



# Health Care

Combining medical technology and the human touch, the Health Care Industry Cluster diagnoses, treats, and administers care around the clock. Employment growth in Health Care has been stimulated by medical advances and new technologies, as well as an increased demand by an aging population, making it one of Rhode Island's most dynamic labor markets. The Health Care industry cluster includes Ambulatory Health Care Services, Hospitals and Nursing & Residential Care Facilities.

## Industry Cluster Profile

In 2011, Rhode Island's 2,495 Health Care establishments employed an average of 66,984 workers and paid over \$3.0 billion in total wages accounting for over 17 percent of the state's private sector employment and wages. Health Care establishments paid an annual average wage of \$45,181 in 2011, which was \$1,654 (3.8%) more than the private sector average of \$43,526

Between 2002 and 2011, employment in Rhode Island's Health Care industry cluster increased by 14.2 percent with the addition of 8,350 jobs. In comparison, the state's private sector employment declined by 3.7 percent (-14,839) during this period. Since 2006, which includes the most recent recessionary period, as Rhode Island's annual average employment fell by 6.8 percent, employment in the state's Health Care industry cluster increased by 4.9 percent.

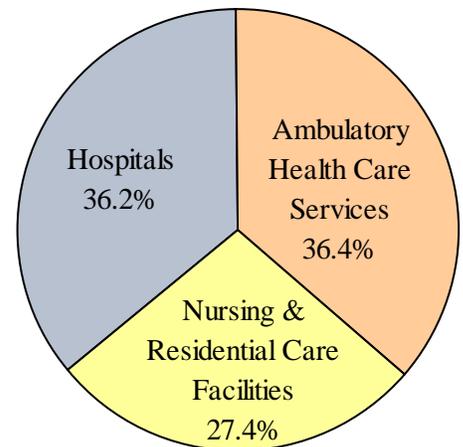
The Health Care industry cluster has reported job growth every year since 2002 and its rates of employment growth have continued to outpace that of the private sector as a whole. Since 2002, each of these subsectors has reported notable job growth, led by Ambulatory Health Care Services, which has seen employment increase by 24.0 percent (+4,726). Employment in Hospitals and Nursing & Residential Care Facilities has also grown during this period adding 2,502 (+11.5%) and 1,122 (+6.5%) jobs, respectively.

### Health Care Employment in Rhode Island

Industry	Annual Average Employment			2002-2011		2006-2011	
	2002	2006	2011	Change	% Change	Change	% Change
<b>Total Private &amp; Government</b>	468,451	480,589	448,532	-19,919	-4.3%	-32,057	-6.7%
<b>Total Private Only</b>	404,079	417,706	389,240	-14,839	-3.7%	-28,466	-6.8%
<b>Total for Health Care</b>	<b>58,634</b>	<b>63,828</b>	<b>66,984</b>	<b>8,350</b>	<b>14.2%</b>	<b>3,156</b>	<b>4.9%</b>
Ambulatory Health Care Services	19,667	22,196	24,393	4,726	24.0%	2,197	9.9%
Hospitals	21,737	23,648	24,239	2,502	11.5%	591	2.5%
Nursing & Residential Care Facilities	17,230	17,984	18,352	1,122	6.5%	368	2.0%

The Health Care industry cluster includes three subsectors: Ambulatory Health Care Services, Hospitals and Nursing & Residential Care Facilities. In 2011, the Ambulatory Health Care Services subsector accounted for 36.4 percent of the state's Health Care employment, followed by Hospitals (36.2%) and Nursing & Residential Care Facilities (27.4%).

**Health Care  
Employment by Subsector, 2011**



Establishments in the Ambulatory Health Care Services subsector provide health care services directly or indirectly to ambulatory patients and do not usually provide inpatient services. Health practitioners in this subsector provide outpatient services with the facilities and the equipment not usually being the most significant part of the production process. Included in this subsector are Offices of Physicians, Dentists and Other Health Practitioners (such as chiropractors, optometrists, and therapists); Outpatient Care Centers; Medical & Diagnostic Laboratories and Home Health Care Services. In 2010, there were over 2,000 Ambulatory Health Care establishments in Rhode Island employing an average of 24,006 workers. Ambulatory Health Care establishments paid an annual average wage of \$49,574, well above the private sector average wage of \$42,530.

