

# REPORT CARD on Rhode Island 'Competitiveness'

Spring 2013



*How the most anti-free-market, anti-family policies in the nation have failed the Ocean State*

Category	Grade	Subcategory	Date	Rhode Island			CT	MA	ME	NH	VT	Data Type	End Note
				US rank	NE rank	RI							
Tax Burden	D-	F State Business Tax Climate Index	2013	46	5	46	40	22	30	7	47	R	1
		F State and Local Tax Burden	FY10	45	5	10.9%	12.3%	10.4%	10.3%	8.1%	10.1%	D	2
		C Personal Income Tax Rate	2011	28	3	5.99%	6.70%	5.30%	8.50%	0.00%	8.95%	D	3
		F Corporate Income Tax Rate	2011	43	5	9.00%	9.00%	8.25%	8.93%	8.50%	8.50%	D	4
		D- Sales Tax Rate (State and Local)	2012	30	6	7.00%	6.35%	6.25%	5.00%	0.00%	6.14%	D	5
		F Estate Tax Exemption	2013	49	6	\$910,725	\$2,000,000	\$1,000,000	\$2,000,000	No Tax	\$2,750,000	D	6
		F Median Owner-Occupied Property Taxes Paid	2009	46	4	\$3,618	\$4,738	\$3,511	\$1,936	\$4,636	\$3,444	D	7
Business Climate	F	F Economic Freedom Index	2011	45	5	45	38	46	33	1	30	R	8
		F Top States for Business	2012	50	6	50	44	28	35	19	39	R	9
		F Best States for Business and Careers	2012	49	5	49	39	17	50	32	44	R	10
		C Long Term Competitive Index	2011	19	4	19	26	1	28	11	14	R	11
		F Small Business Survival Index	2011	47	5	47	44	42	45	33	48	R	12
		D- State Lawsuit Climate	2012	31	6	31	25	19	12	21	16	R	13
Spending & Debt	D-	C- Federal Expenditures per Capita	FY10	34	3	34	47	42	33	5	41	R	14
		C- State and Local Expenditures per Capita	2011	35	3	35	42	44	24	8	36	R	15
		F State and Local Debt per Capita	2011	47	5	47	46	48	11	32	21	R	16
		F Income Redistribution	2012	50	6	50	43	45	44	32	29	R	17
Employment & Income	D-	D Median Household Income	2011	27	6	\$49,033	\$65,415	\$63,313	\$49,693	\$65,880	\$51,862	D	18
		F Unemployment Rate	12-2012	50	6	9.9%	8.2%	6.7%	7.2%	5.7%	4.9%	D	19
		B- Labor Force Participation Rate	12-2012	15	3	66.5%	65.6%	65.0%	65.2%	69.6%	69.5%	D	20
		F Unemployment Tax Rate	2011	42	6	4.05%	1.96%	3.20%	2.19%	1.57%	1.83%	D	21
K-12 Education	D+	D- Spending per Pupil	FY10	43	4	\$13,699	\$14,906	\$13,590	\$12,259	\$12,383	\$15,274	D	22
		D+ K-12 Performance, Progress, and Reform	2012	30	4	C	C+	B-	C-	C+	D+	D	23
		C- Charter School Laws	2013	33	3	D	D	C	C	D	F	D	24
		D- High School Graduation Rate	2009	32	6	70.7	71.3	78.8	87.6	80.8	86.6	D	25
		B+ Parent Power	2013	21	1	21	36	25	37	40	45	R	26
		D- Home School Regulation Burden	2012	45	4	D	A	D	C	C	D	D	27
		D+ NAEP 4th Grade Math Scores	2011	22	5	242	242	253	244	252	247	D	28
C- NAEP 4th Grade Reading Scores	2011	19	5	222	227	237	222	230	227	D	29		

