

# Rhode Island

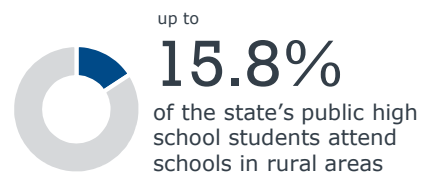


Rhode Island has a small rural high school student population; these students less than a fifth of the state's total high school population.

## Size of the Rural Market

**7,000+**

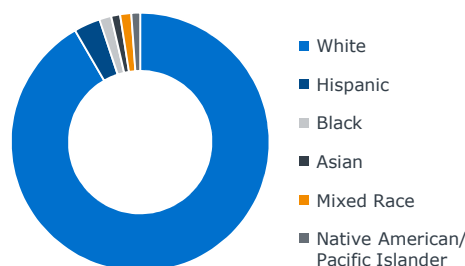
rural students in grades 9-12<sup>1</sup> throughout the state



Rural RI is almost entirely white, with the largest minority population being Hispanic (3.3%).

RI's rural median family income (\$74,200) is below the overall state median income (\$63,900). Furthermore, rural RI falls in the middle quintile for economic mobility, meaning the current generation may out earn their parents.

## Statewide Rural Diversity Measures



**\$74,200**

median family income in rural parts of the state

**28 of 50**

economic mobility ranking (middle quintile) ●●●●●

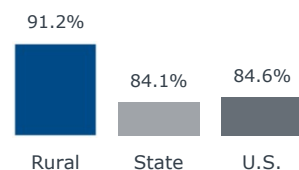
High school graduation as well as AP and SAT/ACT participation rates are a useful college preparedness gauge. The rural student population has a very strong graduation rate compared to the rest of the state and country.

Rural students participate in AP exams and the ACT/SAT at below their state peers, especially when looking at ACT/SAT rates.

## Academic Preparedness

### High School Graduation Rates

*Rural, state, and national averages*



### College Readiness Indicators

	Rural	State
Share of junior and senior students who take ACT/SAT per year	22.7%	26.2%
Share of rural HS students taking 1+ AP exams per year	11.3%	10.4%

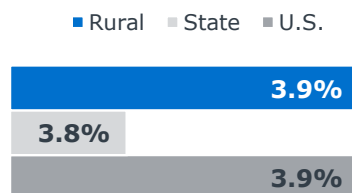
The unemployment rate in rural RI is exactly the national rate, which is also very close to the state rate overall, showing a strong job market.

Looking at the top industries in rural parts of the state, none of the categories necessarily require a college degree, at least for the majority of reported roles held. Select roles in other categories (i.e., accounting) may also require a degree.

## Employment and Industry Context

### Unemployment Rates<sup>†</sup>

Unemployment in rural RI is on par with both the state and national rates.



<sup>†</sup> Data as of December 2018

### Main Industries in Rural RI

The main industries in the nonmetro areas of the state, excluding retail and food service occupations, are:

- **Building maintenance/cleaning**  
Maids and housekeeping; janitors/ cleaners; landscaping workers and groundskeepers
- **Office and administrative**  
Secretaries and office assistants; general clerks; bookkeeping and accounting clerks
- **Construction and extraction**  
Operating engineers and equipment operators; construction laborers; carpenters

<sup>1</sup>) 2015-16 NCES private school data shows about 50 additional rural students in private schools in the state.

Source: See "Data and Methodology" for a full explanation of resources accessed and analyses conducted.