

The year 2018 did not bring any change in Rhode Island's ranking of 47th place on the RI Center for Freedom & Prosperity's Jobs & Opportunity Index (JOI). The five of 12 datapoints that changed for this iteration split between positive and negative developments.

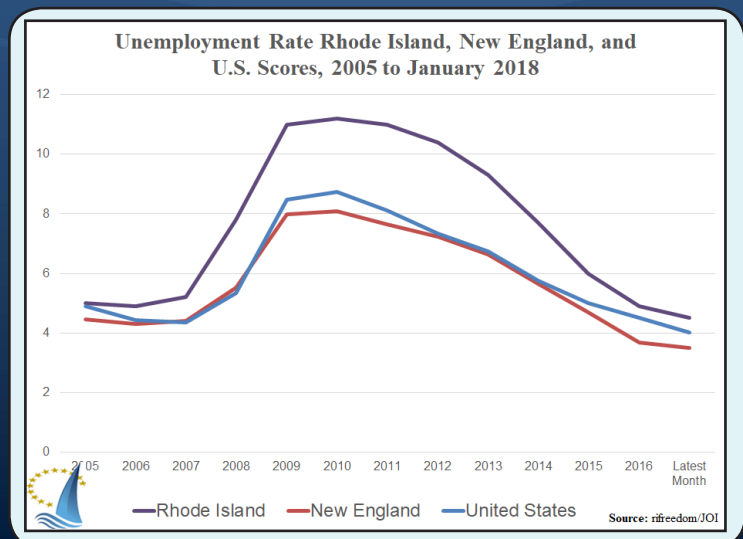
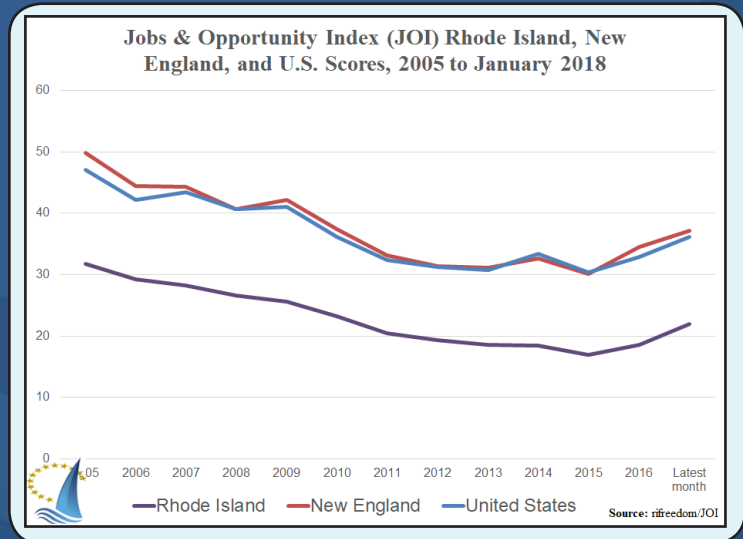
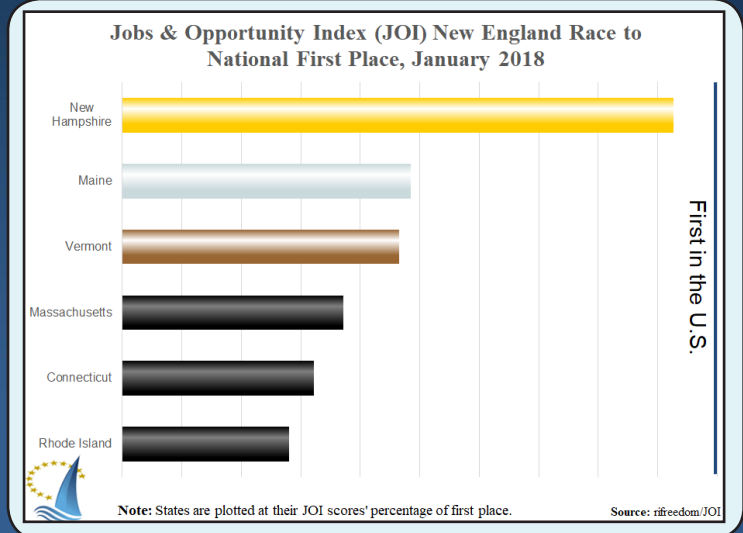
Employment was up from the revised number for December, by 330, while labor force was up 334. RI-based jobs increased, from their pre-revision number, by 400. Medicaid enrollment worsened, however, adding 2,380 enrollees, while SNAP (food stamps) also increased, by 804.

The first chart at right shows Rhode Island still in the last position in New England, 47th in the country. Regional leader New Hampshire is still in 2nd place, nationally, behind Wyoming. At 18th, Maine remains ahead of Vermont, which slipped a spot, to 21st. Massachusetts held on to its position of 33rd, while Connecticut fell one spot again, to 43rd.

The second chart shows the gap between RI and New England and the United States on JOI. In both cases, The Ocean State gained slightly on the U.S. average but slipped slightly against New England. On the official unemployment rate, RI lost ground against both regions.

Results for the three underlying JOI factors were:

- **Job Outlook Factor** (optimism that adequate work is available): RI held on to 18th.
- **Freedom Factor** (the level of work against reliance on welfare programs): RI remained 41st.
- **Prosperity Factor** (the financial motivation of income versus taxes): RI remained 47th.



