



POLICY — FOR THE — PEOPLE

TUESDAY, JANUARY 21
12-1PM

2025 RI Food
System Factbook



AGENDA

- Who we are
- Factbook overview
- Using the Factbook
- Q&A

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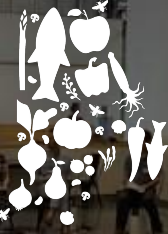
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Who is RIFPC?



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



COMMITMENT TO EQUITY

RIFPC recognizes the fact that many negative impacts of Rhode Island's current food system are grounded in a history of colonialism, genocide of indigenous people, slavery, private ownership of land, and the concentration of wealth and power in the hands of too few.

We also recognize that people with visible and non-apparent disabilities are among the most marginalized groups in our country. **RIFPC believes that when power shifts to be shared more equitably across our communities and our state, we transform our future together for generations to come.**

Core Issue Areas

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Food Access & Nutrition Security

Building equitable, culturally-relevant solutions to food and nutrition access problems.



Food Business & Economic Development

Empowering farmers, aquaculturists, fishers, and food entrepreneurs to thrive.

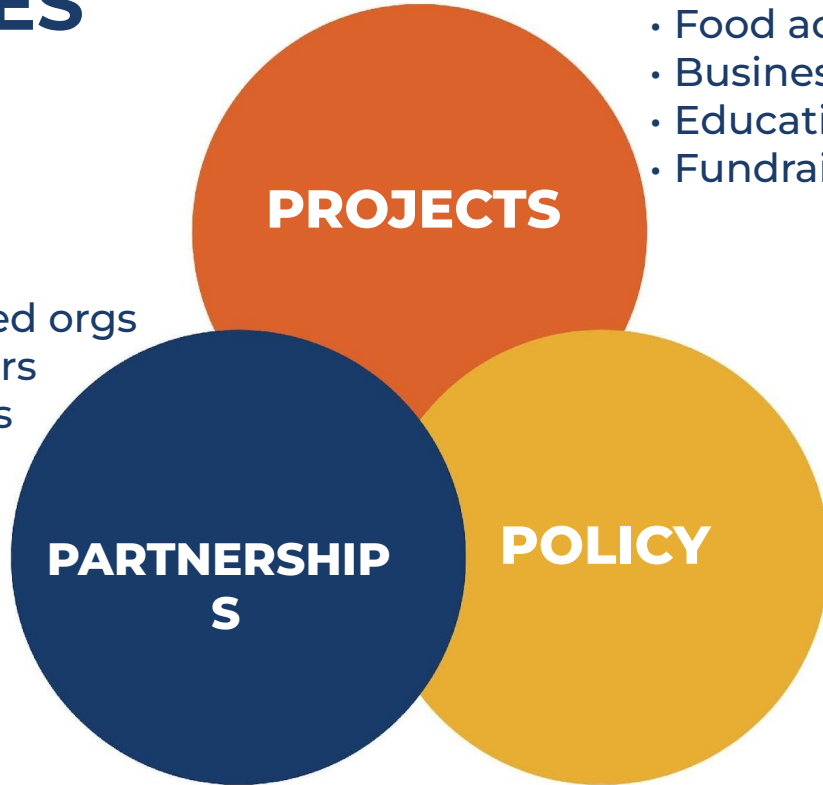


Food, Climate, & Environment

Addressing issues at the intersection of climate change and food systems.

PRIORITIES

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



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

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

A **data-driven**
landscape of the
status of Rhode
Island's Food System





You can use this data to help achieve your mission:

- Set strategic goals for your organization
- Establish measurable objectives for your projects and programs
- Add key facts to grant proposals
- Emphasize a trend during public speaking opportunities
- Support your views in testimony at the State House

KEY Features

- ✓ Trusted sources, clear citations
- ✓ Interactive charts
- ✓ Regularly updated data
- ✓ Easy to understand descriptions

Big picture trends are noted throughout:

POSITIVE TREND

Employment increase

Greenhouse gas emissions decrease

NEGATIVE TREND

Poverty increase

Land in agriculture decrease

NO TREND

Food insecurity rate

No trend may mean that an indicator has not changed over time, or that only a snapshot in time is depicted.

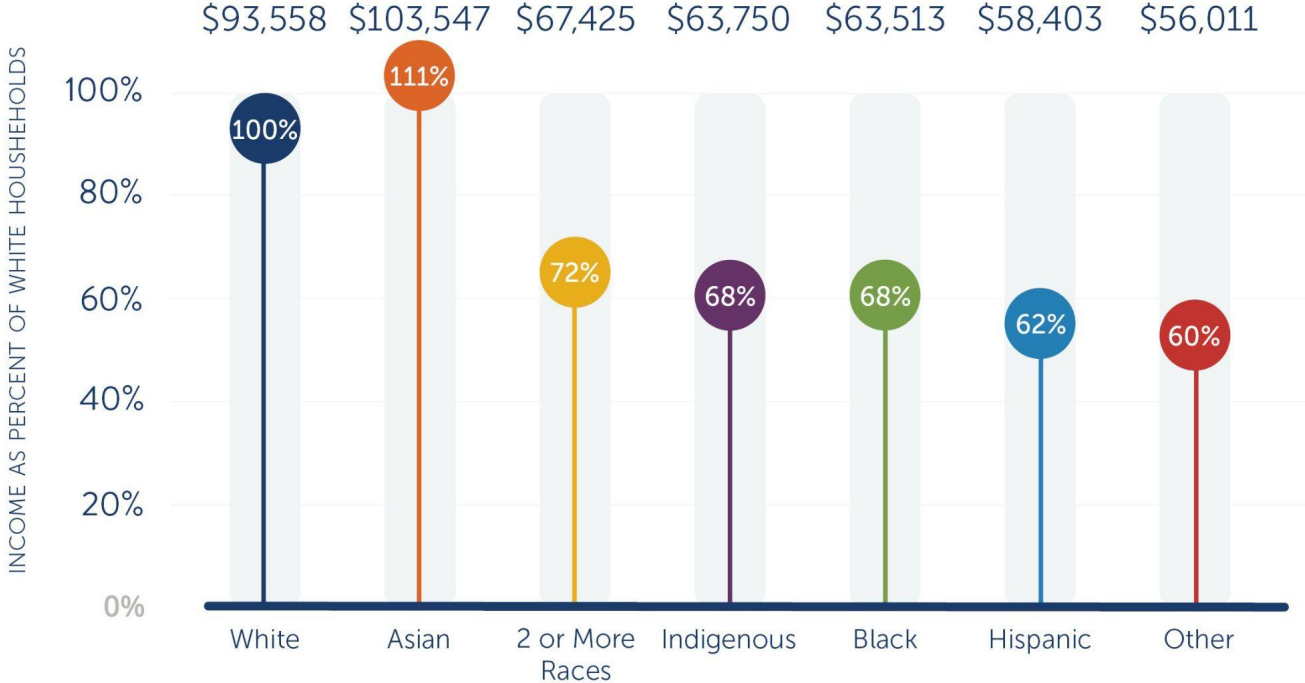
Equity and Justice

Every dataset with demographic information reveals inequities based on race, ethnicity, gender, educational attainment, place of residence, and other variables.