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Energy	D+	D- Gasoline Taxes (Cents per Gallon)	2012	38	5	33.0	48.6	23.5	31.5	19.6	26.1	D	30
		D Cost of Electricity (Cents per kWh)	2011	43	3	14.34	17.54	14.52	12.62	14.58	13.08	D	31
		C+ Residential Cost of Electricity (Cents per kWh)	2012	37	1	13.07	17.83	13.79	14.83	16.00	19.97	D	32
		C- Cost of Energy	2012	42	2	42	48	43	40	44	46	R	33
Infra-structure	F	F Deficient Bridges	2008	50	6	53.4%	36.1%	36.4%	27.8%	30.8%	35.4%	D	34
		F General Infrastructure & Transportation	2012	50	6	50	43	45	42	46	48	R	35
		C+ Government Management of Infrastructure	2008	28	2	C+	C+	D+	C+	D+	B+	D	36
		F Highway Cost Effectiveness	2011	50	6	50	41	44	32	27	42	R	37
Public Sector	D	D Gov't Pay & Transfers % of Personal Income	2011	33	4	33.1%	23.4%	25.0%	35.7%	24.1%	33.5%	D	38
		F State Gov't Compensation (vs Private Sector)	2011	46	5	14.0%	4.2%	-12.2%	5.2%	-11.6%	24.7%	D	39
		F Local Gov't Compensation (vs Private Sector)	2011	49	6	28.2%	-13.2%	-9.5%	-2.5%	-7.8%	-5.4%	D	40
		A- Public Workers (per 100 Private Sector)	2011	4	2	13.4%	16.0%	13.1%	17.3%	15.5%	18.1%	D	41
		F State & Local Pension Liability (% of GDP)	2009	44	6	42.8%	30.4%	23.8%	39.2%	21.0%	22.5%	D	42
Health Care	D-	D Medicare Spending per Enrollee	2009	35	4	\$10,121	\$11,086	\$11,277	\$8,821	\$8,763	\$8,719	D	43
		F # of Health Insurance Mandates	2011	50	6	70	63	48	53	46	46	D	44
		F Employer-Based Health Insurance Rates	2011	49	5	\$5,924	\$5,592	\$5,823	\$5,477	\$5,818	\$5,582	D	45
		F Medicaid Payments (per Enrollee)	FY09	47	5	\$8,566	\$9,577	\$7,579	\$6,895	\$6,978	\$5,331	D	46
		C Medicaid Enrollment (% of Population)	FY09	27	3	19%	17%	25%	27%	12%	29%	D	47
Living & Retiring in RI	F	D- Best State for Retirement	2012	41	4	41	37	46	43	16	25	R	48
		F Best State to Retire	2012	48	5	48	50	46	42	NA	47	R	49
		F Cost of Living	4Q12	44	5	44	48	42	39	40	41	R	50
		F Natural Population Growth (% of Population)	2012	46	4	0.14%	0.21%	0.28%	-0.01%	0.16%	0.09%	D	51
		F Most Regulated State (Land Use)	2008	49	6	49	34	24	48	22	43	R	52
		F Net Domestic Migration (% of Population)	2012	46	5	-0.51%	-0.54%	-0.15%	-0.02%	-0.07%	-0.28%	D	53

**Data Type:** Signifies whether the value in the table is a ranking (R) or actual data (D); comparisons that use a grading system are considered data.

**Grading System:** All rankings are arranged with a ranking of 1 representing the most desirable. The subcategory grade is determined by the average of the US (national) and NE (New England) scores, which are based on the respective ranking. The US score is determined by subtracting the US rank from 100. The NE score is determined by rank, as follows: 1 = 95; 2 = 85; 3 = 75; 4 = 65; 5 = 60; 6 = 55. The primary category grade is based on the average score of the subcategory grades. Letter grades are assigned as follows: A+ (99-97); A (96-93); A- (92-90); B+ (89-87); B (86-83); B- (82-80); C+ (79-77); C (76-73); C- (72-70); D+ (69-67); D (66-64); D- (63-61); F (60 and below).

