



## Rhode Island Department of Labor & Training Greater Rhode Island Workforce Investment Area



The Greater Rhode Island Workforce Investment Area (WIA) encompasses all cities and towns in Rhode Island with the exception of Providence and Cranston. The Greater Rhode Island WIA had a combined estimated population of 794,138 in 2010. This represented a 0.2 percent (-1,294) decrease in estimated total population between Census 2000 and Census 2010. In comparison, the state's population as a whole increased by 4,248 residents (+0.4%) during this period. Approximately 75.4 percent of all Rhode Islanders lived in the Greater Rhode Island WIA in April 2010.

Between 2000 and 2010, the labor force of Greater Rhode Island increased by 25,596 people (+6.0%). During this period, resident employment declined by 8,230 (-2.0%), while the number of unemployed in the area increased by 33,826 (+199.1%). Greater Rhode Island had an annual average unemployment rate of 11.2 percent for 2010, slightly lower than the statewide annual average unemployment rate of 11.6 percent.

	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2000 - 2010 Change	2000 - 2010 % Change
Labor Force	426,940	428,626	435,485	443,209	436,284	441,514	448,980	451,251	448,110	445,599	452,536	25,596	6.0%
Employment	409,949	410,101	414,247	420,380	414,314	420,130	427,254	428,696	415,175	397,294	401,719	-8,230	-2.0%
Unemployment	16,991	18,525	21,238	22,829	21,970	21,384	21,726	22,555	32,935	48,305	50,817	33,826	199.1%
Unemployment Rate	4.0	4.3	4.9	5.2	5.0	4.8	4.8	5.0	7.3	10.8	11.2	7.2	---

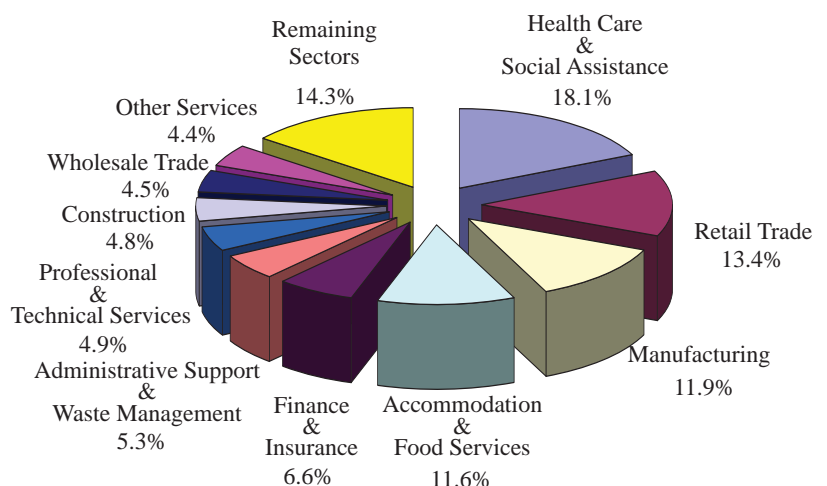
Public and private sector employment located in the Greater Rhode Island WIA averaged 307,939 in 2010, accounting for 68.9 percent of all Ocean State employment. Private sector employment averaged 268,851 in 2010, representing 87.3 percent of the employment in Greater Rhode Island. Within the private sector, the Health Care & Social Assistance sector (18.1%) accounted for the most jobs, followed by Retail Trade (13.4%), Manufacturing (11.9%), Accommodation & Food Services (11.6%), Finance & Insurance (6.6%) and Administrative Support & Waste Management Services (5.3%).

Overall, Greater Rhode Island lost 9,431 private sector jobs between 2002 and 2010, a 3.4 percent decrease that was slightly better than the 4.2 percent (-17,074) loss experienced statewide. The largest gains occurred in Health Care and Social Assistance (+6,088), Management of Companies (+2,782), and Professional, Scientific & Technical Services (+1,638).

Notable job growth was also reported in Administrative & Waste Services (+1,571), Accommodation & Food Services (+1,349), and Educational Services (+1,290).

Public sector employment increased by 800 (+2.1%) jobs between 2002 and 2010, due mainly to gains in the local government segment.

**Total Private Sector Employment in the  
Greater Rhode Island WIA by Industry Sector**



On a percentage basis, industry sector job growth in Greater Rhode Island generally outpaced statewide growth. Employment in the Arts, Entertainment & Recreation sector grew by 8.2 percent between 2002 and 2010, compared to the 6.4 percent experienced in the Ocean State. The Accommodation & Food Services sector increased their total employment by 4.5%, while the growth rate experienced statewide in this industry was slight lower (3.6%). Similarly, the rate of job growth in the Greater Rhode Island Finance & Insurance (3.7%) sector was greater than the state, which experienced a 6.1 percent decline. In contrast, the Educational Services (+22.0%) and Health Care & Social Assistance (+14.3%) sectors were the only area sectors to report job growth below that of the statewide average (+22.9% and +14.8%, respectively) between 2002 and 2010.