Hospitals provide inpatient medical, diagnostic and treatment services that include physician, nursing and other health services and specialized accommodation services. Many of these services can only be provided using the specialized facilities and equipment available at these facilities. Outpatient services may also be provided as a secondary activity. The Hospitals subsector is broken down into three industries: General Medical & Surgical Hospitals, Psychiatric & Substance Abuse Hospitals and Specialty Hospitals. Hospitals employed an average of 24,643 workers in 2010 and paid nearly \$1.3 billion in wages. The annual wage for Hospital workers averaged \$51,949, the highest of the three subsectors.

Nursing & Residential Care Facilities provide residential care combined with either nursing, supervisory or other types of care as required by the residents. The care provided is a mix of health and social services with nursing services representing the major portion of health care. Nursing & Residential Care Facilities is broken down into four industries: Nursing Care Facilities, Residential Mental Health Facilities, Community Care Facilities for the Elderly and Other Residential Care Facilities. Nursing and Residential Care Facilities employed an average of 18,482 workers and paid over \$500 million in wages in 2010. The 2010 annual average wage was \$27,353.

**Health Care in Rhode Island  
2011**

<b>Industry</b>	<b>Number of Units</b>	<b>Average Employment</b>	<b>Total Wages</b>	<b>Average Wage</b>
<b>Total Private &amp; Government</b>	<b>34,942</b>	<b>448,532</b>	<b>\$20,498,159,788</b>	<b>\$45,701</b>
<b>Total Private Only</b>	<b>34,225</b>	<b>389,240</b>	<b>\$16,942,221,360</b>	<b>\$43,526</b>
<b>Total for Health Care</b>	<b>2,495</b>	<b>66,984</b>	<b>\$3,026,388,813</b>	<b>\$45,181</b>
Ambulatory Health Care Services	2,037	24,393	\$1,208,956,253	\$49,562
Hospitals	25	24,239	\$1,307,469,601	\$53,941
Nursing & Residential Care Facilities	433	18,352	\$509,962,959	\$27,788

## Health Care Employment as Percent of Private Sector Employment, 2011

Industry	US	CT	MA	ME	NH	RI	VT
<b>Total Private &amp; Government</b>	129,408,962	1,612,372	3,187,984	579,745	605,713	448,532	295,449
<b>Total Private Only</b>	108,165,289	1,374,880	2,776,765	482,391	520,206	389,240	243,123
<b>Total for Health Care</b>	<b>12.9%</b>	<b>14.9%</b>	<b>15.8%</b>	<b>16.8%</b>	<b>13.7%</b>	<b>17.2%</b>	<b>14.4%</b>
Ambulatory Health Care Services	5.7%	5.9%	5.6%	5.2%	5.6%	6.3%	6.4%
Hospitals	4.3%	4.5%	6.6%	6.7%	5.3%	6.2%	5.2%
Nursing & Residential Care Facilities	2.9%	4.5%	3.6%	4.9%	2.9%	4.7%	2.8%

Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics, Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages

In 2011, Rhode Island's Health Care employment averaged 17.2 percent of total private employment in the state, 4.3 percentage points higher than the national average of 12.9 percent and the highest in New England. Within the New England states, Vermont (6.4%) had the highest percentage of private employment in Ambulatory Health Care Services, while Maine had the highest percentage in both Hospitals (6.7%) and Nursing & Residential Care Facilities (4.9%).

### Occupations Profile

Many of the jobs in Health Care offer workers above-average wages and good benefit packages, as well as educational and career advancement opportunities. The median wage for the most common occupations found in Rhode Island's Health Care cluster generally exceeded the national median but trailed median wages paid in Massachusetts and Connecticut.

An increased demand for medical services by an aging Ocean State population, as well as advances in medical technology, should continue to increase the demand for Health Care workers for years to come.

Healthcare Practitioners and Technicians account for over one-third of the employment in the Health Care industry cluster. Educational requirements for these occupations vary, ranging from Associate Degrees for Registered Nurses, Bachelor Degrees for Occupational Therapists, Master's Degrees for Speech & Language Pathologists to Professional degrees for Doctors. One-quarter of the Health Care workers are employed in Health Support occupations and 17 percent are employed as Office & Administrative Support Workers.

Overall, Health Care jobs have greater educational requirements than most jobs found in the private sector. Approximately 40 percent of the Health Care workers are employed in occupations requiring a college degree (Associate or higher), compared to 26 percent of private sector workers. A greater percentage of Health Care workers require post secondary vocational training (16%) than private sector workers (6%), while a smaller percentage of Health Care workers are employed in occupations requiring on-the-job training (41%) than are private sector workers (59%) workers.

