

RI FOOD
POLICY
COUNCIL



POLICY

— FOR THE —

PEOPLE

**Data & Resources
to Uplift Your
Local Food System**

September 19, 2023 • 12:30pm

Agenda

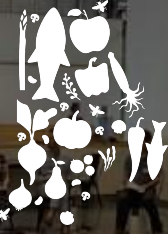
- Introducing the RI Food Policy Council
- What is a “food system”?
- NEW municipal resources
- Case study
- Q&A

RI FOOD
POLICY
COUNCIL





RI FOOD
POLICY
COUNCIL



Our mission is to build an **equitable, accessible, economically vibrant, and environmentally sustainable food system** for all Rhode Islanders.

PRIORITIES

- Community-based orgs
- Industry members
- Nonprofit leaders
- State agencies
- Elected officials

PARTNERSHIPS

PROJECTS

- Food access programs
- Business support programs
- Educational programming
- Fundraising assistance

POLICY

- Food justice
- Food economy
- Food access
- Food, Environment, and Climate
- Guidance on long term state plans

CLEAN AIR

FARMS & FISHERIES PRODUCTION



**SUPPORTIVE
POLICY**

PROCESSING



CAPITAL ACCESS

FOOD WASTE



**RI FOOD
SYSTEM**

CLEAN WATER

DISTRIBUTION



LAND ACCESS

CONSUMPTION



RETAIL

HEALTHY SOIL

Caretakers of the Land & Water

Caretakers of the Land & Water include the many organizations and individuals concerned with the health and resiliency of our natural environment, such as land trusts, environmental activists, and Indigenous communities.

Food Waste Facilities

Food waste facilities include on-farm composters, composting organizations, and anaerobic digesters.

Consumers

All Rhode Islanders fall into this category of stakeholders. Everyone consuming food in Rhode Island has a stake in what the Rhode Island food system looks like now and into the future.

Institutional Buyers

Institutional buyers include a broad range of large scale purchasers, such as hospitals, schools, prisons, state dining facilities, and universities.

Free & Low Cost Food Providers

Free and low cost food providers include food banks, food pantries, congregant meal sites, and all other organizations providing food for free or a reduced price to individuals in need.



Food Producers

Food producers include farmers, fishers, farmworkers, and others who work on the land or the sea in urban and rural settings to cultivate our food.

Food Processors & Entrepreneurs

Food processors and entrepreneurs include second-stage food manufacturers who create value-added food products.

Food Distributors

Food distributors include the organizations tasked with packaging and shipping food, as well as the truckers, pilots, warehouse workers, and others who contribute to moving the food from producers and processors to consumers.

Food Retailers & Restaurants

Food retailers and restaurants include all businesses selling food to consumers, such as full service super stores, grocery stores, bodegas, corner stores, and delis.