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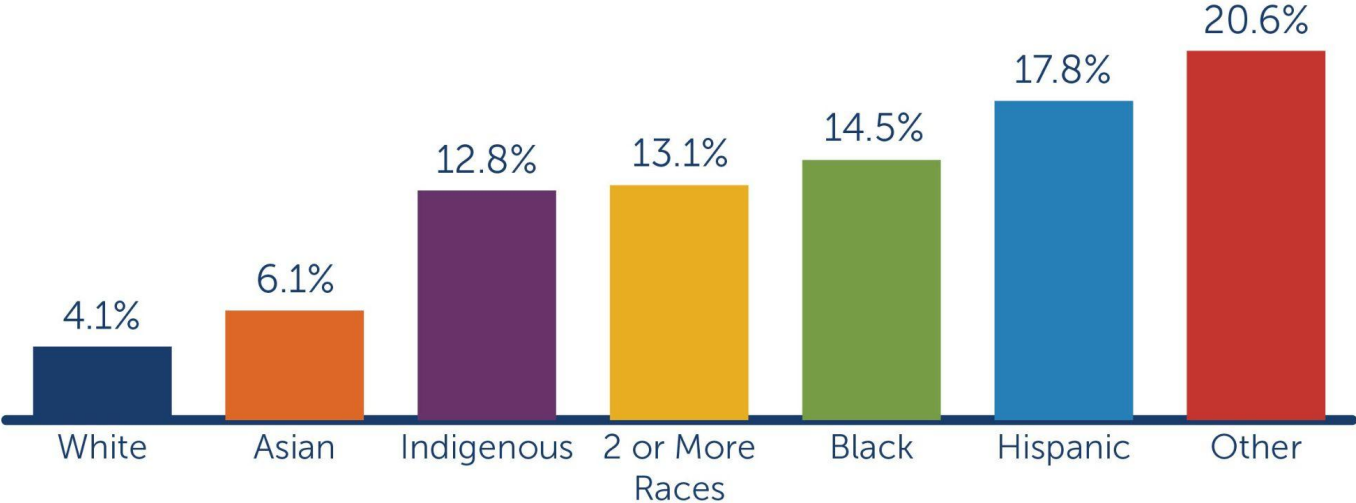
Median Household Income by Race/Ethnicity, 2023



Source: U.S. Census Bureau American Community Survey, Table B19013: Median Household Income, 2023 5-Year Estimates.



Poverty Status in Past 12 Months of Families by Race/ Ethnicity, 2023

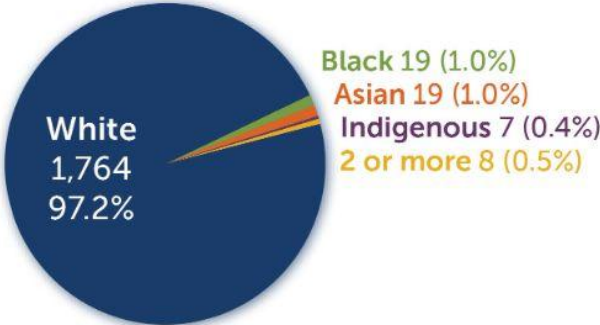


Source: U.S. Census Bureau American Community Survey, Table B17010: Poverty Status in the Past 12 Months of Families by Family Type, 2023 5-Year Estimates.



Rhode Island Farmers by Race, 2022

TOTAL: 1,938 PRODUCERS



Source: USDA 2022 Census of Agriculture, Selected Producer Characteristics by Race.



The Census of Agriculture recorded **1** non-White farmer in Rhode Island in 1992. Thirty years later, the Census of Agriculture recorded 54 Black, Asian, Indigenous and biracial farmers, or 2.8% of all farmers, and 32 Hispanic farmers (1.7% of farmers). Unequal access to farmland limits opportunities to self-determination, wealth building, and culturally appropriate food.

Food System Economy

Is Rhode Island's food system moving in the right direction?

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 **KEY STATS**

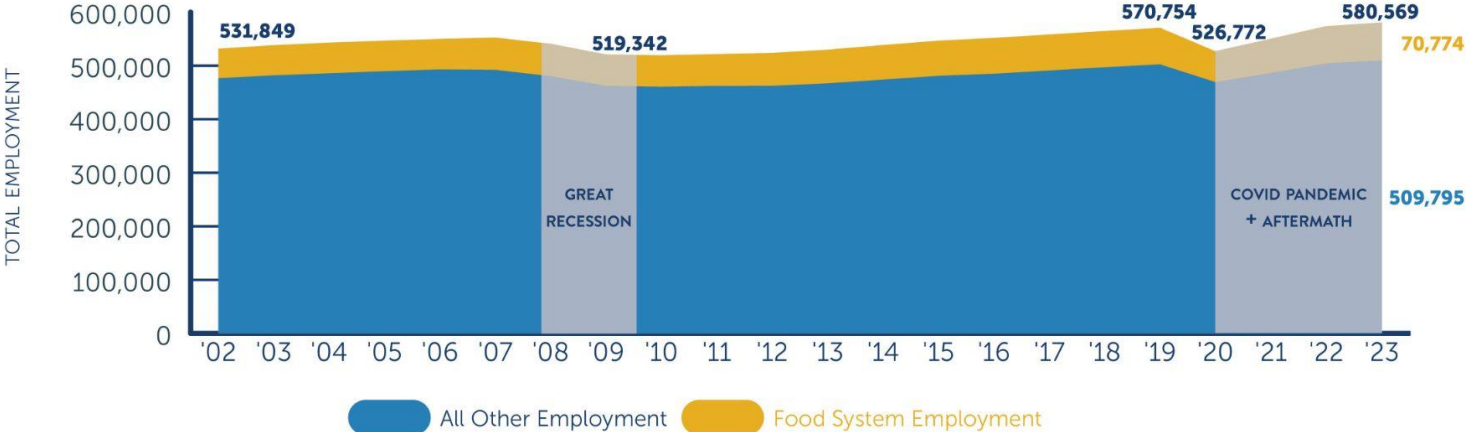
	2024 FACTBOOK	2025 FACTBOOK	LONG-TERM TREND
EMPLOYMENT	>69,000 <small>2022</small>	>70,000 <small>2023</small>	+15,515 <small>2002-2023</small> 
BUSINESSES	>8,800 <small>2022</small>	>8,900 <small>2023</small>	+1,745 <small>2002-2023</small> 
TOTAL SALES	\$17.3 billion <small>2017</small>	\$17.8 billion <small>2022</small>	+\$499 million <small>2017-2022</small> 
MEDIAN HOURLY WAGE	\$14.97 <small>2022</small>	\$15.96 <small>2023</small>	+\$2.56 <small>2002-2023</small> 
NEW INDICATOR			
GROCERY STORE MARKET CONCENTRATION		42.1% <small>2023</small>	Ahold Delhaize (Hannaford) is estimated to have 42.1% market share



Total and Food System Employment, 2002-2023



Total employment in Rhode Island increased **9.2%** from 2002 (531,849) to 2023 (580,569). Food system jobs account for about **12.2% (70,774)** of all jobs in Rhode Island. This is likely an undercount because we are unable to specify all possible food system jobs (e.g., “general freight trucking” accounts for over 1,500 jobs in Rhode Island. However, although all food ultimately moves via transportation, we can’t delineate trucking jobs that are exclusively for food distribution).

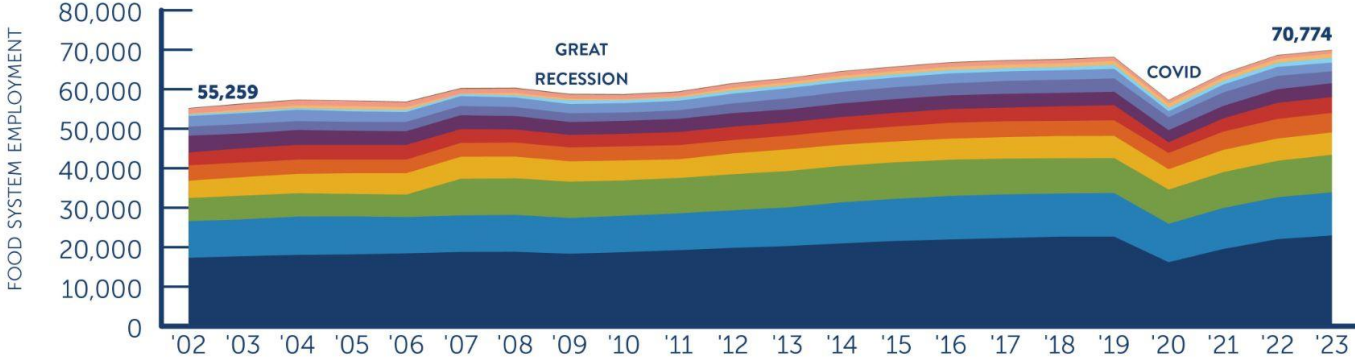


Sources: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages, and U.S. Census Bureau Nonemployer Statistics. The U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics provides estimates of covered employment—work that is covered by unemployment insurance benefits. Non-covered employment, or nonemployer statistics, refers to jobs that are excluded from unemployment insurance reporting requirements. Non-covered employment is mostly made up of sole proprietors and partnerships with no paid employees. Combining both data sources together provides a more comprehensive picture of employment in Rhode Island. Farm employment is not captured very well by either data source. Estimates of the number of farmers and hired farmworkers are produced every 5 years by the USDA Census of Agriculture and are not shown in this figure.

