle if:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Be 16-18 years old ■ Successfully complete the Rhode Island Driver Education course or its equivalent ■ Pass the state approved written examination 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ The permit holder is in possession of the permit ■ A supervising driver must be seated beside the permit holder in the front seat of the vehicle when it is in motion ■ No person other than the supervising driver may be located in the front seat ■ Every person occupying the vehicle must be properly fastened by a seat belt or child restraint system
Level 2: Limited Provisional License	
Requirements:	You may drive a motor vehicle if:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Must have held a limited instruction permit for at least six months without conviction of motor vehicle moving violation or seat belt infraction ■ Pass the motor vehicle road test 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ The license holder is in possession of the limited provisional license ■ At anytime with a supervising driver seated beside the provisional license holder in the front seat of the vehicle when it is in motion ■ Without supervision from 5:00 a.m. - 1:00 a.m. ■ When driving to or from work ■ When driving to or from an activity of a volunteer fire department, rescue squad, or emergency medical service, if the driver is a member of such organization ■ With no more than one passenger under the age of 21, excluding family members. ■ Every person occupying the vehicle is properly fastened by a seat belt or child restraint system
Level 3: Full Operator's License	
Requirements	You may drive a motor vehicle if:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Must be 17 ½-18 years old ■ Have held a limited provisional license for at least 12 months, without conviction for motor vehicle moving violation or seat belt infraction for six months 	<p>You may drive a motor vehicle without Level 1 and 2 restrictions concerning time of driving, supervision, and passenger limitations.</p>

Source: Community College of Rhode Island, Rhode Island Driver Education Program

EDUCATION

ELEMENTARY AND SECONDARY EDUCATION

Overall responsibility for public education in Rhode Island is delegated to the State Board of Regents and a Commissioner of Education. School committees govern local schools and meet uniform standards set by the Board. All schools provide kindergarten, special education, and transportation. Parochial schools are available in most communities. Proprietary, nursery schools and day care centers are state supervised.

2006 SAT SCORES, BY SCHOOL DISTRICT

DISTRICT	# TEST TAKERS	SAT SCORES			
		MATH	VERBAL	WRITING	TOTAL
RHODE ISLAND	6067	494.04	483.95	478.09	1456.08
Barrington	258	579.69	551.71	543.47	1674.86
Beacon Charter School	10	393.00	426.00	433.00	1252.00
Block Island	7	480.00	508.57	481.43	1470.00
Bristol-Warren	147	493.81	480.00	479.86	1453.67
Burrillville	76	509.21	484.47	484.19	1477.87
Central Falls	70	383.14	373.57	379.00	1135.71
Chariho (Charlestown, Richmond, Hopkinton)	149	533.02	531.88	516.36	1581.26
Coventry	231	492.77	484.63	482.39	1459.79
Cranston	418	515.53	510.17	503.43	1529.13
Cumberland	234	514.10	498.03	494.96	1507.09
Davies Technical	30	491.00	470.67	429.66	1391.32
East Greenwich	153	574.58	556.21	566.37	1697.15
East Providence	246	471.10	460.57	453.99	1385.66
Exeter-W. Greenwich	98	525.00	499.49	498.13	1522.61
Foster-Glocester	124	514.68	502.82	491.20	1508.70
Johnston	97	450.41	448.87	446.81	1346.09
Lincoln	158	534.75	528.99	519.66	1583.40
Metro Career & Tech Ctr	6	426.67	451.67	421.67	1300.00
Middletown	88	497.05	506.02	504.24	1507.30
Narragansett	106	526.42	503.30	504.53	1534.25
Newport	119	500.42	478.74	470.80	1449.96
North Kingstown	297	543.80	533.06	516.22	1593.08
North Providence	121	483.06	473.06	470.50	1426.62
North Smithfield	76	506.58	503.42	498.13	1508.13
Pawtucket	227	455.02	433.48	423.97	1312.47
Portsmouth	184	531.20	522.50	516.57	1570.27
Providence	806	405.38	407.88	402.96	1216.23
RI School For The Deaf	2	370.00	330.00	355.00	1055.00
Scituate	75	512.67	488.80	497.50	1498.97
Smithfield	141	517.45	500.99	484.30	1502.74
South Kingstown	243	538.27	526.54	512.32	1577.13
Times2 Academy	41	399.02	408.29	390.00	1197.32
Tiverton	117	504.62	492.31	485.83	1482.75
Warwick	467	496.70	484.60	485.20	1466.50
West Warwick	105	480.95	482.10	476.99	1440.04
Westerly	178	502.25	492.08	485.93	1480.26
Woonsocket	162	452.35	438.64	444.09	1335.08

Source: Rhode Island Department of Education, <http://www.ride.ri.gov/Applications/fred.aspx> , June 2008

RHODE ISLAND COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES

The Rhode Island Board of Governors for Higher Education governs higher education policy in the state. The agency is located at 80 Washington Street, Providence RI 02903: (401) 465-6000 (<http://www.ribghe.org>)

Rhode Island's institutions of higher learning are widely recognized for their prominence in special areas. Brown University's science, medical, and engineering programs, the Rhode Island School of Design's art and design programs, and the University of Rhode Island's engineering, pharmacy and oceanographic research programs, enjoy high national rankings.