Mirroring the statewide trend, Manufacturing firms in Greater Rhode Island shed over 15,000 jobs between 2002 and 2010. Manufacturing jobs currently account for 11.9 percent of total private sector employment in the area, down from 17 percent in 2002. Manufacturing experienced the largest employment loss on a percentage basis, losing -32.2 percent of its area workforce between 2002 and 2010. Retail Trade (-4,694), Construction (-1,919), and Information (-1,097) sectors also reported significant job losses over this time period.

Of the private industry sectors that reported job losses in Greater Rhode Island between 2002 and 2010, most experienced percentage declines smaller than the state as a whole. For example, local Manufacturing employment dipped by 32.2 percent during this period, while throughout Rhode Island, Manufacturing firms shed 35.1 percent of their employment. Likewise, Transportation sector jobs in the area fell by 2.6 percent, while the state as a whole lost 6.0 percent of this sector's employment. Also, Wholesale firms in Greater Rhode Island shed just 0.6 percent of their employment compared to a statewide decline of 3.6 percent.

In addition, Management of Companies employment in Greater Rhode Island increased by 58.2 percent, while the Ocean State as a whole increased industry sector employment by 45.4 percent. Similarly, the area's Professional, Scientific & Technical Services employment in Greater Rhode Island rose 14.1 percent between 2002 and 2010, compared to a 10.3 percent increase statewide.

The 2010 annual average private sector wage was \$41,235 in Greater Rhode Island, \$1,295 (-3.0%) lower than the statewide private sector average of \$42,530. Management of Companies led all of Greater Rhode Island's economic sectors with an annual average wage of \$101,348, followed by Utilities (\$79,997), Finance & Insurance (\$69,438), Wholesale Trade (\$65,337), and Professional & Technical Services (\$61,618). The lowest annual average wages were reported in Accommodation & Food Services (\$15,763), Arts, Entertainment & Recreation (\$23,985), and Retail Trade (\$27,665), industry sectors that generally rely upon part-time help and require limited previous work experience and skill sets.

## Greater Rhode Island WIA Covered Employment

### Annual Average Employment

2002-2010

	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	Change %	Change
Total, Private Sector & Government	316,572	319,920	325,899	328,457	330,790	330,715	323,484	308,903	307,939	(8,633)	-2.7%
Total, Private Sector only	278,282	280,845	285,244	288,385	290,304	290,490	283,352	269,224	268,851	(9,431)	-3.4%
Construction	14,780	16,018	16,529	17,141	17,991	17,749	16,191	13,727	12,861	(1,919)	-13.0%
Manufacturing	47,310	45,275	44,488	43,112	41,382	40,177	38,019	33,084	32,077	(15,233)	-32.2%
Wholesale Trade	12,296	12,304	12,191	12,644	12,838	12,914	12,756	12,265	12,217	(79)	-0.6%
Retail Trade	40,834	40,733	41,105	40,831	40,101	39,935	38,400	36,524	36,140	(4,694)	-11.5%
Transportation & Warehousing	7,678	7,976	7,876	7,854	7,921	8,119	8,054	7,461	7,479	(199)	-2.6%
Information	5,786	5,528	5,581	5,328	5,305	4,889	5,231	4,764	4,689	(1,097)	-19.0%
Finance & Insurance	17,229	17,400	18,115	18,706	19,518	19,476	18,686	17,683	17,871	642	3.7%
Real Estate & Rental & Leasing	4,159	4,270	4,559	4,716	4,705	4,594	4,427	4,149	3,899	(260)	-6.3%
Professional, Scientific & Technical Svcs.	11,598	11,914	12,598	13,255	13,671	13,314	13,291	13,196	13,236	1,638	14.1%
Management of Companies	4,784	5,593	6,017	6,483	7,028	7,170	7,168	7,186	7,566	2,782	58.2%
Administrative & Waste Services	12,547	12,599	13,916	14,152	14,462	14,556	14,398	13,628	14,118	1,571	12.5%
Educational Services	5,871	6,235	6,395	6,708	6,859	7,001	6,915	7,191	7,161	1,290	22.0%
Health Care & Social Assistance	42,485	43,343	44,183	45,454	46,789	47,861	47,910	48,036	48,573	6,088	14.3%
Arts, Entertainment & Recreation	5,839	6,021	6,027	6,073	6,308	6,725	6,661	6,449	6,319	480	8.2%
Accommodation & Food Services	29,965	30,794	31,360	31,469	31,429	31,875	31,544	30,613	31,314	1,349	4.5%
Other Services	11,483	11,685	12,226	12,258	12,095	12,443	12,192	11,810	11,877	394	3.4%
Government	38,290	39,075	40,656	40,074	40,487	40,224	40,133	39,679	39,089	800	2.1%

Employment changes may be influenced by non-economic code changes resulting from industry revisions and/or changes in employers' reporting methods.  
Data is subject to revision and may not add due to rounding.