FOOD SYSTEM EMPLOYMENT, 2002-2023



Total food system jobs in Rhode Island increased 28.1%, from from ≈55,000 in 2002 to nearly **71,000** in 2023. “Food services and drinking places” (e.g., restaurants, fast food, institutional food services, bars) account for the majority of food system jobs - over 45,000 jobs.



- Full-Service Restaurants
- Limited-Service Restaurants
- Supermarkets
- Snack/Nonalcoholic Beverage Bars
- Food/Beverage Manufacturing
- Special Food Services
- All Other Stores
- Wholesalers/Distributors
- Bars
- All Other
- Farm/Aquaculture Support
- Fishing
- Cafeterias/Bufkets



Sources: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages, and U.S. Census Bureau Nonemployer Statistics. Estimates of the number of farmers and hired farmworkers are produced every 5 years by the USDA Census of Agriculture and are not shown in this figure. “All other stores” includes convenience stores, specialty food stores, liquor stores, health food stores, and vending machine operators. Employment at warehouse clubs and supercenters was suppressed. “All other” includes community food services (e.g., food pantries), solid waste collection, and agricultural market and commodity regulation.

ECONOMIC IMPACT OF RHODE ISLAND'S FOOD SYSTEM, 2022



POSITIVE TREND

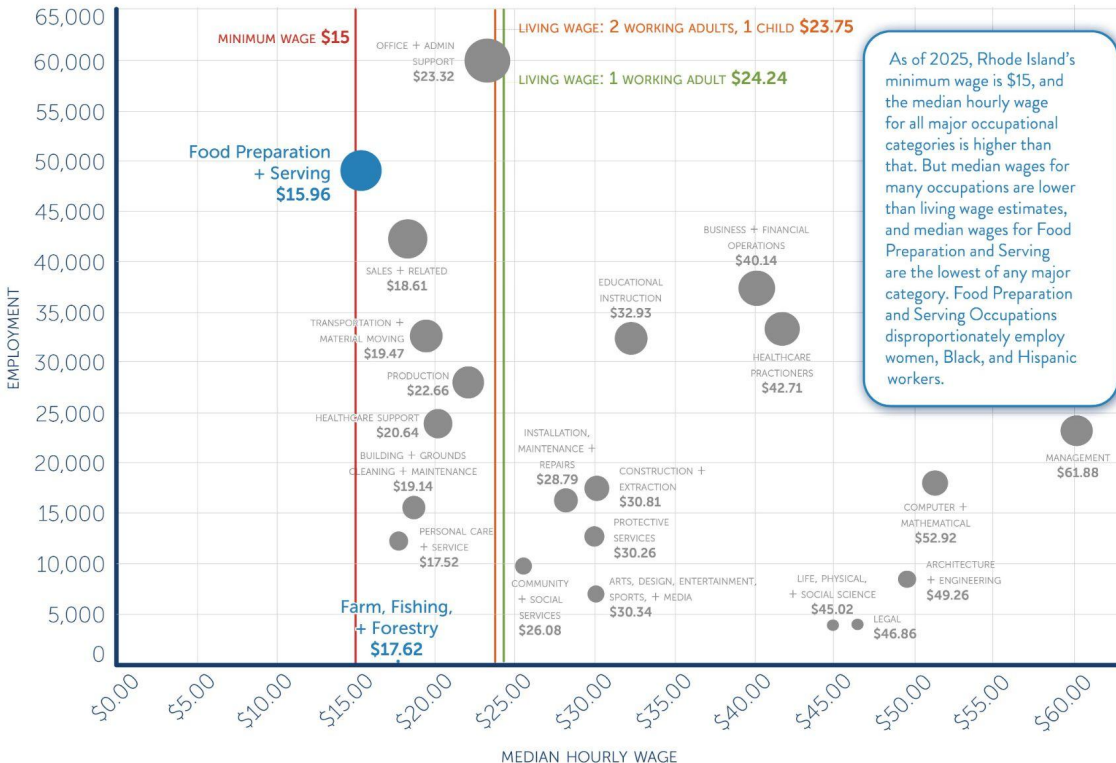
New England Feeding New England estimated the overall economic impact of New England's food system based on data from 2017 (and adjusted for inflation to 2020 dollars). Using data from the 2022 Economic Census and other sources, we can update the previous estimates and provide a new range of values in 2024 dollars. Food Services and Drinking Places accounted for the majority of food system jobs and grew slightly from 2017 to 2022. Retail Food Stores, Food Wholesaling and Distribution, and Food Services and Drinking Places accounted for the majority of sales. Food and Beverage Manufacturing both experienced double-digit percent increases in employment and sales.



	2022 Employment	% of Total	Growth from 2017- 2022	2022 Sales	% of Total	Growth from 2017- 2022
Agriculture	3,765*	5.2%	1.0%	\$95,010,788	0.5%	41.6%
Fisheries	911	1.3%	-7.8%	\$103,285,241	0.6%	-19.9%
Aquaculture	56	0.08%	n/d	\$8,364,885	0.05%	-2.8%
Food Manufacturing	4,240	5.9%	18.8%	\$1,191,336,966	6.7%	52.7%
Beverage Manufacturing	723	1.0%	57.2%	\$137,421,135	0.8%	32.5%
Wholesaling + Distributing	3,370	4.7%	3.2%	\$6,092,000,591	34.1%	-17.5%
Stores	12,813	17.8%	3.5%**	\$6,339,713,204	35.5%	19.0%
Food Services + Drinking Places	45,245	62.7%	0.8%	\$3,707,209,951	20.8%	9.5%
All Others	1,028	1.4%	26.6%	\$162,747,829	0.9%	18.0%
TOTAL	72,151	100.0%	3.0%	\$17,838,203,588	100.0%	2.9%

Sources: 2017 and 2022 Economic Censuses; 2017 and 2022 USDA Census of Agriculture; 2017 and 2022 U.S. Census Bureau Nonemployer Statistics; Atlantic Coastal Cooperative Statistics Program; Rhode Island Coastal Resources Management Council. Adjusted for inflation with producer price indices and consumer price index to 2024 dollars. * We are using employment values for farmers and hired farm labor in this table since the Census of Agriculture and Economic Census were both conducted in 2017 and 2022. ** The value of "Warehouse Clubs and Supercenters" employment was suppressed in 2017 and 2022 so we do not have a full picture of retail store employment.

Median Hourly Wages for Major Occupational Categories, 2023



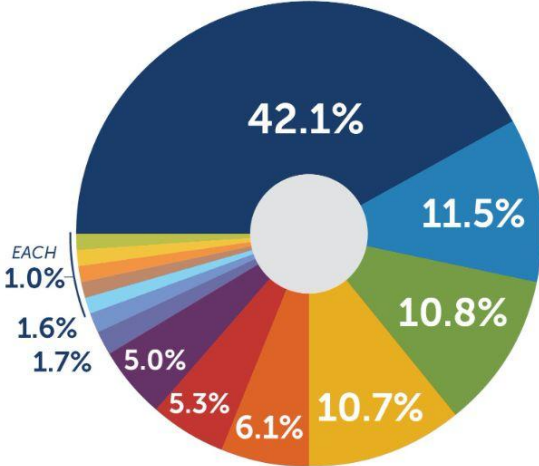
As of 2025, Rhode Island's minimum wage is \$15, and the median hourly wage for all major occupational categories is higher than that. But median wages for many occupations are lower than living wage estimates, and median wages for Food Preparation and Serving are the lowest of any major category. Food Preparation and Serving occupations disproportionately employ women, Black, and Hispanic workers.