RHODE ISLAND COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES

**RHODE ISLAND COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES
FALL 2005 ENROLLMENT AND 2007-2008 DEGREES AWARDED**

	Total Enrollment Fall 2005	Total Degrees	Certificates / Associate Degrees	Bachelor Degrees	Masters Degrees	Doctorate Degrees
Brown University	8,167	2,165	-	1,542	348	275
Bryant University	3,733	892	1	724	167	-
Community College of RI	16,811	1,384	1,384	-	-	-
Gibbs College	639	231	231	-	-	-
Johnson & Wales University	10,105	3,432	1,463	1,523	409	37
New England Institute of Technology	2,993	997	797	200	-	-
Providence College	5,297	1,198	6	984	208	-
Rhode Island College	9,042	1,536	34	1,246	249	7
Rhode Island School of Design	2,337	661	-	500	161	-
Roger Williams University	4,586	973	22	871	80	-
Roger Williams University School of Law	586	206	-	-	-	206
Salve Regina University	2,689	642	26	474	137	5
University of Rhode Island	15,650	2,837	-	2,201	481	155
Total	82,635	17,154	3,964	10,265	2,240	685
Public	41,503	5,757	1,418	3,447	730	162
Private	41,132	11,397	2,546	6,818	1,510	523

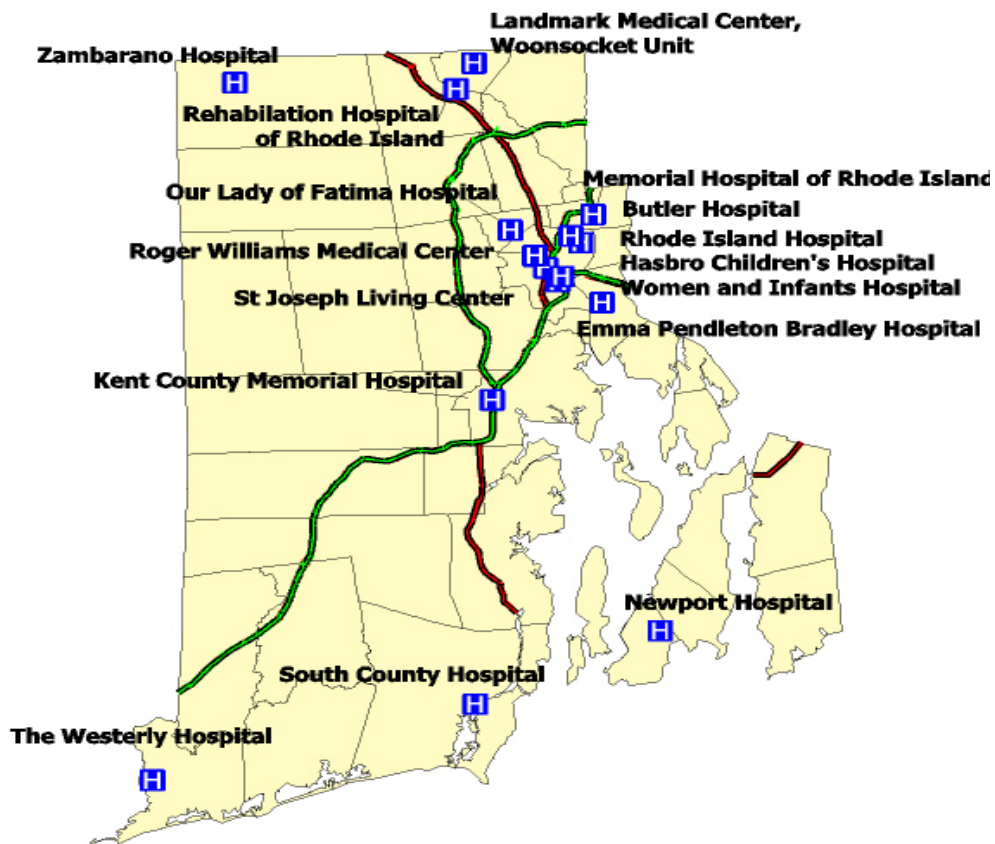
Source: Rhode Island Office of Higher Education (<http://www.ribghe.org>); National Center for Education Statistics; August 2007

HEALTH CARE

Availability and accessibility of health care is a key factor in Rhode Island's quality of life. The State has a long history of leadership and excellence in the field of public health.