At years end, 58.5 percent of the 17,894 individuals collecting unemployment insurance benefits in the state were residents of the Greater Rhode Island WIA.

Numbering 10,472, these “insured unemployed” workers accounted for 21.9 percent of all unemployed Greater Rhode Island area residents..

In comparison, 28.6 percent of unemployed Rhode Island residents were eligible to collect unemployment insurance benefits in December 2010.

Long-term unemployed, that is, unemployment spells of fifteen weeks or longer, was slightly lower (24.3%) among Greater Rhode Island area residents than in the state (24.9%) as a whole. Workers 65 or over and between the ages of 60 and 64 living in the Greater Rhode Island area were less likely to face long-term unemployment (29.6% and 29.1%, respectively) than their counterparts statewide (30.4% and 31.1%, respectively).

Nearly 25 percent of the Greater Rhode Island area residents collecting unemployment insurance benefits were between the ages of 45 and 54, and an additional 22.3 percent were between 25 and 34 years of age.

Nearly one-quarter of the unemployed Greater Rhode Island residents collecting benefits in December 2010 were previously employed as Office & Administrative Support (15.0%) or Management (9.4%) workers and over one-third were previously employed by Construction (15.6%), Accommodation & Food Services (11.9%) or Administrative & Waste Services (11.4%) establishments. Over one-third of the Finance & Insurance (40.2%), Health Care & Social Assistance (38.1%) and Manufacturing (33.4%) sector employees had been unemployed for fifteen weeks or longer.

## Characteristics of the Insured Unemployed Living in the Greater RI WIA December 2010

	Total	Percent of Total	Long-Term	Percent Long -Term
Total	10,472	100.0%	2,543	24.3%
Male	6,076	58.0%	1,148	18.9%
Female	4,396	42.0%	1,395	31.7%
Age	10,472	100.0%	2,543	24.3%
Under 24	990	9.5%	177	17.9%
25 - 34	2,339	22.3%	515	22.0%
35 - 44	2,260	21.6%	547	24.2%
45 - 54	2,574	24.6%	645	25.1%
55 - 59	1,015	9.7%	280	27.6%
60 - 64	729	7.0%	212	29.1%
65 or over	565	5.4%	167	29.6%
Education	10,472	100.0%	2,543	24.3%
Less than 9th grade	330	3.2%	64	19.4%
9th to 12th, no diploma	905	8.6%	168	18.6%
High School Graduate	4,368	41.7%	990	22.7%
Some College	2,381	22.7%	590	24.8%
Bachelor’s Degree	1,050	10.0%	291	27.7%
Beyond Bachelor’s	1,177	11.2%	358	30.4%
Unknown	261	2.5%	82	31.4%
Industry	10,472	100.0%	2,543	24.3%
Construction	1,633	15.6%	193	11.8%
Manufacturing	1,023	9.8%	342	33.4%
Administrative & Waste Services	1,190	11.4%	145	12.2%
Retail Trade	847	8.1%	260	30.7%
Accommodation & Food Services	1,246	11.9%	196	15.7%
Health Care & Social Assistance	923	8.8%	352	38.1%
Finance & Insurance	473	4.5%	190	40.2%
Wholesale Trade	417	4.0%	136	32.6%
Arts, Entertainment & Recreation	398	3.8%	33	8.3%
Professional & Tech. Services	424	4.0%	134	31.6%
All Other Industries	1,898	18.1%	562	29.6%
Occupations	10,472	100.0%	2,543	24.3%
Office & Administrative Support	1,568	15.0%	515	32.8%
Management	989	9.4%	261	26.4%
Production	885	8.5%	246	27.8%
Construction & Extraction	748	7.1%	100	13.4%
Building & Grounds Cleaning & Maint.	710	6.8%	44	6.2%
Food Preparation & Serving Related	912	8.7%	133	14.6%
Transportation & Material Moving	609	5.8%	133	21.8%
Sales & Related	577	5.5%	185	32.1%
Installation, Maintenance & Repair	321	3.1%	71	22.1%
Business & Financial Operations	280	2.7%	74	26.4%
Education, Training & Library	269	2.6%	162	60.2%
Arts, Design, Ent., Sports & Media	119	1.1%	22	18.5%
Healthcare Support	239	2.3%	86	36.0%
Personal Care & Service	220	2.1%	60	27.3%
Healthcare Practitioner & Technical	175	1.7%	65	37.1%
Computer & Mathematical	147	1.4%	36	24.5%
Architecture & Engineering	107	1.0%	26	24.3%
All Other Industries	1,597	15.3%	324	20.3%