Sources: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, May 2023, Occupational Employment and Wage Statistics. Living Wage Calculator, Living Wage Calculation for Rhode Island. A living wage is the amount that 2 adults with 2 children would have to earn per hour to meet 8 basic needs in Rhode Island: housing, transportation, food, childcare, health care, civic engagement (e.g., entertainment), broadband, other necessities (e.g., clothing), and taxes. Adjusted for inflation to 2024 dollars.

ESTIMATED MARKET SHARE OF GROCERY STORES IN RHODE ISLAND



The Grocery Gap Atlas estimates that 81% of state markets are less concentrated than Rhode Island, while 19% of all states are more concentrated.



- Ahold Delhaize (Hannaford)
- All Others
- Walmart
- Albertsons
- Dave's Marketplace
- Amazon
- Wakefern Food Corp (Price Rite)
- Dollar Tree
- BJ's Wholesale Club
- Clements' Marketplace
- Seabra Group
- Target
- Aldi
- Brigido's Fresh Marketplace

All Others includes dozens of corner markets, specialty food stores (e.g., meat markets) and other independent grocery stores.

Source: Grocery Gap Analysis.

Food Access & Security

Is food insecurity in RI increasing or decreasing?

Are some residents disproportionately impacted?

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KEY STATS

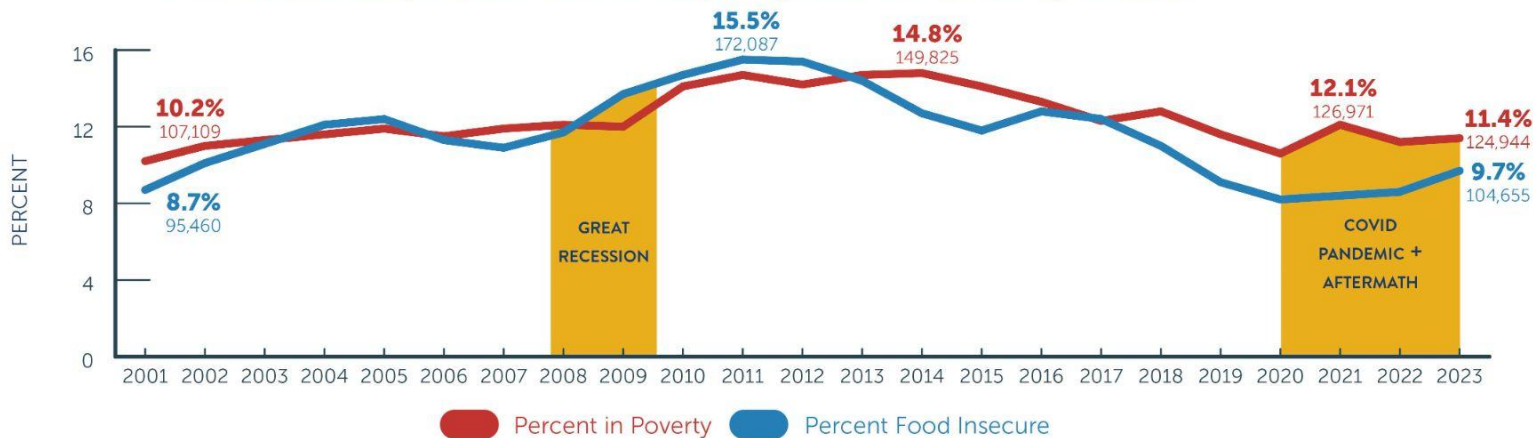
	2024 FACTBOOK	2025 FACTBOOK	LONG-TERM TREND
PEOPLE IN POVERTY	11.2% 2022	11.4% 2023	12.4% 2001-2023
FOOD INSECURE	8.6% 2022	9.7% 2023	11.6% 2001-2023
PEOPLE SERVED BY FOOD BANK	77,500 2023	84,400 2024	+25,400 2016-2024
NONWHITE POPULATION RECEIVING SNAP BENEFITS	34.8% 2018 5-year average	28.1% 2023 5-year average	More data collection necessary
WHITE POPULATION RECEIVING SNAP BENEFITS	11.2% 2018 5-year average	9.6% 2023 5-year average	More data collection necessary



POVERTY AND FOOD INSECURITY, 2001-2023

NO TREND

The percent of Rhode Islanders in poverty gradually increased from 2001 to 2009. Poverty then jumped several percentage points due to the Great Recession and lingered at over **14%** for six years. Poverty then decreased from 2014 to 2019, although it did not go below the percentage in 2001. The COVID-19 pandemic then spiked the percent of Rhode Islanders in poverty to **12.1% (126,971 people)**, before decreasing to **11.4% (124,944 people)** in 2023. **Food insecurity in Rhode Island mirrors poverty trends and has recently increased.**

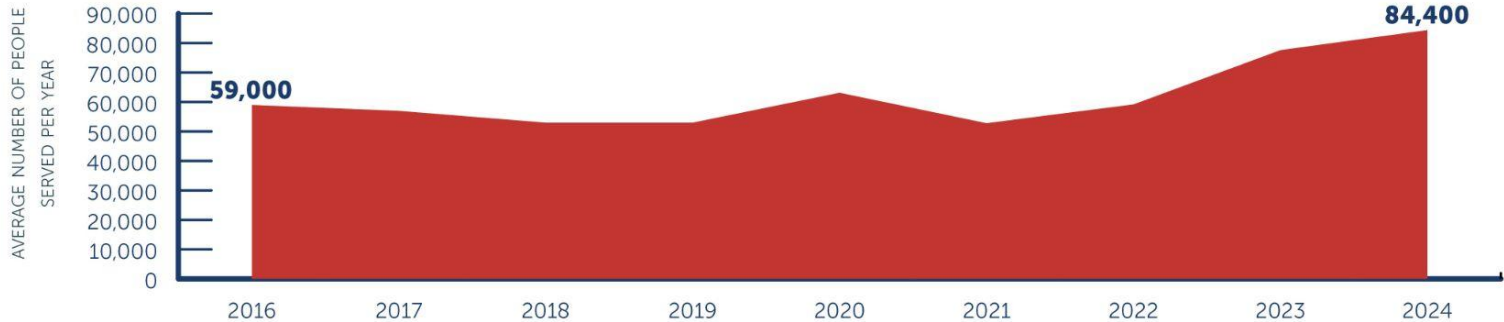


Sources: U.S. Census Bureau Small Area Income and Poverty Estimates (via FRED) and USDA Economic Research Service, Household Food Security in the United States, multiple years.

AVERAGE NUMBER OF PEOPLE SERVED BY CHARITABLE FOOD SYSTEM



In 2024, the [Rhode Island Community Food Bank](#) estimated that a record number of Rhode Islanders—**84,400**—sought assistance through the Food Bank and its network of 147 member agencies. High food prices due to supply chain disruptions—like the COVID-19 pandemic, war in Ukraine, and avian influenza outbreak—and the ending of emergency SNAP benefits in 2023 are thought to be the primary drivers of the increased need for food assistance.



Source: Rhode Island Community Food Bank, Status Report on Hunger in Rhode Island, multiple years.

Agriculture & Land Use

**What kinds of agricultural products does RI grow/harvest?
Is RI's agriculture sector growing or contracting?**

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KEY STATS

	2024 FACTBOOK	2025 FACTBOOK	LONG-TERM TREND
MAJOR LAND INVENTORY	36,647 <small>2012</small>	29,000 <small>2017</small>	-120,000 <small>1945-2017</small> 
AG CENSUS ACRES	56,864 <small>2017</small>	59,076 <small>2022</small>	-1,745 <small>2002-2022</small> 
FARMLAND VALUE/ACRE	\$18,874 <small>2023</small>	\$22,000 <small>2024</small>	+\$1,745 <small>2006-2024</small> 
TOTAL SALES <small>DOES NOT INCLUDE USDA AQUACULTURE ESTIMATES</small>	\$62,447,411 <small>2017</small>	\$86,645,903 <small>2022</small>	+\$24,198,492 <small>2017-2022</small> 
SALES BY ECONOMIC CLASS	0.5% farms accounted for 28.8% of sales <small>2017 farms with sales >\$1 million</small>	2.0% farms accounted for 49.7% of sales <small>2022 farms with sales >\$1 million</small>	Widening gap 
RACE OF FARMER	98% White <small>2017</small>	97% White <small>2022</small>	+53 Non-White Farmers <small>1992-2022</small> 



MAJOR AGRICULTURAL LAND USES IN RHODE ISLAND, 1945-2017

NEGATIVE TREND



The [USDA's Major Land Uses series](#) is the “longest running, most comprehensive accounting of all major land uses of public and private land in the United States.” This series shows a steep decrease in land in agriculture in RI after World War II that flattens out around 1987. Since then, acreage has remained ≈36,000 acres, comprised mostly of cropland. Acreage then dropped steeply to 29,000 acres in 2017.