Jobs > Jobs & Opportunity Index (JOI) > Monthly Snapshot > January 2018 > 2

	JOI			Job Outlook Factor			Freedom Factor			Prosperity Factor		
	Rank	Trend	Score	Rank	Trend	Score	Rank	Trend	Score	Rank	Trend	Score
Wyoming	1	👉	78.2	19	👉	6.6	1	👉	10.0	3	👉	8.9
New Hampshire	2	👉	72.5	6	👉	8.1	4	👉	7.9	2	👉	9.1
Utah	3	👉	67.6	17	👉	7.5	2	👉	9.8	14	👉	7.5
North Dakota	4	👉	61.9	1	👉	10.0	3	👉	9.0	27	👉	6.6
South Dakota	5	👉	52.9	3	👉	8.6	8	👉	6.7	19	👉	7.2
Virginia	6	👉	51.3	24	👉	6.4	7	👉	7.3	18	👉	7.3
Kansas	7	👉	50.7	11	👉	7.8	6	👉	7.4	25	👉	6.7
Idaho	8	👉	48.1	14	👉	7.7	11	👉	5.5	10	👉	7.7
Colorado	9	👉	45.0	7	👉	8.1	16	👎	5.0	16	👉	7.4
Iowa	10	👉	44.1	4	👉	8.5	14	👉	5.0	20	👉	7.1
South Carolina	11	👉	43.3	20	👍	6.6	25	👎	4.1	4	👉	8.7
Nebraska	12	👉	41.9	5	👉	8.4	5	👉	7.6	44	👉	5.3
Hawaii	13	👉	41.6	8	👉	8.1	26	👍	4.1	13	👉	7.6
Montana	14	👉	40.7	26	👎	6.4	32	👎	4.0	6	👉	8.4
Wisconsin	15	👉	40.6	10	👉	7.8	10	👉	5.6	31	👉	6.3
Oklahoma	16	👉	38.8	16	👉	7.5	31	👍	4.0	17	👉	7.4
Alabama	17	👉	38.4	30	👉	6.1	35	👎	3.9	7	👉	8.2
Maine	18	👉	37.9	23	👉	6.5	24	👎	4.3	15	👉	7.5
Texas	19	👍	37.1	25	👍	6.4	18	👍	4.7	22	👉	7.0
Alaska	20	👎	36.7	50	👉	4.0	42	👎	3.5	1	👉	10.0
Vermont	21	👎	36.4	9	👉	8.0	23	👎	4.3	29	👉	6.5
Indiana	22	👎	35.1	12	👉	7.8	17	👉	4.9	35	👉	6.0
Maryland	23	👎	35.0	31	👉	6.0	19	👎	4.7	24	👉	6.8
North Carolina	24	👎	34.6	27	👉	6.4	15	👍	5.0	33	👉	6.3
Arizona	25	👎	34.0	38	👉	5.4	37	👍	3.7	8	👉	7.9
Missouri	26	👉	32.9	13	👉	7.8	12	👉	5.4	45	👉	5.3
Nevada	27	👉	32.5	48	👉	4.6	29	👎	4.1	11	👉	7.6
Oregon	28	👉	31.9	29	👉	6.2	39	👉	3.7	21	👉	7.0
Washington	29	👉	31.7	35	👉	5.6	27	👎	4.1	23	👉	6.8
Georgia	30	👉	31.5	36	👉	5.5	20	👉	4.6	30	👉	6.4
Mississippi	31	👉	29.8	40	👉	5.2	44	👉	3.2	12	👉	7.6
Michigan	32	👉	29.4	32	👉	5.9	33	👎	4.0	32	👉	6.3
Massachusetts	33	👉	29.0	21	👎	6.6	22	👎	4.5	41	👉	5.5
New Jersey	34	👉	28.3	42	👉	5.1	13	👉	5.4	43	👉	5.4
Tennessee	35	👉	27.7	22	👉	6.6	36	👉	3.8	37	👉	5.8
Florida	36	👍	27.5	43	👉	5.1	40	👍	3.6	26	👉	6.7
West Virginia	37	👎	27.1	46	👉	4.9	49	👉	2.7	9	👉	7.8
Minnesota	38	👎	26.8	2	👉	8.7	9	👉	6.2	49	👉	3.8
Pennsylvania	39	👎	26.4	39	👉	5.2	34	👎	4.0	34	👉	6.0
New Mexico	40	👎	26.0	49	👉	4.5	50	👉	2.3	5	👉	8.5
California	41	👉	25.6	44	👉	5.1	43	👎	3.3	28	👉	6.5
Illinois	42	👎	25.6	37	👉	5.4	30	👎	4.1	38	👉	5.6
Connecticut	43	👎	25.1	47	👉	4.7	21	👉	4.6	42	👉	5.5
Kentucky	44	👉	23.9	28	👉	6.2	45	👎	3.2	39	👉	5.6
New York	45	👉	22.9	33	👉	5.8	47	👎	3.2	40	👉	5.6
Ohio	46	👉	22.7	34	👉	5.8	28	👎	4.1	46	👉	4.8
Rhode Island	47	👉	22.0	18	👉	6.7	41	👉	3.5	47	👉	4.8
Louisiana	48	👉	20.9	41	👉	5.2	48	👉	2.8	36	👉	5.8
Arkansas	49	👉	20.7	15	👉	7.5	46	👎	3.2	48	👉	4.4
Delaware	50	👉	12.5	45	👉	5.0	38	👎	3.7	50	👉	3.0