



Rhode Island Department of Labor & Training

Providence/Cranston

Workforce Investment Area



The Providence/Cranston Workforce Investment Area (WIA) includes the capital city of Providence and the state's third largest city, Cranston. Together, these two cities had a combined estimated population of 252,922 in July 2007. This represented a -0.2% decrease (-391) in estimated total population between July 2000 and July 2007. In comparison, the state's population as a whole grew by an estimated 0.7 percent during this period. Approximately 24.0 percent of all Rhode Islanders lived in the Providence/Cranston WIA in July 2007.

Between 2000 and 2007, the labor force of Providence/Cranston increased by 6,842 people (+5.9%). During this period, resident employment grew by 5,326 (+4.8%), while the number of unemployed in the area increased by 1,516 (+26.8%). Providence/Cranston had an annual average unemployment rate of 5.8 percent for 2007, notably higher than the statewide annual average unemployment rate of 5.0 percent.

Providence - Cranston WIA Annual Average Labor Force Statistics

Not Seasonally Adjusted

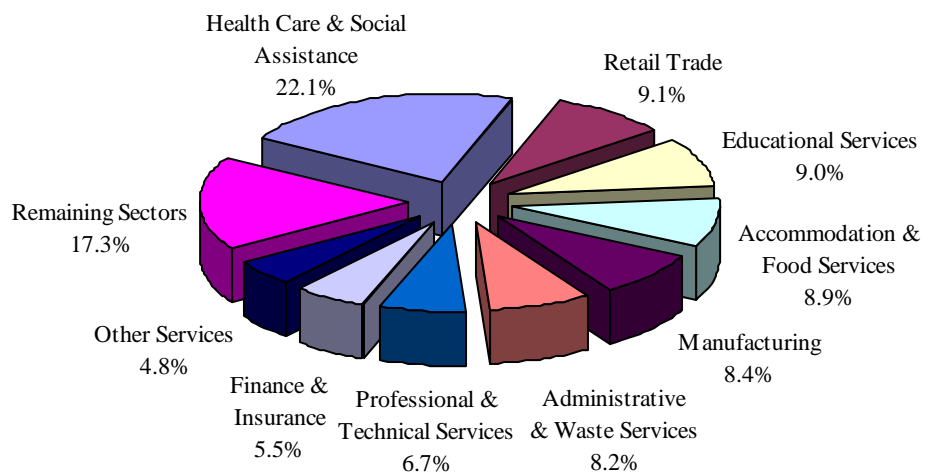
	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2000 - 2007	
									Change	% Change
Labor Force	116,464	116,836	118,306	120,372	119,240	120,675	122,944	123,306	6,842	5.9%
Employment	110,809	110,577	111,474	112,886	112,148	113,543	115,668	116,135	5,326	4.8%
Unemployment	5,655	6,259	6,832	7,486	7,092	7,132	7,276	7,171	1,516	26.8%
Unemployment Rate	4.9	5.4	5.8	6.2	5.9	5.9	5.9	5.8	0.9	---

With an annual average of 149,517 private sector and government jobs in 2007, Providence/Cranston-based employers accounted for 31.1 percent of all Ocean State employment. Over 22 percent of all private sector employment in the WIA was in the Health Care & Social Assistance industry sector, followed by Retail Trade (9.1%), Educational Services (9.0%), Accommodation & Food Services (8.9%), Manufacturing (8.4%), and Administrative Support & Waste Management (8.2%).

Overall, 2,881 private sector jobs were lost in the Providence/Cranston area between 2000 and 2007, a 2.2 percent decline that contrasted with the 3.2 percent (+12,758) growth experienced statewide. Despite this loss, local employment gains occurred in several economic sectors, with the largest growth reported in Health Care & Social Assistance (+2,592) and Educational Services (+2,372). More than 62 percent of the state's Educational Services jobs were located in Providence/Cranston in 2007.

Notable job growth was also reported in Accommodation & Food Services (+1,327), Professional, Scientific & Technical Services (+1,213), and Management of Companies (+614).

Total Private Sector Employment in the Providence/Cranston WIA by Industry Sector



A Product of the

Labor Market Information Unit - Rhode Island Department of Labor and Training

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On a percentage basis, industry sector job growth in Providence/Cranston generally lagged behind statewide growth. Employment in the Management of Companies sector grew by 36.9 percent between 2000 and 2007, significantly less than industry sector growth throughout the Ocean State (+57.2%). Construction firms in the area increased their total employment by 3.2%, a rate of growth well below the 22.7% experienced statewide in this industry sector. Similarly, the rate of job growth in the Providence/Cranston's Professional, Scientific & Technical Services (+16.7%) sector was below that of the state (17.1%). On a more positive note, local job growth in Educational Services (+26.0%) and Accommodation & Food Services (+13.3%) outpaced industry sector job growth throughout Rhode Island (+24.4% and +9.6%, respectively) between 2000 and 2007.