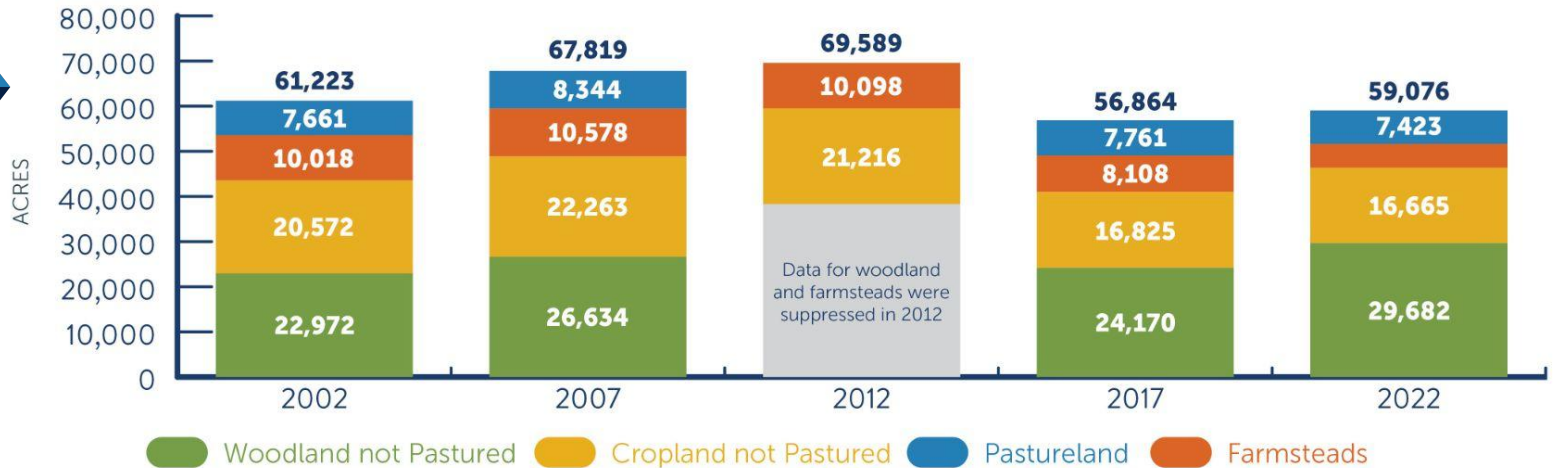
Source: USDA Major Land Uses. Data for 2022 has not been published. Note: the Major Land Uses series designates “forest with grazing” and *not* the total amount of forest land (i.e., “woodland”) owned by farmers, as shown in the figure below.

LAND IN AGRICULTURE, 2002-2022

NEGATIVE TREND



The [2022 Census of Agriculture](#) estimates a larger amount of land in agriculture than the Major Land Uses series because it includes *all* woodland owned by a farm. Land in agriculture is estimated to have increased from 2002 to 2012, decreased from 2012 to 2017, and then increased from 2017 to 2022. An important point to emphasize, however, is that cropland, pastureland, and farmstead acreage generally *decreased*, while woodland estimates went up and down. Washington (35%) and Providence (28.7%) counties contain the majority of agricultural land.



Source: USDA Census of Agriculture, multiple years.

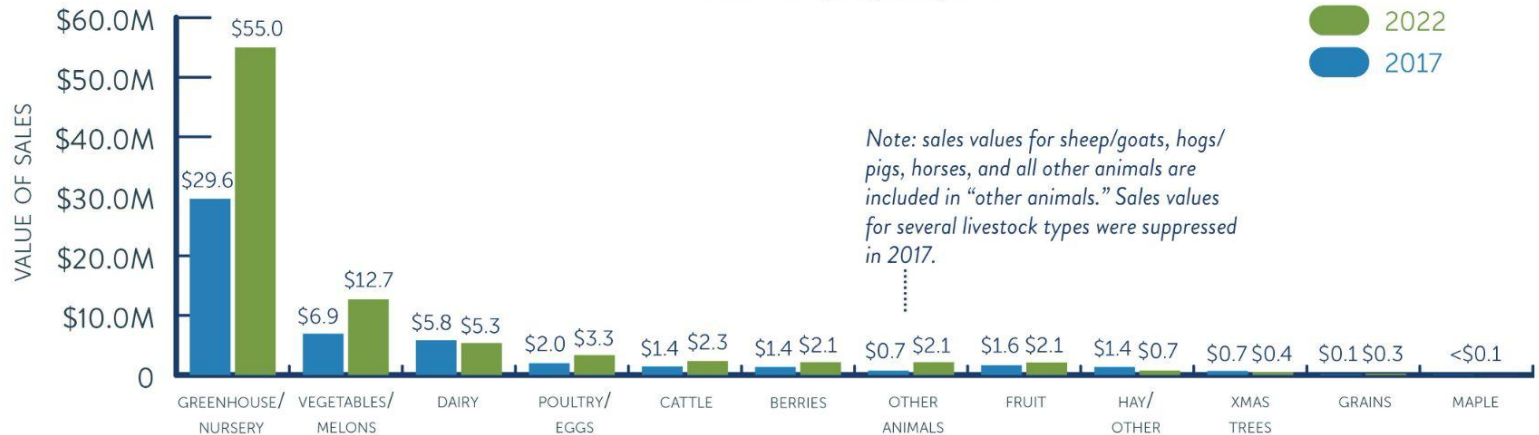
AGRICULTURAL SALES, 2022



Agricultural sales in Rhode Island increased from \$62.4 million in 2017, to \$86.6 million in 2022. With its limited landmass, Rhode Island is heavily invested in **inedible products**. Greenhouses/nurseries/floriculture accounted for 21.9% of farms and 63.5% of sales in 2022, and most of the sales increase from 2017 to 2022 was due to greenhouse/nursery/floriculture sales.



TOTAL: \$86,645,903



Source: USDA 2017 and 2022 Censuses of Agriculture. Adjusted for inflation to 2024 dollars. Agriculture sales in this figure also do not include agricultural support activities or aquaculture.

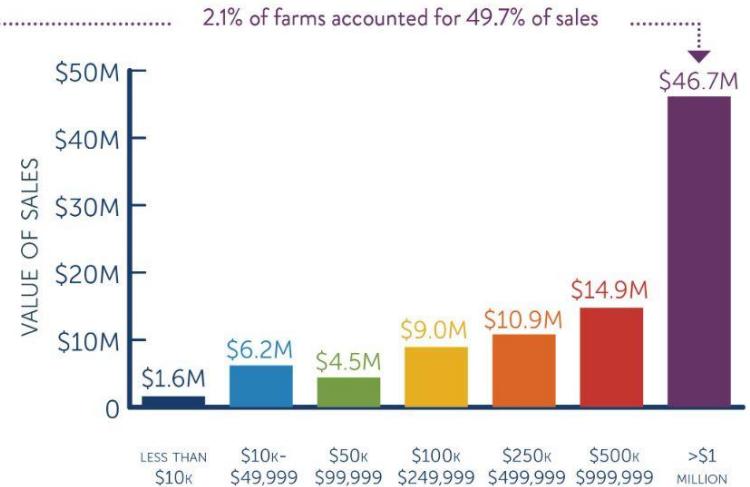
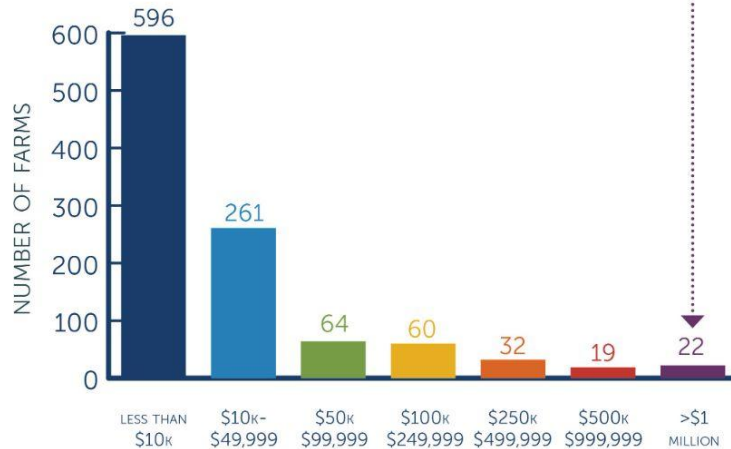
NUMBER OF FARMS AND SALES BY ECONOMIC CLASS, 2022