According to the 2010 American Community Survey (ACS), Whites account for 88.4 percent of Greater RI's household population compared to roughly 81.4 percent of the state's total household population.

Nearly seven percent of Greater RI residents are of Hispanic or Latino origin, while Hispanics/Latinos make up approximately 12.4 percent of the state's total household population.

The ACS indicates 27.9 percent of Greater RI's household population (age 25 and older) have a high school diploma or equivalent, 19.5 percent have some college-level courses, and 38.5 percent have an associate degree or higher. The percentage of Greater Rhode Island residents without a high school diploma (14.1%) is lower than the statewide percentage of 16.5 percent.

The most recent data on commuting patterns (Census 2000) show that nearly 81 percent of greater RI residents held jobs that were located in the Greater Rhode Island WIA.

Approximately 84.5 percent of Greater Rhode Island residents worked within Rhode Island borders, while 12 percent commuted to a job in neighboring Massachusetts and about 3 percent traveled to a job in Connecticut.

Approximately 89.3 percent of the jobs located in the Greater Rhode Island WIA were held by individuals residing in the WIA. Rhode Islanders held roughly 92 percent of the jobs located in Greater Rhode Island, while Massachusetts and Connecticut residents accounted for 6.7 percent and 1.1 percent, respectively, of Greater Rhode Island's workforce.

<b>Greater RI WIA</b>		
<b>Race &amp; Ethnicity, 2010</b>		
<b>Total Population</b>	<b>794,138</b>	<b>100.0%</b>
One race (of any origin)	773,119	97.4%
White	702,388	88.4%
Black or African American	27,406	3.5%
American Indian and Alaska Native	3,390	0.4%
Asian	14,921	1.9%
Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander	281	0.0%
Some other race	24,733	3.1%
Two or more races (of any origin)	21,019	2.6%
Hispanic or Latino (of any race)	54,111	6.8%
<b>Educational Attainment, 2010</b>		
<b>Total Population (Age 25+)</b>	<b>554,578</b>	<b>100.0%</b>
Less than 9th grade	29,882	5.4%
9th to 12th grade, no diploma	48,430	8.7%
High school graduate (includes equivalency)	154,735	27.9%
Some college, no degree	108,093	19.5%
Associate's degree	42,372	7.6%
Bachelor's degree	104,054	18.8%
Graduate or professional degree	67,012	12.1%

Source: American Community Survey, 2010

<b>Where Greater Rhode Island WIA Residents Work</b>			<b>Where Greater Rhode Island WIA Residents Live</b>		
<b>Total</b>	<b>387,745</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>313,172</b>	<b>100.0%</b>
Providence	56,500	14.6%	Warwick	28,014	8.9%
Warwick	37,235	9.6%	Providence	19,279	6.2%
Pawtucket	20,280	5.2%	Pawtucket	17,807	5.7%
Newport	19,290	5.0%	Cranston	14,312	4.6%
Cranston	17,794	4.6%	Coventry	13,012	4.2%
East Providence	15,863	4.1%	East Providence	12,547	4.0%
South Kingstown	14,002	3.6%	Newport	12,455	4.0%
Woonsocket	12,759	3.3%	South Kingstown	11,059	3.5%
North Kingstown	10,603	2.7%	Woonsocket	10,612	3.4%
Lincoln	9,766	2.5%	West Warwick	10,588	3.4%
Other Communities	173,653	44.8%	Other Communities	163,487	52.2%
<b>Greater Rhode Island WIA Residents Work in the State of:</b>			<b>Greater Rhode Island WIA Workers Live in the State of:</b>		
<b>Total</b>	<b>387,745</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>313,172</b>	<b>100.0%</b>
Rhode Island	327,765	84.5%	Rhode Island	287,062	91.7%
Massachusetts	46,824	12.1%	Massachusetts	21,078	6.7%
Connecticut	10,654	2.7%	Connecticut	3,315	1.1%
Other State/Country	2,502	0.6%	Other State/Country	1,717	0.5%

Source: US Census Bureau, Census 2000