As was the trend statewide, Manufacturing firms in Providence/Cranston shed over 5,700 jobs between 2000 and 2007. Manufacturing jobs currently account for 8.4 percent of total private sector employment in the area, down from 12.6 percent in 2000. Significant job losses were also reported in Administrative & Waste Services (-2,049), Finance & Insurance (-1,391), Information (-854), and Wholesale Trade (-574). Transportation & Warehousing (-259), Utilities (-143), and Arts, Entertainment & Recreation (-104) firms also shed employment during this period.

Of the private industry sectors that reported job losses in Providence/Cranston between 2000 and 2007, most experienced percentage declines greater than the state as a whole. For example, local Manufacturing employment dipped by 35.1 percent during this period, while throughout Rhode Island, Manufacturing firms shed 28.5 percent of their employment. Likewise, Utilities sector jobs in the area fell by 19.8 percent, while the state as a whole lost 19.0 percent of this sector's employment. Also, Administrative & Waster Services firms in Providence/Cranston shed 16.5 percent of their employment compared to a statewide decline of just 4.2 percent.

In addition, Finance & Insurance employment in Providence/Cranston dropped by 16.5 percent, while the Ocean State as a whole increased industry sector employment by 14.2 percent. Similarly, local Wholesale Trade employment fell by 11.8 percent between 2000 and 2007, but increased by 4.2 percent statewide.

In 2007, Providence/Cranston's annual average private sector wage was \$43,110. This was \$3,283 higher than the statewide private sector average of \$39,827. Management of Companies & Enterprises led all of Providence/Cranston's economic sectors with an annual average wage of \$117,177, followed by Utilities (\$71,980), Finance & Insurance (\$71,746), and Professional & Technical Services (\$64,325). The lowest annual average wages were reported in Accommodation & Food Services (\$16,750), Arts, Entertainment & Recreation (\$20,466), and Retail Trade (\$24,202) - industry sectors that generally rely upon part-time help and require limited previous work experience and skill sets.

Providence/Cranston WIA Covered Employment

		Annual Average Employment								2000 - 2007	
		2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	Change	% Change
Total, Private Sector & Government		156,001	155,874	151,880	152,638	150,458	149,207	149,799	149,517	(6,484)	-4.2%
Total, Private Sector only		130,119	129,371	125,797	126,897	126,965	126,522	127,402	127,238	(2,881)	-2.2%
22	Utilities	725	774	649	679	586	526	583	582	(143)	-19.8%
23	Construction	4,229	4,453	4,537	4,771	4,478	4,583	4,812	4,364	135	3.2%
31-33	Manufacturing	16,374	15,951	14,849	13,135	12,366	11,900	11,344	10,633	(5,741)	-35.1%
42	Wholesale Trade	4,854	4,417	4,105	4,177	4,148	4,012	4,131	4,280	(574)	-11.8%
44-45	Retail Trade	11,509	11,200	11,865	12,331	11,855	11,675	11,652	11,566	57	0.5%
48-49	Transportation & Warehousing	1,674	1,505	1,591	1,497	1,436	1,428	1,476	1,415	(259)	-15.5%
51	Information	6,427	5,966	5,341	5,476	5,276	5,441	5,692	5,573	(854)	-13.3%
52	Finance & Insurance	8,430	8,894	7,700	7,995	7,489	7,208	6,974	7,039	(1,391)	-16.5%
53	Real Estate & Rental & Leasing	2,151	2,231	1,967	2,036	2,113	2,016	2,172	2,146	(5)	-0.2%
54	Professional, Scientific & Technical Svcs.	7,251	7,518	7,329	7,383	7,408	7,602	7,778	8,464	1,213	16.7%
55	Management of Companies	1,667	1,721	1,632	2,012	2,376	2,243	2,283	2,281	614	36.9%
56	Administrative & Waste Services	12,422	11,724	10,786	10,198	11,125	11,145	10,926	10,373	(2,049)	-16.5%
61	Educational Services	9,130	9,608	9,748	10,019	10,511	10,797	11,362	11,502	2,372	26.0%
62	Health Care & Social Assistance	25,581	25,411	25,663	26,710	27,334	27,321	27,647	28,173	2,592	10.1%
71	Arts, Entertainment & Recreation	1,499	1,460	1,258	1,285	1,345	1,351	1,384	1,395	(104)	-6.9%
72	Accommodation & Food Services	10,002	10,371	10,539	10,918	11,042	11,224	11,132	11,329	1,327	13.3%
81	Other Services	5,952	6,108	6,151	6,226	6,015	6,019	6,022	6,089	137	2.3%
Government		25,882	26,503	26,083	25,741	23,493	22,684	22,396	22,280	(3,602)	-13.9%