As with most states in the country, a fundamental scale asymmetry is evident in Rhode Island agriculture: Small farms make up the majority of farms but they have comparatively limited sales. A small number of large farms—selling mostly nursery/greenhouse/floriculture products—generate the majority of sales.

1,054 FARMS

\$93,948,051



Source: USDA 2022 Census of Agriculture, Market Value. Adjusted for inflation to 2024 dollars with produce price indices. Note: figure *does* include USDA estimates of aquaculture sales.





Commercial Fisheries & Aquaculture

What kinds of seafood products does RI harvest?
Are commercial fishing/aquaculture growing or contracting?

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KEY STATS

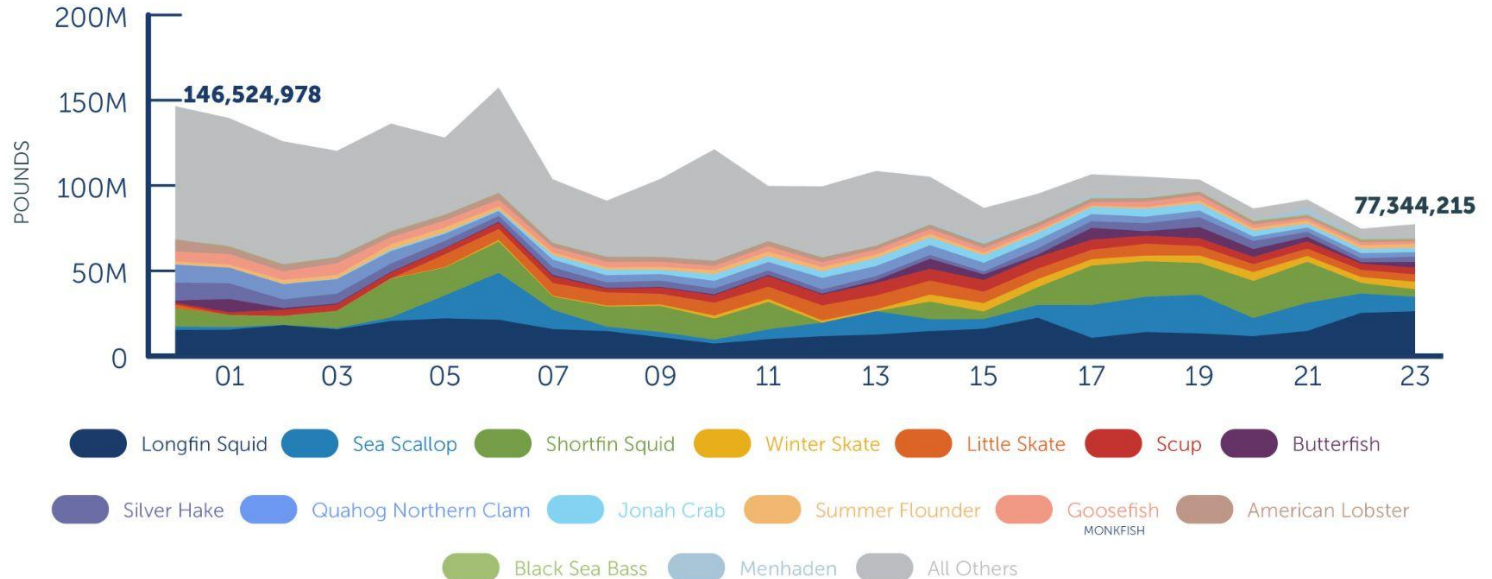
	2024 FACTBOOK	2025 FACTBOOK	LONG-TERM TREND
LANDINGS <small>POUNDS</small>	74,701,068 <small>2022</small>	77,344,215 <small>2023</small>	-69,180,763  <small>2000-2023</small>
SALES	\$106,789,777 <small>2022</small>	\$89,639,504 <small>2023</small>	-\$75,756,946  <small>2000-2023</small>
AQUACULTURE ACRES	374 <small>2022</small>	384.3 <small>2023</small>	+330.6  <small>2002-2023</small>
AQUACULTURE SALES	\$8,364,885 <small>2022</small>	\$8,496,065 <small>2023</small>	+≈\$8 million  <small>2002-2023</small>



COMMERCIAL SEAFOOD LANDINGS, 2002-2023



Total pounds of seafood landed by commercial Rhode Island fishermen decreased by **47.2%** from 2000 (146 million pounds) to 2023 (77 million pounds), although seafood landings have been relatively consistent over the past 13 years. Together, longfin and shortfin squid accounted for 40% of pounds landed in 2023.

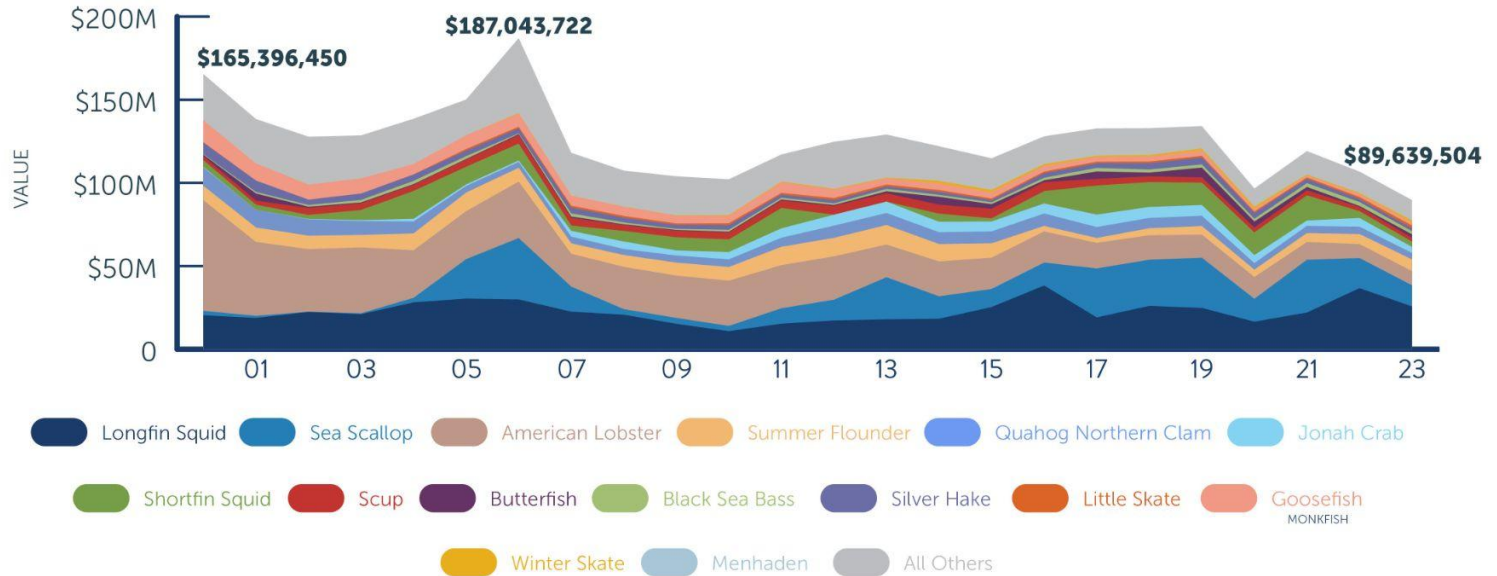


Source: Atlantic Coastal Cooperative Statistics Program. Note: Live pounds are used here.

