

A Look at Rhode Island Agriculture



Capital: Providence

Population: 1,053,209

Founded: May 29, 1790 (13th)

State Bird: Rhode Island Red

State Tree: Red Maple

State Flower: Violet

Number of Counties: 5

Largest City: Providence - 175,600

Nickname: The Ocean State

Number of Farms: 1,220

Average Farm Size: 56 acres

Total Farmland: 67,819 acres



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Climate & Soil

- The climate of Rhode Island is very mild because of the warm winds from Narragansett Bay.
- The yearly precipitation in Rhode Island averages about 44".
- The extreme temperatures averages for Rhode Island are 29° F and 71° F.
- The richest soil in Rhode island is around the Narragansett Bay
- Gloucester stony loam is the state's least fertile soil.

Crops & Livestock

- The top agricultural commodities in the state are greenhouse and nursery products, dairy products, sweet corn, aquaculture (seafood), and apples.
- Farmers grow potatoes mostly in the southeastern region of the state.
- Milk is the second most important source of agricultural income for the state of Rhode Island.
- The annual fish catch for the state is about \$85 million.

General

- Farmland covers 10% of the state's total area.
- Rhode Island is a small state. It ranks 49th out of 50 states in agricultural exports within the United States.
- The state's top industries are health services, tourism, manufacturing, and agriculture.