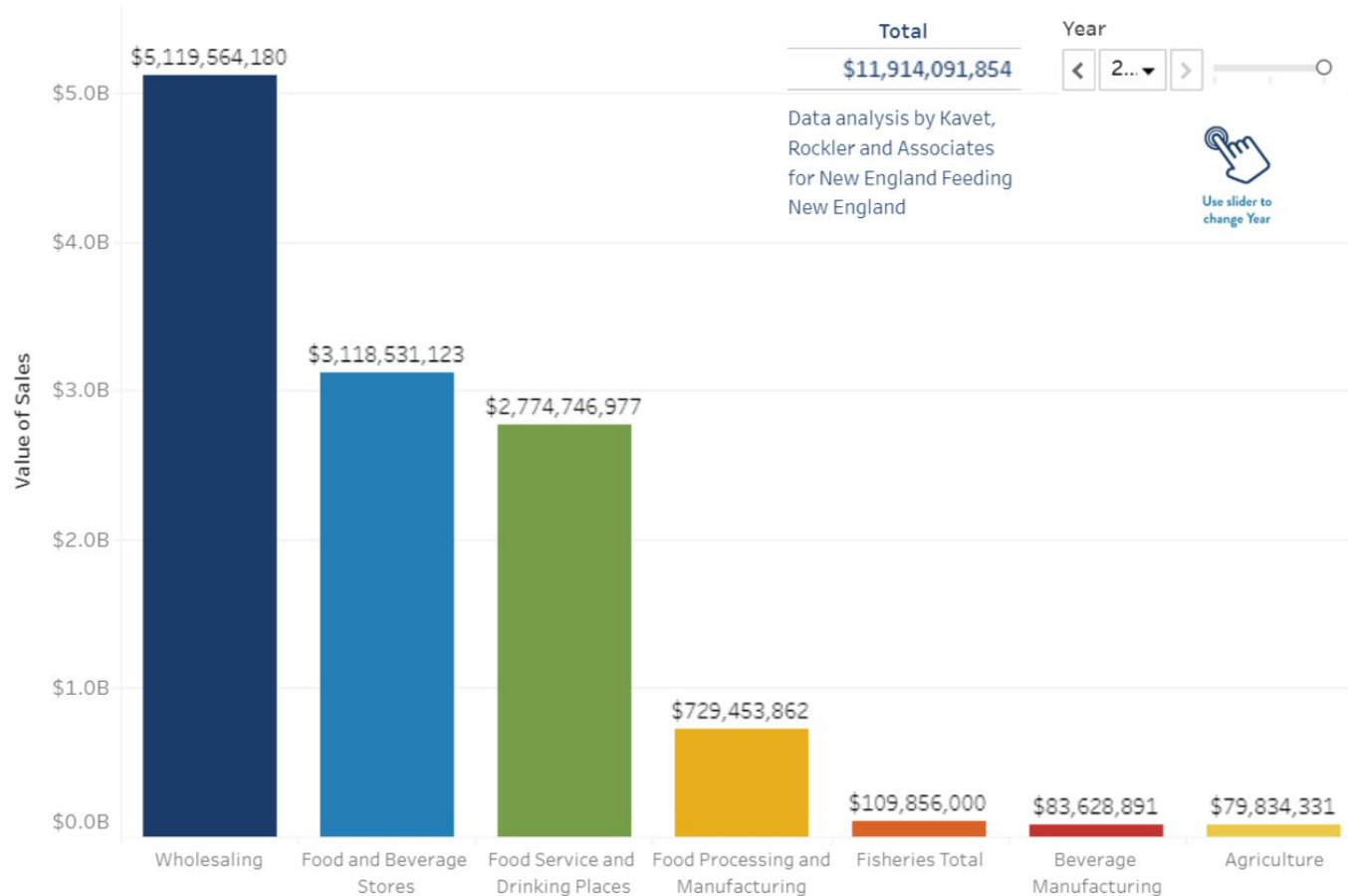


RI FOOD
POLICY
COUNCIL

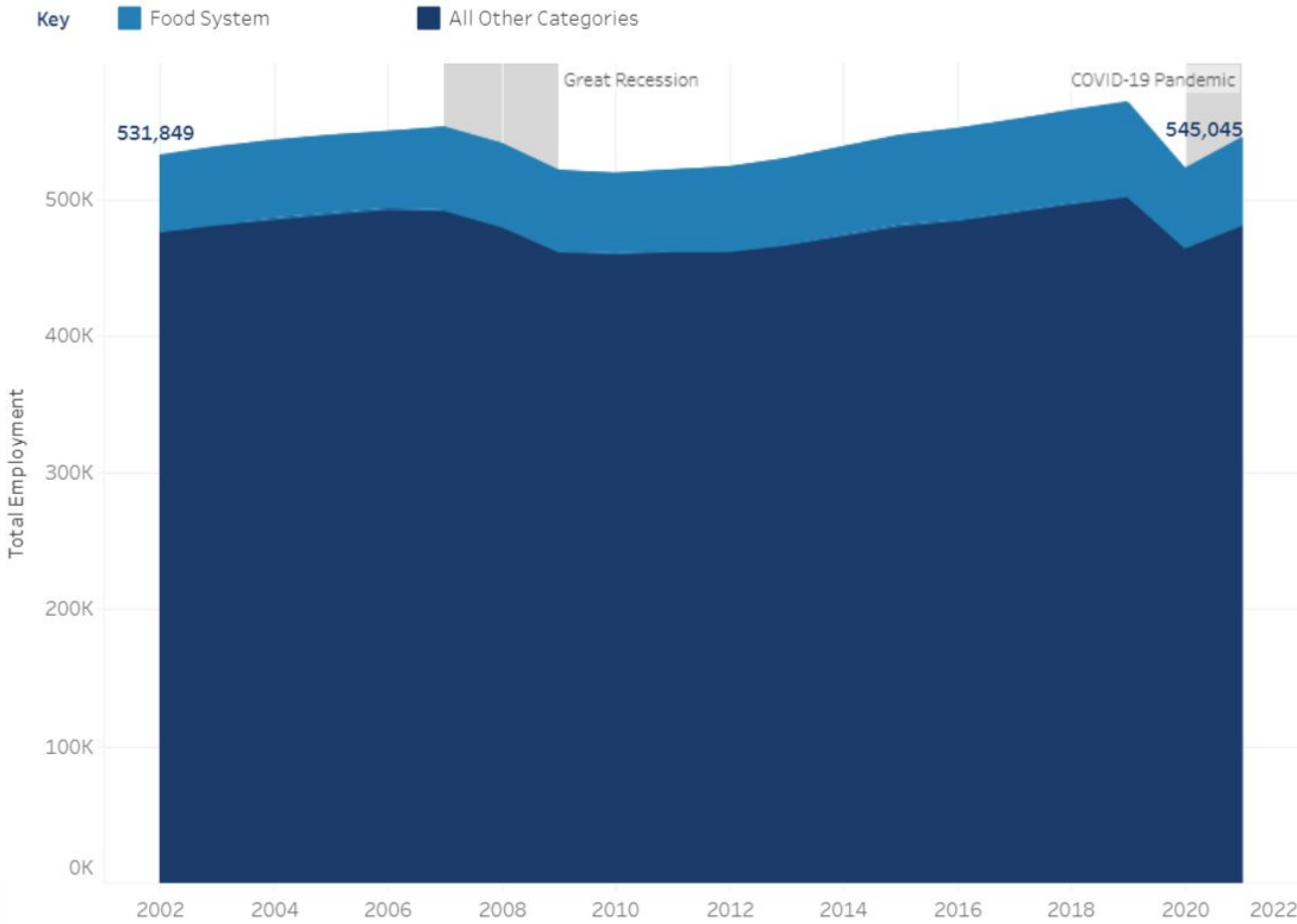


RI's Food System Impacts

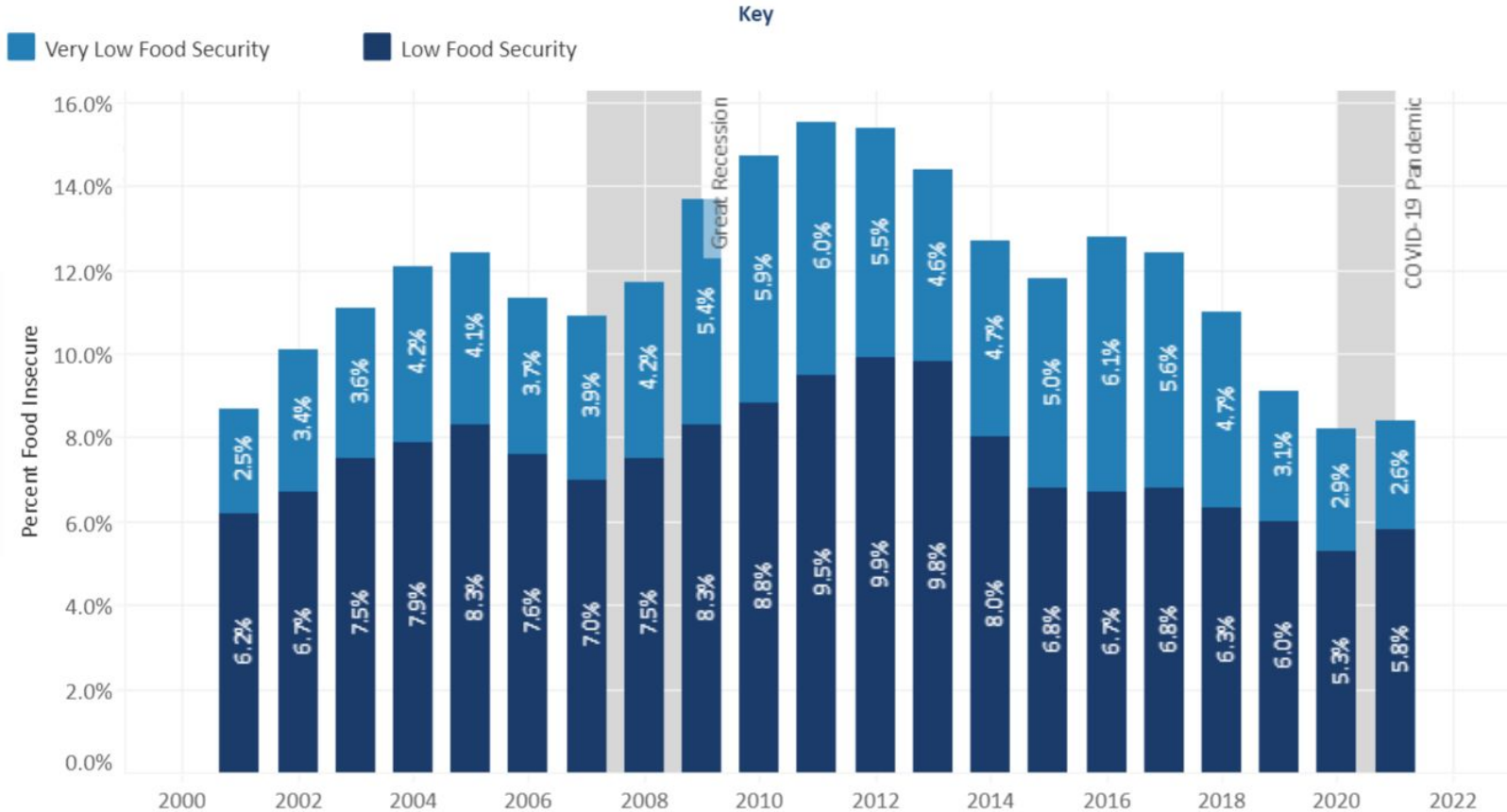
RI Total Food System Sales



RI Total Food System Employment



RI Total Food Insecurity Percentage





RI FOOD
POLICY
COUNCIL



RI Municipal Food Systems Action Packet

How to Access *Your* Town's Information

1. Go to rifoodecouncil.org
2. Click the *Resources* tab on our homepage
3. Click on the Municipal Fact Sheets page
4. On the Municipal Fact Sheets page, you can access your town's fact sheet along with our **NEW** action sheet and toolkit!

The image displays three overlapping screenshots of Rhode Island Food System Fact Sheets for Richmond, Central Falls, and Warren. Each sheet provides a comprehensive overview of the town's food system, including a map of the town, a table of statistics, and sections on Food Economy, Land Use & Sustainability, and Food Access & Security.