VALUE OF COMMERCIAL SEAFOOD LANDINGS, 2002-2023



Except for a spike in 2006 and a valley in 2020 due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the total value of seafood landed by Rhode Island fishers has been *relatively* consistent over the past 23 years at over \$100 million. Longfin squid (29.2%) and sea scallop (14.4%) accounted for 43.6% of the value.



Sources: NOAA Fisheries and the Atlantic Coastal Cooperative Statistics Program. Adjusted for inflation to 2024 dollars using producer price indices.

AQUACULTURE PRODUCTION, 2002-2023



Eastern oysters, the most valuable seafood species coming out of Rhode Island waters, account for about 98% of all Rhode Island aquaculture production. Rhode Island has experienced steady growth in its aquaculture industry over the past 20 years, from 54 acres in 2002, to 384 acres in 2023. Aquaculture sales were about \$315,000 in 2002 and over \$8.2 million in 2019. Sales dipped dramatically in 2020 due to the COVID-19 pandemic since most Eastern oysters are served in restaurants. Sales subsequently rebounded to a little more than \$8 million from 2021 to 2023.



Source: Coastal Resources Management Council. Adjusted for inflation to 2024 dollars using unprocessed shellfish producer price index. PPI values are not available prior to 2007.

GROSS SALES OF RHODE ISLAND'S SEAFOOD SECTOR, 2016

NO TREND

Dr. Thomas Sproul (formerly at the University of Rhode Island) estimated nearly **\$575 million** in sales from Rhode Island's seafood and fisheries sector in 2016. Wholesalers (e.g., importers and exporters, brokers) generated 45.7% (\$274 million) in sales, followed by commercial fishing (16.4%, \$98.5 million) and service and supply businesses (e.g., nets, commercial tackle and gear, boat and equipment maintenance).



TOTAL = \$573,853,999



Source: Dr. Thomas Sproul and Clayton Michaud, 2019, The Economic Impact of Rhode Island's Fisheries and Seafood Sector, University of Rhode Island.

Climate Change

How is climate change impacting RI's food system?





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KEY STATS



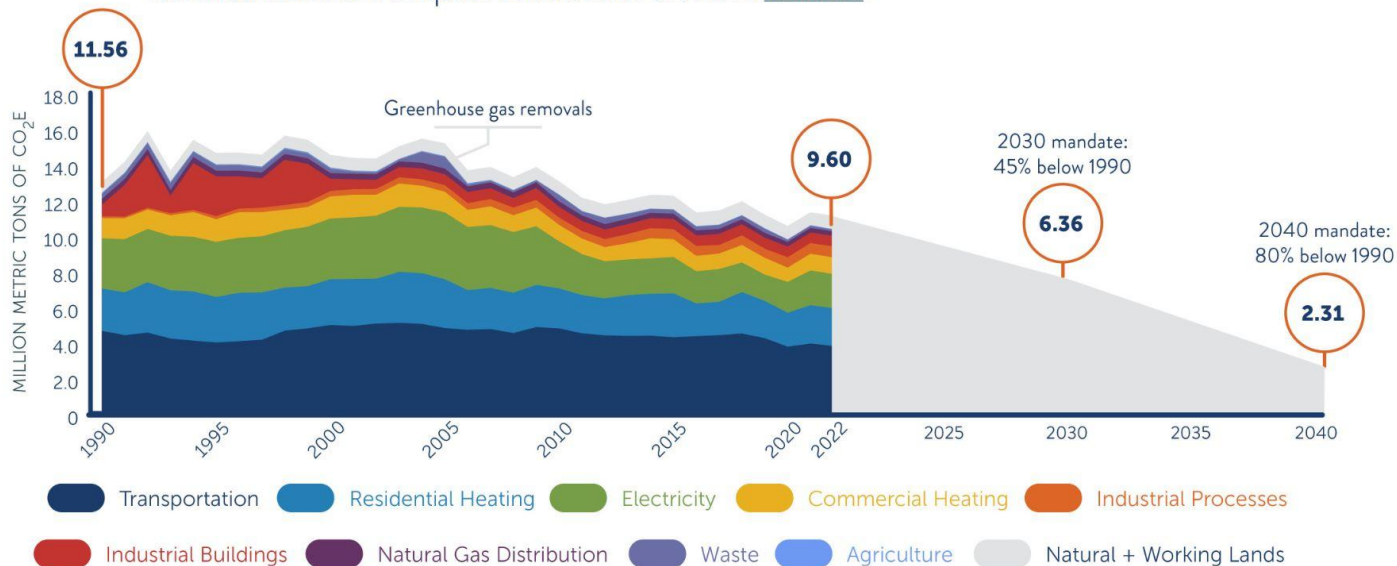
	2024 FACTBOOK	2025 FACTBOOK	LONG-TERM TREND
NET GHG EMISSIONS	9.03 2020	9.60 2022	-1.96 1990-2022 
AVERAGE AIR TEMPERATURE	52.7°F 2023	54.0°F 2024	+5.0°F 2024 compared to average 
BILLION DOLLAR DISASTERS	32 2023	34 2024	1.8 Events/year 2020-2024 
NEW INDICATOR			
METRIC TONS OF CO ₂ E FROM WASTED FOOD	852,000 2022	843,000 2023	+106,000 2016-2023 

GREENHOUSE GAS INVENTORY, 1990-2022



Net greenhouse gas emissions decreased **18.3%** from 11.56 MMCO₂e in 1990, to **9.60 MMCO₂e in 2022**.

Transportation continues to be the largest source of emissions in Rhode Island. Emissions reductions for transportation from 2019 to 2020 are likely due to pandemic restrictions on travel (e.g., -79.6% for aviation emissions). Additional substantial decreases are required to meet 2030 and 2040 [mandates](#).

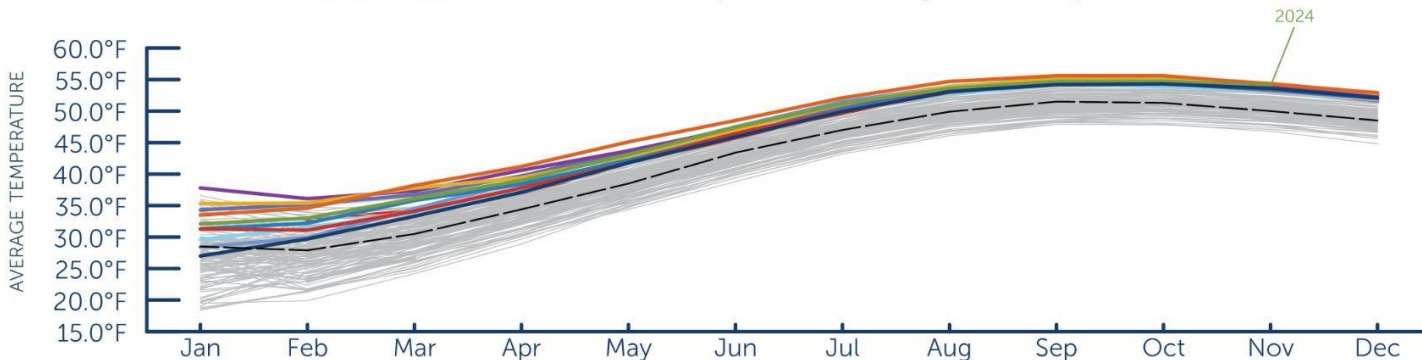


Source: State of Rhode Island Department of Environmental Management, 1990-2022 Rhode Island Greenhouse Gas (GHG) Emissions Inventory.