**End Notes:** To download a PDF copy or to view original data sources and links, see below or go to: [www.RIFreedom.org](http://www.RIFreedom.org)



RI Center for Freedom and Prosperity: Report Card on RI Competitiveness

<u>End Note #:</u>	<u>Data Source:</u>	<u>Data Source Link / Notes</u>
1	The Tax Foundation	<a href="http://taxfoundation.org/article/2013-state-business-tax-climate-index">http://taxfoundation.org/article/2013-state-business-tax-climate-index</a>
2	The Tax Foundation	<a href="http://taxfoundation.org/article/annual-state-local-tax-burden-ranking-2010-new-york-citizens-pay-most-alaska-least">http://taxfoundation.org/article/annual-state-local-tax-burden-ranking-2010-new-york-citizens-pay-most-alaska-least</a>
3	SBE Council	<a href="http://www.sbecouncil.org/uploads/SBSI2011%5B1%5D.pdf">http://www.sbecouncil.org/uploads/SBSI2011%5B1%5D.pdf</a>
4	SBE Council	<a href="http://www.sbecouncil.org/uploads/SBSI2011%5B1%5D.pdf">http://www.sbecouncil.org/uploads/SBSI2011%5B1%5D.pdf</a>
5	The Tax Foundation	<a href="http://taxfoundation.org/article/state-and-local-sales-taxes-midyear-2012">http://taxfoundation.org/article/state-and-local-sales-taxes-midyear-2012</a>
6	About.com	<a href="http://wills.about.com/od/statestatetaxes/a/statestatetaxchart.htm">http://wills.about.com/od/statestatetaxes/a/statestatetaxchart.htm</a>
7	The Tax Foundation	<a href="http://taxfoundation.org/article/property-taxes-owner-occupied-housing-state-2004-2009">http://taxfoundation.org/article/property-taxes-owner-occupied-housing-state-2004-2009</a>
8	Mercatus Center	<a href="http://mercatus.org/freedom-50-states-2011">http://mercatus.org/freedom-50-states-2011</a>
9	CNBC	<a href="http://www.cnbc.com/id/100016697">http://www.cnbc.com/id/100016697</a>
10	Forbes	<a href="http://www.forbes.com/best-states-for-business/list/">http://www.forbes.com/best-states-for-business/list/</a>
11	Beacon Hill Inst.	<a href="http://www.beaconhill.org/Compete11/Compete2011.pdf">http://www.beaconhill.org/Compete11/Compete2011.pdf</a>
12	SBE Council	<a href="http://www.sbecouncil.org/uploads/SBSI2011%5B1%5D.pdf">http://www.sbecouncil.org/uploads/SBSI2011%5B1%5D.pdf</a>
13	US Chamber of Comm	<a href="http://www.institutelegalreform.com/states">http://www.institutelegalreform.com/states</a>
14	US Census Bureau	<a href="http://www.census.gov/prod/2011pubs/cffr-10.pdf">http://www.census.gov/prod/2011pubs/cffr-10.pdf</a>
15	SBE Council	<a href="http://www.sbecouncil.org/uploads/SBSI2011%5B1%5D.pdf">http://www.sbecouncil.org/uploads/SBSI2011%5B1%5D.pdf</a>
16	SBE Council	<a href="http://www.sbecouncil.org/uploads/SBSI2011%5B1%5D.pdf">http://www.sbecouncil.org/uploads/SBSI2011%5B1%5D.pdf</a>
17	24/7 Wall Street	<a href="http://state-benefits.247wallst.com/">http://state-benefits.247wallst.com/</a>
18	US Census Bureau	<a href="http://www.census.gov/hhes/www/income/data/historical/household/2011/H08_2011.xls">http://www.census.gov/hhes/www/income/data/historical/household/2011/H08_2011.xls</a>
19	Bur. Of Labor Stats.	<a href="http://www.bls.gov/web/laus/laumstrk.htm">http://www.bls.gov/web/laus/laumstrk.htm</a>
