

Jobs Requiring College Degrees

Rhode Island's Outlook for 2018

As the state recovers from recession related losses, employment in Rhode Island is projected to increase by nearly 40,000 jobs or 7.8 percent, over the 2008 - 2018 period.

Employment in Rhode Island is projected to grow at all education and skill levels, from jobs requiring on-the-job training to those requiring advanced degrees. During the projection period, it is estimated that employers will need to find workers to fill over 162,000 job openings. Job openings result from the need to replace workers who leave an occupation and from the need to fill vacancies created by business expansion. Nearly 30 percent of the projected job openings are attributed to the economic growth that is expected to occur during the projection period. The remaining job openings are due to replacement needs resulting from employee turnover. Thirty eight percent of the new job growth that is expected during the ten-year projection period is likely to occur among jobs requiring college degrees – Associate, Bachelor's, Master's, Doctoral and Professional degrees.

Occupations requiring an Associate Degree are projected to generating over 900 annual job openings. Median wages for workers in jobs requiring an Associate Degree are \$60,910 a year. Registered Nurses top the list in terms of annual openings, providing more than 400 openings a year at an average annual salary of \$69,472.

Occupations requiring a Bachelor's Degree are expected to add nearly 2,100 jobs each year and will account for 13 percent of the job growth during the projection period. Opportunities are expected for those seeking careers as Elementary & Secondary School Teachers, Accountants & Auditors, Middle School Teachers and Computer Systems Analysts. Median wages for occupations requiring a Bachelor's Degree are \$65,243.

Mental Health & Substance Abuse Social Workers, Physical Therapists and Mental Health Counselors are among the top

growing jobs requiring a Master's degree. Earnings for jobs linked to this degree range from \$30,472 annually for Mental Health Counselors to \$95,620 annually for Postsecondary Business Teachers.

Occupations requiring a Doctoral Degree include those that require the completion of a Ph.D. or other doctoral degrees, which usually require at least three years of full-time academic study beyond the Bachelor's Degree. Medical Scientists (except Epidemiologists), Clinical, Counseling & School Psychologists and Post Secondary Education Teachers are among the growing jobs requiring this degree. Median wages for workers in jobs requiring a Doctoral Degree are \$77,252 annually.

Occupations requiring a Professional Degree in Rhode Island represents less than two percent of our current and projected employment. Over 100 new jobs attributed to economic growth and 177 additional jobs generated through replacement needs are estimated for the ten-year projection period. Lawyers, Pharmacists, Medical Doctors, and Dentists will account for the majority of the projected job openings. Median wages for RI workers with a Professional Degree are \$103,840 annually.

Following is a list of jobs requiring Associate, Bachelor's, Master's, Doctoral or Professional degrees that are expected to be in the most demand. Included for each job are employment levels, projected annual openings and the median hourly or annual wage.

Employment in Jobs Requiring College Degrees

	2008 Estimated Employment	2018 Projected Employment	Annual Openings Due to Growth	Replacement	Total Annual Openings
Total, All Occupations	509,532	549,206	4,772	11,466	16,238
Employment in Jobs Requiring College Degrees	134,207	151,842	1,793	2,638	4,431
Associate degree	25,688	29,874	420	488	908
Bachelor's degree	63,279	71,573	840	1,241	2,081
Bachelor's or higher degree, plus work experience	21,031	22,805	192	454	646
Master's degree	10,098	11,655	154	191	345
Doctoral degree	4,554	5,348	83	87	170
First professional degree	9,557	10,587	104	177	281

Includes wage and salary workers, self-employed, unpaid family members, agricultural, and private household workers.