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 year's end, 22.9 percent of the 14,477 individuals collecting unemployment insurance benefits in the state were residents of the Providence/Cranston WIA. Numbering 3,315, these "insured unemployed" workers accounted for 46.9 percent of all unemployed Providence/Cranston area residents. In comparison, 48.5 percent of unemployed Rhode Island residents were eligible to collect unemployment insurance benefits in December 2007.

Long-term unemployment, that is, unemployment spells of fifteen weeks or longer, was slightly higher (25.9%) among Providence/Cranston area residents than in the state (22.0%) as a whole. Workers 65 or over and between the ages of 60 and 64 living in the Providence/Cranston area were more likely to face long-term unemployment (41.9% and 28.9%, respectively) than their counterparts in the state (31.6% and 25.3%, respectively).

Nearly 27 percent of the Providence/Cranston area residents collecting unemployment insurance benefits were between the ages of 35 and 44, and an additional 26.1 percent were between 25 and 34 years of age.

Over one-third of the unemployed Providence/Cranston residents collecting benefits in December 2007 were previously employed as Production (17.9%) or Office & Administrative Support (16.6%) workers and nearly half were previously employed by Manufacturing (18.5%), Administrative & Waste (17.1%) or Construction (11.7%) establishments. Over one-third of the Retail Trade (41.3%), Finance & Insurance (37.7%), Professional & Technical Services (34.7%), and Health Care & Social Assistance (33.6%) sector employees had been unemployed for fifteen weeks or longer.

Characteristics of the Insured Unemployed Living in the Providence/Cranston WIA December 2007

	<i>Total</i>	<i>Percent of Total</i>	<i>Long- Term</i>	<i>Percent Long-Term</i>
Total	3,315	100.0%	857	25.9%
Male	1,869	56.4%	363	19.4%
Female	1,446	43.6%	495	34.2%
Age	3,315	100.0%	857	25.9%
Under 24	360	10.8%	90	24.9%
25 - 34	866	26.1%	229	26.4%
35 - 44	878	26.5%	213	24.3%
45 - 54	757	22.8%	188	24.9%
55-59	229	6.9%	58	25.3%
60-64	119	3.6%	34	28.9%
65 or over	108	3.2%	45	41.9%
Education	3,315	100.0%	857	25.9%
Less than 9th Grade	285	8.6%	38	13.3%
9th to 12th, no diploma	454	13.7%	94	20.8%
High School Graduate	1,416	42.7%	379	26.7%
Some College	567	17.1%	176	30.9%
Bachelor's Degree	267	8.1%	91	34.1%
Beyond Bachelor's	247	7.4%	63	25.7%
Unknown	79	2.4%	16	20.2%
Industry	3,315	100.0%	857	25.9%
Construction	389	11.7%	29	7.4%
Manufacturing	612	18.5%	193	31.5%
Administrative & Waste Services	565	17.1%	80	14.1%
Retail Trade	272	8.2%	112	41.3%
Accommodation & Food Services	189	5.7%	47	24.8%
Health Care & Social Assistance	251	7.6%	84	33.6%
Finance & Insurance	279	8.4%	105	37.7%
Wholesale Trade	120	3.6%	35	29.6%
Arts, Entertainment & Recreation	76	2.3%	12	15.3%
Professional & Tech. Services	96	2.9%	33	34.7%
All Other Industries	466	14.0%	127	27.2%
Occupation	3,315	100.0%	857	25.9%
Office & Administrative Support	551	16.6%	201	36.5%
Management	236	7.1%	87	37.0%
Production	593	17.9%	147	24.9%
Construction & Extraction	255	7.7%	29	11.2%
Building & Grounds Cleaning & Maint.	201	6.1%	9	4.4%
Food Preparation & Serving Related	150	4.5%	38	25.2%
Transportation & Material Moving	213	6.4%	56	26.3%
Sales & Related	180	5.4%	51	28.5%
Installation, Maintenance & Repair	96	2.9%	23	24.4%
Business & Financial Operations	143	4.3%	48	33.4%
Education, Training & Library	46	1.4%	27	59.7%
Arts, Design, Ent., Sports & Media	42	1.3%	13	29.7%
Healthcare Support	91	2.7%	25	27.1%
Personal Care & Service	42	1.3%	16	36.7%
Healthcare Practitioner & Technical	43	1.3%	9	22.1%
Computer & Mathematical	26	0.8%	7	24.8%
Architecture & Engineering	21	0.6%	8	40.0%
All Other Industries	386	11.7%	63	16.4%