Richmond Fact Sheet Data:

Category	City	State
Population	22,000	1,000,000
Land Use	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Commercial: 10 Forest: 10 Agriculture: 10 Water: 10 Other Land: 10 	
Food Economy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Restaurants: 10 Food Markets: 10 Food Processors: 10 	
Land Use & Sustainability	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Open Space: 10 Green Space: 10 Water: 10 Other Land: 10 	
Food Access & Security	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Food Deserts: 10 Food Banks: 10 Food Pantries: 10 	

Central Falls Fact Sheet Data:

Category	City	State
Population	11,947	1,000,000
Land Use	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Commercial: 10 Forest: 10 Agriculture: 10 Water: 10 Other Land: 10 	
Food Economy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Restaurants: 10 Food Markets: 10 Food Processors: 10 	
Land Use & Sustainability	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Open Space: 10 Green Space: 10 Water: 10 Other Land: 10 	
Food Access & Security	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Food Deserts: 10 Food Banks: 10 Food Pantries: 10 	

Warren Fact Sheet Data:

Category	City	State
Population	11,947	1,000,000
Land Use	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Commercial: 10 Forest: 10 Agriculture: 10 Water: 10 Other Land: 10 	
Food Economy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Restaurants: 10 Food Markets: 10 Food Processors: 10 	
Land Use & Sustainability	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Open Space: 10 Green Space: 10 Water: 10 Other Land: 10 	
Food Access & Security	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Food Deserts: 10 Food Banks: 10 Food Pantries: 10 	

Time for an Update!