20	Bur. Of Labor Stats.	<a href="http://www.bls.gov/laus/ststdsadata.txt">http://www.bls.gov/laus/ststdsadata.txt</a>
21	SBE Council	<a href="http://www.sbecouncil.org/uploads/SBSI2011%5B1%5D.pdf">http://www.sbecouncil.org/uploads/SBSI2011%5B1%5D.pdf</a>
22	US Census Bureau	<a href="http://www.census.gov/govs/school/">http://www.census.gov/govs/school/</a>
23	ALEC	<a href="http://www.alec.org/docs/17thReportCard/ALECs_17th_Report_Card.pdf">http://www.alec.org/docs/17thReportCard/ALECs_17th_Report_Card.pdf</a>
24	Ctr for Ed Reform	<a href="http://www.edreform.com/2013/01/2013-charter-law-ranking-chart/">http://www.edreform.com/2013/01/2013-charter-law-ranking-chart/</a>
25	NCHEMS	<a href="http://www.higheredinfo.org/dbrowser/index.php?submeasure=36&amp;year=2009&amp;level=nation&amp;mode=graph&amp;state=0">http://www.higheredinfo.org/dbrowser/index.php?submeasure=36&amp;year=2009&amp;level=nation&amp;mode=graph&amp;state=0</a>
26	Ctr for Ed Reform	<a href="http://www.edreform.com/in-the-states/parent-power-index/">http://www.edreform.com/in-the-states/parent-power-index/</a>
27	ALEC	<a href="http://www.alec.org/docs/17thReportCard/ALECs_17th_Report_Card.pdf">http://www.alec.org/docs/17thReportCard/ALECs_17th_Report_Card.pdf</a>
28	Nation's Report Card	<a href="http://nces.ed.gov/nationsreportcard/statecomparisons">http://nces.ed.gov/nationsreportcard/statecomparisons</a>
29	Nation's Report Card	<a href="http://nces.ed.gov/nationsreportcard/statecomparisons">http://nces.ed.gov/nationsreportcard/statecomparisons</a>
30	The Tax Foundation	<a href="http://www.taxfoundation.org/taxdata/show/26079.html">http://www.taxfoundation.org/taxdata/show/26079.html</a>
31	Inst. for Energy Rsrch	<a href="http://www.instituteforenergyresearch.org/wp-content/uploads/2011/01/IER-RPS-Study-Final.pdf">http://www.instituteforenergyresearch.org/wp-content/uploads/2011/01/IER-RPS-Study-Final.pdf</a>
32	Energy Info Administration	<a href="http://www.eia.gov/state/rankings/?sid=US#/series/31">http://www.eia.gov/state/rankings/?sid=US#/series/31</a>
33	SBE Council	<a href="http://www.sbecouncil.org/uploads/EnergyCostIndex2012SBE%20Council.pdf">http://www.sbecouncil.org/uploads/EnergyCostIndex2012SBE%20Council.pdf</a>
34	Reason.org	<a href="http://reason.org/news/show/19th-annual-highway-report">http://reason.org/news/show/19th-annual-highway-report</a>
35	CNBC	<a href="http://www.cnbc.com/id/100016697">http://www.cnbc.com/id/100016697</a>
36	Pew	<a href="http://www.pewstates.org/uploadedFiles/PCS_Assets/2008/Grading-the-States-2008.pdf">http://www.pewstates.org/uploadedFiles/PCS_Assets/2008/Grading-the-States-2008.pdf</a>
37	SBE Council	<a href="http://www.sbecouncil.org/uploads/SBSI2011%5B1%5D.pdf">http://www.sbecouncil.org/uploads/SBSI2011%5B1%5D.pdf</a>
38	US Dep't of Commerce	Calculated: see <a href="http://www.alabamapolicy.org/wp-content/uploads/API-Research-The-Looming-Crisis-Moody-Warcholik.pdf">http://www.alabamapolicy.org/wp-content/uploads/API-Research-The-Looming-Crisis-Moody-Warcholik.pdf</a> , p 22