According to the 2007 American Community Survey (ACS), Whites account for only 60.2 percent of Providence/Cranston's household population compared to roughly 83 percent of the state's total household population. Nearly four out of ten individuals residing in the Providence/Cranston WIA are minorities. Over 28 percent of Providence/Cranston residents are of Hispanic or Latino origin, while Hispanics/Latinos make up approximately 11 percent of the state's total household population.

The ACS indicates that over 28 percent of Providence/Cranston's household population (age 25 and older) have a high school diploma or equivalent, 14.0 percent have some college-level courses, and 36.2 percent have an associate degree or higher. However, 21.6 percent of Providence/Cranston residents do not have a high school diploma compared to 17.0 percent statewide.

The most recent data on commuting patterns (Census 2000) show that approximately 57 percent of Providence/Cranston residents held jobs that were located in the Providence/Cranston WIA. Nearly 90 percent of Providence/Cranston residents worked within Rhode Island borders, while nine percent commuted to a job in neighboring Massachusetts.

Nearly 41 percent of the jobs located in the Providence/Cranston WIA were held by individuals residing in the WIA. Rhode Islanders held roughly 92 percent of the jobs located in Providence/Cranston, while Massachusetts residents accounted for 7.2 percent of the WIA workers.

Providence / Cranston WIA

Race & Ethnicity, 2007

Total Population	256,912	100.0%
One race (of any origin)	246,705	96.0%
White	154,608	60.2%
Black or African American	27,857	10.8%
American Indian and Alaska Native	1,426	0.6%
Asian	13,969	5.4%
Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander	0	0.0%
Some other race	48,845	19.0%
Two or more races (of any origin)	10,207	4.0%

Hispanic or Latino (of any race)	72,766	28.3%
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Educational Attainment, 2007

Total Population (Age 25+)	154,046	100.0%
Less than 9th grade	16,949	11.0%
9th to 12th grade, no diploma	16,365	10.6%
High school graduate (includes equivalency)	43,416	28.2%
Some college, no degree	21,542	14.0%
Associate's degree	9,541	6.2%
Bachelor's degree	26,248	17.0%
Graduate or professional degree	19,985	13.0%

Source: American Community Survey, 2007

Where Providence/Cranston WIA Residents Work

Total	103,160	100.0%
Providence, RI	43,948	42.6%
Cranston, RI	14,980	14.5%
Warwick, RI	8,360	8.1%
Pawtucket, RI	3,797	3.7%
East Providence, RI	3,400	3.3%
Johnston, RI	2,768	2.7%
Lincoln, RI	1,878	1.8%
North Providence, RI	1,612	1.6%
Woonsocket, RI	1,521	1.5%
Boston, MA	1,467	1.4%
Other Communities	19,429	18.8%

Where Providence/Cranston WIA Workers Live

Total	145,362	100.0%
Providence, RI	40,210	27.7%
Cranston, RI	18,718	12.9%
Warwick, RI	11,820	8.1%
Pawtucket, RI	6,989	4.8%
East Providence, RI	6,145	4.2%
North Providence, RI	5,912	4.1%
Johnston, RI	4,613	3.2%
Coventry, RI	3,286	2.3%
West Warwick, RI	3,057	2.1%
Smithfield, RI	2,963	2.0%
Other Communities	41,649	28.7%

Providence/Cranston WIA Residents Work in the State of:

Total	103,160	100.0%
Rhode Island	92,519	89.7%
Massachusetts	9,314	9.0%
Connecticut	661	0.6%
Other State/Country	666	0.6%

Providence/Cranston WIA Workers Live in the State of:

Total	145,362	100.0%
Rhode Island	133,222	91.6%
Massachusetts	10,428	7.2%
Connecticut	683	0.5%
Other State/Country	1,029	0.7%

Source: US Census Bureau, Census 2000

For more information on Rhode Island's labor market, visit www.dlt.ri.gov/lmi or call LMI at (401) 462-8740.

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