- First update since 2019
- Refreshed design and context
- NEW municipal land use maps!
- NEW toolkit to accompany fact sheets!

Methodology

- Compile and analyze secondary data
- Sourced from both government (RIDOH, RIDE, etc.) and nonprofit (FFRI, RICFB, etc.) data
- Utilized 2019 Fact Sheet definitions

Definitions and sources are available at:

<https://rifoodcouncil.org/municipal-fact-sheets>



	City	State
Congregate Meal Sites	0	74
Food Pantries	1	133
Meals on Wheels Is Home Delivery Recipients	36	3,029
SNAP Participants	265	89,100
Students Enrolled for Free/Reduced Meals	3,375	140,721
WIC Participants	39	18,379

USING YOUR MUNICIPAL FACT SHEET FOR PLANNING

Each municipal fact sheet offers a snapshot of the most pressing food systems issues in the jurisdiction. The data can be a useful guide for community conversations on areas in need of additional support and investment. To learn more about next steps, please check out the RIFPC Planning Accessible, Equitable, and Resilient Municipal Food Systems Toolkit (<https://rifoodcouncil.org/municipal-fact-sheets/>) or contact us at info@rifoodpolicycouncil.org to schedule an exploratory conversation.



Build the Food Economy

The information under “Food Economy” can be used to identify the predominant types of food businesses in the area (e.g. farms, second-stage food manufacturers, restaurants). By exploring the predominant industries in the municipality, local governments can integrate practices and policies that intentionally attract more food businesses, thus increasing employment and raising revenue. These practices and policies should uplift and target BIPOC-owned food businesses as well as support historically low-income neighborhoods.

local governments can invest in projects that increase green cover by building more green space and investing in tree planting, expand agricultural opportunities through intentional zoning, and develop more resilient ecosystems in the face of climate change.



Improve Food Access & Security

The data under “Food Access & Security” can help municipalities identify areas in need of additional food access support. This information can inform where public investment is necessary to ensure food access for all residents, especially in the event of a public health emergency, natural disaster, or climate catastrophe. Local governments can also use this information to target outreach for federal and state nutrition programs among underserved and under-resourced populations. All policies and programs must use a social justice framework in order to successfully achieve meaningful advances in food access and security.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

INTRODUCTION.....2
What Are Food Systems?.....2
What Are the Goals for Rhode Island's Food System?2
What Makes for a Just, Resilient, and Sustainable Food System?3
Why Do Municipal Governments Matter to Food Systems?3
HOW TO USE THIS TOOLKIT 5
SECTION I: DEVELOP A MUNICIPAL FOOD SYSTEMS PLAN 6

SECTION I: DEVELOP A MUNICIPAL FOOD SYSTEMS PLAN6
What is a Food System Plan?6
Key Questions.....7
Resources.....8
Municipal Models9

Municipal Models20
Grants21
SECTION IV: IMPROVE FOOD JUSTICE.....22
How to Define Food Security?.....22
Key Questions.....23
Resources.....24
Municipal Models25
Grants26
END NOTES..... 28

Case Study: **North Kingstown Economic Development Advisory Board (NK EDAB)**

- Serves an advisory role to town planners and reviews progress on town's long-term economic goals
- Used Fact Sheet data to compare changes in number of farms, commercial fishers, and other economic metrics from 2015 to now
- Set new long-term economic goals

QUESTIONS?



RI FOOD
POLICY
COUNCIL



www.rifoodcouncil.org

See you next time!

**Announcing
RIFPC's 2024
Legislative
Priorities
Tue. 10/17!**

Nessa Richman

Network Director

nessa@rifoodcouncil.org

Max De Faria

Senior Program Associate,
Food Access & Nutrition Security

max@rifoodcouncil.org