Jobs Requiring an Associate Degree

Occupational Title	Employment		Annual Openings			Median Wage
	2008	2018	Growth	Replacement	Total	
Registered Nurses	12,446	14,772	233	205	438	\$33.40
Computer Support Specialists	1,708	1,900	19	53	72	\$20.94
Legal Secretaries	1,311	1,471	16	21	37	\$18.36
Paralegals and Legal Assistants	983	1201	22	13	35	\$22.69
Veterinary Technologists and Technicians	470	670	20	14	34	\$15.60
Dental Hygienists	771	926	16	15	31	\$33.80
Radiologic Technologists and Technicians	1,202	1,347	15	16	31	\$28.86
Medical Records and Health Information Technicians	769	861	9	21	30	\$16.65
Environmental Science and Protection Technicians, Including Health	236	319	8	9	17	\$20.17
Respiratory Therapists	408	482	7	6	13	\$27.56
Medical and Clinical Laboratory Technicians	423	470	5	6	11	\$27.25
Physical Therapist Assistants	300	370	7	4	11	\$24.00
Electrical and Electronic Engineering Technicians	510	503	0	10	10	\$26.62
Mechanical Engineering Technicians	298	313	2	6	8	\$18.56
Chemical Technicians	214	224	1	7	8	\$18.98
Medical Equipment Repairers	187	221	3	5	8	\$21.39
Funeral Directors	207	222	2	5	7	\$38.85
Civil Engineering Technicians	325	337	1	6	7	\$23.76
Interior Designers	224	238	1	6	7	\$22.45
Diagnostic Medical Sonographers	232	269	4	3	7	\$34.97
Industrial Engineering Technicians	203	227	2	4	6	\$21.74
Cardiovascular Technologists and Technicians	153	185	3	2	5	\$23.59
Occupational Therapist Assistants	148	181	3	2	5	\$24.71

Jobs Requiring a Bachelor's Degree and Work Experience

Occupational Title	Employment		Annual Openings			Median Wage
	2008	2018	Growth	Replacement	Total	
General & Operations Managers	5,511	5,429	0	133	133	\$48.24
Management Analysts	2,508	3,147	64	43	107	\$32.84
Financial Managers	2,346	2,598	25	34	59	\$48.82
Computer & Information Systems Managers	1,140	1,328	19	18	37	\$53.93
Marketing Managers	938	1,083	15	21	36	\$40.78
Chief Executives	1,182	1,138	0	32	32	\$77.27*
Medical & Health Services Managers	894	1,000	11	17	28	\$45.60*
Education Administrators, Elementary & Secondary School	771	823	5	22	27	\$94,470
Education Administrators, Postsecondary	550	625	8	15	23	\$44.27
Sales Managers	762	799	4	17	21	\$54.78
Administrative Services Managers	619	673	5	16	21	\$45.49
Training & Development Specialists	485	555	7	10	17	\$26.77
Engineering Managers	458	511	5	9	14	\$55.73
Public Relations Managers	311	353	4	7	11	\$48.94
Producers & Directors	308	328	2	9	11	\$30.42

These jobs require the completion of a Bachelor's Degree or higher plus work related experience.

*May 2009 National Occupational Employment and Wage Estimates figure.

** Indicates a wage greater than \$70.00 per hour or \$145,600 per year

Jobs Requiring a Bachelor's Degree

Occupational Title	Employment		Annual Growth	Annual Openings		Median Wage
	2008	2018		Replacement	Total	
Accountants & Auditors	4,576	5,298	72	81	153	\$29.63
Secondary School Teachers, Except Special & Vocational Education	4,052	4,277	23	121	144	\$66,250
Elementary School Teachers, Except Special Education	4,017	4,542	53	88	141	\$69,850
Computer Systems Analysts	1,613	2,046	43	43	86	\$39.63
Middle School Teachers, Except Special & Vocational Education	2,324	2,574	25	51	76	\$66,160
Computer Software Engineers, Applications	1,032	1,469	44	15	59	\$41.83
Child, Family, & School Social Workers	1,737	1,932	20	37	57	\$25.64
Computer Software Engineers, Systems Software	1,250	1,613	36	18	54	\$42.75
Network & Computer Systems Administrators	984	1,210	23	23	46	\$33.41
Special Education Teachers, Preschool, Kindergarten, & Elementary School	1,116	1,324	21	25	46	\$67,130
Network Systems & Data Communications Analysts	712	1,002	29	15	44	\$34.42
Loan Officers	1,361	1,569	21	15	36	\$31.59
Insurance Sales Agents	1,048	1,148	10	23	33	\$28.45
Property, Real Estate, & Association Managers	1,374	1,499	13	19	32	\$31.35
Employment, Recruitment, & Placement Specialists	790	939	15	17	32	\$25.38
Computer Programmers	1,476	1,445	0	31	31	\$32.78
Securities, Commodities, & Financial Sales Agents	937	999	6	24	30	\$29.63
Civil Engineers	656	775	12	17	29	\$38.55
Graphic Designers	840	896	6	22	28	\$22.85
Financial Analysts	926	1,149	22	5	27	\$29.52
Personal Financial Advisors	756	953	20	7	27	\$31.01
Electronics Engineers, Except Computer	1,137	1,129	0	26	26	\$52.48
Mechanical Engineers	1,060	1,080	2	23	25	\$41.16
Public Relations Specialists	1,202	1,363	16	9	25	\$25.76
Construction Managers	885	978	9	14	23	\$50.44
Cost Estimators	593	701	11	12	23	\$28.38
Graduate Teaching Assistants	554	679	13	9	22	-----
Social & Community Service Managers	604	697	9	12	21	\$36.89
Industrial Engineers	462	537	8	11	19	\$36.72
Special Education Teachers, Secondary School	565	609	4	13	17	\$68,800
Medical & Public Health Social Workers	483	541	6	10	16	\$26.61
Special Education Teachers, Middle School	419	484	7	9	16	\$66,490
Commercial & Industrial Designers	556	561	1	15	16	\$27.68
Electrical Engineers	462	504	4	11	15	\$39.74
Substance Abuse & Behavioral Disorder Counselors	300	392	9	6	15	\$18.05
Kindergarten Teachers, Except Special Education	494	568	7	8	15	\$69,700
Medical & Clinical Laboratory Technologists	611	648	4	9	13	\$29.93
Architects, Except Landscape & Naval	321	382	6	6	12	\$38.01
Computer Hardware Engineers	256	297	4	8	12	\$42.55
Compensation, Benefits, & Job Analysis Specialists	337	381	4	7	11	\$27.02
Appraisers & Assessors of Real Estate	400	431	3	8	11	\$25.23
Surveyors	179	224	5	6	11	\$26.66