HOSPITALS

There are 14 acute general care hospitals, three state operated hospitals, two federal hospitals, and two voluntary psychiatric hospitals in Rhode Island, containing over 3,000 beds, with 40 to 720 each. All acute care general Hospitals are volunteer, approved by the Joint Commission for Accreditation, and are eligible providers under the Medicare programs. Rhode Island hospitals are located in Providence, Pawtucket, Newport, Westerly, Woonsocket, North Providence, North Smithfield, South Kingstown, Warwick, Lincoln, and Central Falls.



NURSING, PERSONAL AND EMERGENCY CARE

There are 174 licensed nursing homes and assisted living residences in Rhode Island, with a total of 13,419 beds. The Department of Human Services operates the Veteran's Home with 260 skilled nursing beds. Most of Rhode Island's cities and towns are serviced by seven regional and citywide community action health care centers. Services range from physician services, family planning, chronic disease screening, and transportation to medical facilities. Ninety municipal, private, and volunteer rescue and ambulance squads respond to all areas of the state. Area hospitals provide fully staffed emergency treatment facilities with 24-hour physician service. Private emergency facilities are located throughout the state.

WEATHER

Narragansett Bay and the Atlantic Ocean play an important role in determining Rhode Island's climate. In winter, Rhode Island's location on the New England coast moderates the colder temperatures, and most precipitation is in the form of rain rather than snow. Summer days that would otherwise be uncomfortably warm are cooled by refreshing sea breezes. Late summer and early fall occasionally bring hurricane watches to the area. Throughout the year, coastal storms produce the most severe weather.

TEMPERATURE

The average for the entire year is near 50 degrees with April through June and September through mid-November being the most moderate seasons. January and February are the coldest months with a mean temperature near 29 degrees, and July and August the warmest, with a mean close to 72 degrees. Freezing temperatures are common the latter part of November to the end of March. Seventy-degree temperatures become common near the end of May and cease with the close of September. During that period, there may be several days of 90 degrees and over, averaging eight such days per year. Generally, the hottest days of summer are in August.

PRECIPITATION

Rhode Island has no regular "rainy" or "dry" season, with precipitation fairly evenly distributed throughout the year on one out of every three days. The annual average is a little more than 42 inches in both rain and snow, but can vary 25 inches to 65 inches. Occasionally droughts are experienced during the summer months. Thunderstorms are responsible for much of the rainfall from May through August.

The first measurable snowfall of winter generally comes toward the end of November but may be as late as January. The last snow of the season is around the middle of March. The month of greatest snowfall is usually February, but January and March are close seconds. It is unusual for the ground to remain covered with snow for any long period of time.

Average Temperature (Degrees F):	Jan. 29.0°	Jul. 72.8°
Annual Rainfall	41.7"	
Annual Snowfall	35.0"	
Total Precipitation (Water)	45.3"	
Average Humidity	Jan. 63.5%	Jul. 56.3%

RHODE ISLAND RELOCATION RESOURCES

IMPORTANT TELEPHONE NUMBERS

Department of Motor Vehicles General Information, Pawtucket	(401) 462-4368
Department of Education General Information, Providence	(401) 222-4600
Division of Taxation, Personal Taxes	(401) 574-8829
Secretary of State, Public Information Center	(401) 222-3983

INTERNET RESOURCES

RI.gov

<http://www.ri.gov>

Official e-government portal for the State of Rhode Island, featuring many online services. Links to local information, elected representatives, state agencies and other resources.

RI Tourism Website

<http://visitrhodeisland.com>

Learn about the wide variety of attractions and activities in the Ocean State, and find resources for planning your trip.

RI Economic Development Corporation

<http://www.riedc.com>

Official site of the state's economic development agency, with local economic, demographic, and business information. Many publications are available online, along with links to city and town websites and other resources in Rhode Island.

Small Business Assistance

<http://www.everycompanycounts.com>

1-888-384-9704

Every Company Counts is a partnership of over forty service providers that assist small businesses in Rhode Island with the information and tools needed to grow.

Rhode Island Association of Realtors

<http://www.riliving.com>

Search for residential and commercial property for sale or lease, keep track of real estate prices and find a Realtor®. Also contains statistics and general information about Rhode Island.

Rhode Island Housing & Mortgage Finance Corp.

<http://www.rihousing.com>

Housing assistance for homebuyers, renters and developers. Provides a wide range of grant and loan products, counseling and referral.

Rhode Island Department of Education

<http://www.ride.net>

Statistics on the Rhode Island school system, directory of school systems and officials, links to other education resources.

The Providence Journal

<http://www.projo.com>

The statewide daily newspaper for Rhode Island. Access news, real estate and employment classifieds, and find out what's going on in Rhode Island today.