#### Employment by Education/Training Requirements

	Cluster Share	Private Sector
Professional Degree	5%	2%
Doctoral Degree	1%	1%
Master's Degree	5%	2%
Bachelor's or Higher plus Experience	3%	4%
Bachelor's Degree	4%	12%
Associate Degree	22%	5%
Postsecondary Vocational	16%	6%
Work Experience	3%	8%
Long-Term OJT	1%	7%
Moderate-Term OJT	17%	17%
Short-Term OJT	23%	35%



## Occupations Commonly Found in Health Care

<u>Occupations</u>	<u>Estimated RI Employment</u>	<u>Education &amp; Training Code</u>	<u>US</u>	<u>Median Wages</u>		
				<u>RI</u>	<u>MA</u>	<u>CT</u>
Billing & Posting Clerks	660	10	\$15.47	\$15.90	\$17.22	\$18.19
Bookkeeping, Accounting, & Auditing Clerks	590	10	\$16.36	\$17.50	\$18.72	\$18.93
Child, Family, & School Social Workers	390	5	\$19.33	\$26.02	\$19.00	\$31.04
Cooks, Institution & Cafeteria	430	10	\$10.93	\$16.60	\$14.41	\$15.37
Dental Assistants	890	10	\$16.09	\$17.88	\$19.21	\$19.55
Dental Hygienists	850	6	\$32.81	\$32.63	\$38.31	\$39.15
Emergency Medical Technicians & Paramedics	600	7	\$14.60	\$15.79	\$16.79	\$17.59
First-Line Supervisors of Office & Administrative Support Workers	1,000	8	\$22.82	\$25.76	\$25.52	\$25.34
Food Preparation Workers	770	11	\$9.18	\$10.25	\$10.75	\$10.92
Food Servers, Nonrestaurant	550	11	\$9.34	\$10.94	\$10.39	\$12.33
Healthcare Social Workers	440	5	\$22.71	\$27.67	\$24.96	\$28.09
Home Health Aides	4,510	11	\$9.89	\$12.16	\$12.54	\$13.33
Laundry & Dry-Cleaning Workers	330	10	\$9.40	\$10.90	\$10.82	\$12.21
Licensed Practical & Licensed Vocational Nurses	1,160	7	\$19.42	\$24.66	\$23.80	\$25.78
Maids & Housekeeping Cleaners	1,150	11	\$9.28	\$10.56	\$11.74	\$10.93
Medical & Clinical Laboratory Technicians	410	6	\$17.44	\$27.38	\$17.67	\$20.40
Medical & Clinical Laboratory Technologists	610	5	\$26.98	\$30.62	\$31.58	\$30.73
Medical & Health Services Managers	940	4	\$40.52	\$46.08	\$48.69	\$44.40
Medical Assistants	1,670	10	\$13.87	\$15.25	\$16.48	\$16.06
Medical Records & Health Information Technicians	620	6	\$15.55	\$17.42	\$17.95	\$17.37
Medical Secretaries	2,900	10	\$14.68	\$16.91	\$17.66	\$17.22
Mental Health & Substance Abuse Social Workers	1,090	3	\$18.56	\$24.89	\$18.55	\$23.52
Mental Health Counselors	430	3	\$18.34	\$14.34	\$19.00	\$18.00
Nursing Aides, Orderlies, & Attendants	7,390	7	\$11.54	\$13.17	\$13.53	\$14.49
Office Clerks, General	930	11	\$12.79	\$13.81	\$15.41	\$15.00
Physical Therapists	910	3	\$36.69	\$38.64	\$36.06	\$37.72
Receptionists & Information Clerks	2,060	11	\$12.14	\$13.39	\$13.45	\$14.78
Recreation Workers	350	11	\$10.70	\$10.87	\$11.65	\$12.41
Registered Nurses	10,790	6	\$31.10	\$33.75	\$38.59	\$34.70
Secretaries & Administrative Assistants, Except Legal, Medical, & Executive	900	10	\$14.82	\$17.19	\$18.47	\$18.06
Social & Human Service Assistants	1,130	10	\$13.56	\$13.52	\$13.46	\$18.89

**Education & Training Code & Description:** 1 First professional degree; 2 Doctoral degree; 3 Master's degree; 4 Bachelor's or higher degree, plus work experience; 5 Bachelor's degree; 6 Associate degree; 7 Postsecondary vocational training; 8 Work experience in a related occupation 9 Long-term on-the-job training; 10 Moderate-term on-the-job training; 11 Short-term on-the-job training  
Wages are from May 2010 OES Survey.