Jobs Requiring a Master's Degree

Occupational Title	Employment		Annual Openings			Median Wage
	2008	2018	Growth	Replacement	Total	
Mental Health & Substance Abuse Social Workers	1,516	1,760	24	32	56	\$23.76
Physical Therapists	858	1,034	18	10	28	\$37.22
Mental Health Counselors	532	671	14	11	25	\$14.65
Librarians	702	747	5	19	24	\$27.06
Educational, Vocational, & School Counselors	718	795	8	14	22	\$31.44
English Language & Literature Teachers, Postsecondary	433	531	10	7	17	\$66,930
Clergy	663	720	6	9	15	\$18.63
Environmental Scientists & Specialists, Including Health	313	369	6	8	14	\$31.25
Art, Drama, & Music Teachers, Postsecondary	343	427	8	6	14	\$74,150
Occupational Therapists	508	578	7	7	14	\$33.32
Business Teachers, Postsecondary	301	368	7	5	12	\$95,620
Speech-Language Pathologists	480	511	3	9	12	\$34.81
Mathematical Science Teachers, Postsecondary	251	306	6	4	10	\$85,110
Instructional Coordinators	321	383	6	4	10	\$27.29
Health Specialties Teachers, Postsecondary	229	280	5	4	9	-----

Jobs Requiring a Doctoral Degree

Occupational Title	Employment		Annual Openings			Median Wage
	2008	2018	Growth	Replacement	Total	
Clinical, Counseling, & School Psychologists	649	694	5	10	15	\$36.14
Education Teachers, Postsecondary	327	403	8	6	14	\$69,040
Medical Scientists, Except Epidemiologists	281	317	4	9	13	\$29.36
Biochemists & Biophysicists	260	326	7	5	12	\$39.61*
Nursing Instructors & Teachers, Postsecondary	271	331	6	5	11	\$70,190
Computer & Information Scientists, Research	353	352	0	9	9	\$50.02
Psychology Teachers, Postsecondary	168	206	4	3	7	\$78,570
History Teachers, Postsecondary	178	218	4	3	7	\$85,490
Engineering Teachers, Postsecondary	139	170	3	2	5	\$104,270
Biological Science Teachers, Postsecondary	131	161	3	2	5	\$70,140
Political Science Teachers, Postsecondary	115	141	3	2	5	\$90,860

Jobs Requiring a Professional Degree

Occupational Title	Employment		Annual Openings			Median Wage
	2008	2018	Growth	Replacement	Total	
Lawyers	2,711	2,979	27	51	78	\$50.05
Pharmacists	1,125	1,392	27	20	47	\$48.69
Family & General Practitioners	649	694	5	12	17	\$76.83
Dentists, General	669	696	3	13	16	\$68.31*
Veterinarians	306	403	10	6	16	\$44.83
Internists, General	620	656	4	11	15	\$76.99
Surgeons	409	433	2	7	9	-----
Obstetricians & Gynecologists	233	259	3	4	7	-----
Pediatricians, General	235	254	2	4	6	\$76.10
Podiatrists	132	138	1	5	6	\$55.89*

* May 2009 National Occupational Employment and Wage Estimates.

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