AVERAGE ANNUAL TEMPERATURE, 1895-2024



Eight of the ten warmest years on record in Rhode Island—**2024, 2012, 2020, 2023, 2021, 2016, 2022, 2010,**—have happened since the 2010s. 2024 was the warmest year on record, globally and in Rhode Island. As the [Fifth National Climate Assessment](#) warns, “the more the planet warms, the greater the impacts.”



Source: NOAA National Centers for Environmental Information, Climate at a Glance: Statewide Haywoods.

FOOD WASTE, 2015

NO TREND

A 2015 “Waste Characterization” study found that food waste (vegetative and protein) is the top single material in Rhode Island’s municipal waste stream at **100,000 tons (2 million pounds)**. Residential food waste accounted for 60.6% (60,677 tons) of total food waste, while industrial, commercial, and institutional food waste accounted for 39.4% (39,453 tons). As food waste decomposes, methane—a greenhouse gas 28 times as potent as carbon dioxide at trapping heat—is emitted. While food is landfilled by the ton each day, thousands of people in Rhode Island simultaneously experience food insecurity.



528,168 TONS TOTAL MSW
100,030 TONS FOOD WASTE
60,577 TONS RESIDENTIAL FOOD WASTE
39,453 TONS INDUSTRIAL, COMMERCIAL, INSTITUTIONAL FOOD WASTE

Vegetative food waste 84,827 tons 8.1%	Treated wood 35,111 tons 3.4%		Compostable paper 34,048 tons 3.2%		Leaf and yard debris 27,679 tons 2.6%		Contam. bags/films 20,883 tons 2.0%	
	Carpet/padding 15,495 tons 1.5%	Mixed paper 11,084 tons 1.1%	Non-apparel 11,077 tons 1.1%	Other organics 9,595 tons 0.9%	Bottles/Jars 9,331 tons 0.9%	Comp. paper 8,934 tons 0.9%		
Other (not classified) 46,028 tons 4.4%	Protein food waste 15,203 tons 1.5%	Uncoated paperboard 8,634 tons 0.8%	Retail bags/film 5,983 tons 0.6%	Plastic #1-7 5,957 tons 0.6%	Small scrap metal 5,799 tons 0.6%	Glossy paper 4,751 tons 0.5%	Bulky plast. 4,724 tons 0.5%	
		Cardboard boxes 41,244 tons 3.9%	Furniture 13,847 tons 1.3%	Newsprint 7,655 tons 0.7%	PET 4,714 tons 0.4%	All other classifiable material (e.g., tires, aluminum cans) 19,974 tons		
Bulky waste 37,394 tons 3.6%	Composite plastic 12,696 tons 1.2%	Dimensional lumber 6,992 tons 0.7%	Drywall 4,199 tons 0.4%					
		All other C&D 6,695 tons 0.6%	Styrofoam 4,035 tons 0.4%	Large scrap metal 3,600 tons				

Source: DSM Environmental Services, 2015, Rhode Island Solid Waste Characterization Study

2025 Municipal Fact Sheets Update

RICHMOND

This document is designed to give Rhode Islanders a better understanding of how we produce, harvest, process, distribute, retail, and consume food, and how we dispose of food waste. We have created one for every town and city in the state. We'll continue to bring you more about how this data comes from.

To learn more about our work, please check out the RI Food Access & Security and the Planning, Accessible, Equitable, and Just Municipal Food Systems Toolkit. We are excited to be connected to all of our Rhode Islanders and to schedule an exploratory conversation.

POPULATION: 12,122
 LAND USE:
 • Cropland
 • Forest
 • Agriculture
 • Water
 • Other Land

CENTRAL FALLS

This document is designed to give Rhode Islanders a better understanding of how we produce, harvest, process, distribute, retail, and consume food, and how we dispose of food waste. We have created one for every town and city in the state. We'll continue to bring you more about how this data comes from.

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POPULATION: 22,103
 LAND USE:
 • Cropland
 • Forest
 • Agriculture
 • Water
 • Other Land

Food Economy

The process of growing, manufacturing, distributing, and selling food products is a vital part of our economy. Collectively, what we call the food economy, is the sum of all the people, places, and processes that are involved in the production, distribution, and sale of food products.

Food Economy	2021	2022
Population	12,122	12,122
Food Access & Security	0	0

WARREN

This document is designed to give Rhode Islanders a better understanding of how we produce, harvest, process, distribute, retail, and consume food, and how we dispose of food waste. We have created one for every town and city in the state. We'll continue to bring you more about how this data comes from.

To learn more about our work, please check out the RI Food Access & Security and the Planning, Accessible, Equitable, and Just Municipal Food Systems Toolkit. We are excited to be connected to all of our Rhode Islanders and to schedule an exploratory conversation.

POPULATION: 12,122
 LAND USE:
 • Cropland
 • Forest
 • Agriculture
 • Water
 • Other Land

Food Access & Security

The process of growing, manufacturing, distributing, and selling food products is a vital part of our economy. Collectively, what we call the food economy, is the sum of all the people, places, and processes that are involved in the production, distribution, and sale of food products.

Food Access & Security	2021	2022
Population	12,122	12,122
Food Access & Security	0	0

Land Use & Sustainability

With any other level of government, municipalities need to think about their land use and its related sustainability impacts. The data presented in this fact sheet is intended to provide a baseline for municipalities to use in their planning and decision-making processes. This data is intended to be used in conjunction with other data and information available to municipalities and their local food systems.

Land Use & Sustainability	2021	2022
Population	12,122	12,122
Land Use & Sustainability	0	0

- Updated data for 2025!
- Secondary data from government, nonprofits
- NEW metrics: urban farms; dollar value of schools purchasing local food

QUICK ACTION SHEET

USING YOUR MUNICIPAL FACT SHEET FOR PLANNING

Each municipal fact sheet offers a snapshot of the most pressing food system issues in the jurisdiction. This data can be a useful guide for community conversations and can be used to inform policy and program development. To learn more about our work, please check out the RI Food Access & Security and the Planning, Accessible, Equitable, and Just Municipal Food Systems Toolkit. We are excited to be connected to all of our Rhode Islanders and to schedule an exploratory conversation.

Develop a Municipal Food Systems Plan

Data in the Fact Sheet can help municipal officials identify areas of need and opportunity. Using these findings along with municipal government resources, such as municipal financial data, can help identify areas of need and opportunity. This information can be used to inform policy and program development. To learn more about our work, please check out the RI Food Access & Security and the Planning, Accessible, Equitable, and Just Municipal Food Systems Toolkit. We are excited to be connected to all of our Rhode Islanders and to schedule an exploratory conversation.

Build the Food Economy

The information under "Food Economy" can be used to identify the strengths and weaknesses of the local food economy. By exploring the government's role in the food economy, municipalities can identify areas of need and opportunity. This information can be used to inform policy and program development. To learn more about our work, please check out the RI Food Access & Security and the Planning, Accessible, Equitable, and Just Municipal Food Systems Toolkit. We are excited to be connected to all of our Rhode Islanders and to schedule an exploratory conversation.

Plan a Sustainable Municipality

"Land Use & Sustainability" data can assist municipalities in understanding current land use patterns. One area of current land use patterns, municipalities should focus on identifying areas of need and opportunity. This information can be used to inform policy and program development. To learn more about our work, please check out the RI Food Access & Security and the Planning, Accessible, Equitable, and Just Municipal Food Systems Toolkit. We are excited to be connected to all of our Rhode Islanders and to schedule an exploratory conversation.

Improve Food Access & Security

The data under "Food Access & Security" can help municipalities identify areas of need and opportunity. This information can be used to inform policy and program development. To learn more about our work, please check out the RI Food Access & Security and the Planning, Accessible, Equitable, and Just Municipal Food Systems Toolkit. We are excited to be connected to all of our Rhode Islanders and to schedule an exploratory conversation.

Planning Accessible, Equitable, and Resilient Municipal Food Systems:

A Toolkit for Rhode Island Municipalities to Build the Food Economy, Plan a Sustainable Municipality, and Improve Food Justice

RI FOOD POLICY COUNCIL

QUESTIONS?

RI FOOD
POLICY
COUNCIL



**RI FOOD
POLICY
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