39	US Dep't of Commerce	Calculated: see <a href="http://www.alabamapolicy.org/wp-content/uploads/API-Research-The-Looming-Crisis-Moody-Warcholik.pdf">http://www.alabamapolicy.org/wp-content/uploads/API-Research-The-Looming-Crisis-Moody-Warcholik.pdf</a> , p 22
40	US Dep't of Commerce	Calculated: see <a href="http://www.alabamapolicy.org/wp-content/uploads/API-Research-The-Looming-Crisis-Moody-Warcholik.pdf">http://www.alabamapolicy.org/wp-content/uploads/API-Research-The-Looming-Crisis-Moody-Warcholik.pdf</a> , p 22
41	US Dep't of Commerce	Calculated: see <a href="http://www.alabamapolicy.org/wp-content/uploads/API-Research-The-Looming-Crisis-Moody-Warcholik.pdf">http://www.alabamapolicy.org/wp-content/uploads/API-Research-The-Looming-Crisis-Moody-Warcholik.pdf</a> , p 22
42	Rauh and Novy-Marx	<a href="http://www.stanford.edu/~rauh/research/updated%20JEP%20table.xlsx">http://www.stanford.edu/~rauh/research/updated%20JEP%20table.xlsx</a>
43	Kaiser Family	<a href="http://www.statehealthfacts.org/comparemaptable.jsp?ind=624&amp;cat=6">http://www.statehealthfacts.org/comparemaptable.jsp?ind=624&amp;cat=6</a>
44	Csl Affordable Hlth Ins	<a href="http://www.cahi.org/cahi_contents/resources/pdf/MandatesintheStates2011ExecSumm.pdf">http://www.cahi.org/cahi_contents/resources/pdf/MandatesintheStates2011ExecSumm.pdf</a>
45	Kaiser Family	<a href="http://www.statehealthfacts.org/comparetable.jsp?typ=4&amp;ind=270&amp;cat=5&amp;sub=67">http://www.statehealthfacts.org/comparetable.jsp?typ=4&amp;ind=270&amp;cat=5&amp;sub=67</a>
46	Kaiser Family	<a href="http://www.statehealthfacts.org/comparemaptable.jsp?ind=183&amp;cat=4&amp;sub=47">http://www.statehealthfacts.org/comparemaptable.jsp?ind=183&amp;cat=4&amp;sub=47</a>
47	Kaiser Family	<a href="http://www.statehealthfacts.org/comparemaptable.jsp?ind=199&amp;cat=4">http://www.statehealthfacts.org/comparemaptable.jsp?ind=199&amp;cat=4</a>
48	AARP	<a href="http://www.money-rates.com/research-center/best-states-for-retirement/2012-complete-list.htm">http://www.money-rates.com/research-center/best-states-for-retirement/2012-complete-list.htm</a>
49	TopRetirements.com	<a href="http://www.topretirements.com/blog/great-towns/worst-states-to-retire-2012-northeast-and-midwest-come-up-losers.html/">http://www.topretirements.com/blog/great-towns/worst-states-to-retire-2012-northeast-and-midwest-come-up-losers.html/</a>
50	MERIC	<a href="http://www.missourieconomy.org/indicators/cost_of_living/index.stm">http://www.missourieconomy.org/indicators/cost_of_living/index.stm</a>
51	US Census Bureau	<a href="http://www.census.gov/popest/data/datasets.html">http://www.census.gov/popest/data/datasets.html</a>
52	Univ. Buffalo	<a href="http://www.golocalprov.com/news/rhode-island-the-most-regulated-state-for-land/">http://www.golocalprov.com/news/rhode-island-the-most-regulated-state-for-land/</a>
53	US Census Bureau	<a href="http://www.census.gov/popest/data/datasets.html">http://www.census.gov/popest/data/datasets.html</a>

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