

# Rhode Island

**Rhode Island Commerce Corporation**  
**315 Iron Horse Way, Suite 101**  
**Providence, RI 02908**  
 Marcel Valois, Executive Director  
 401-278-9100



**“We tried the ‘get rich quick’ approach by giving \$75 million to a retired baseball player with zero business experience. We cannot make such panic-driven decisions again.”**

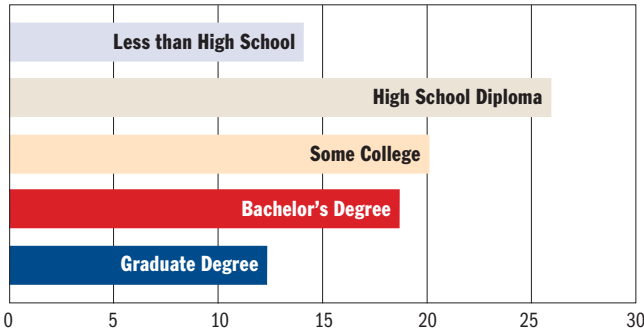
— From Gov. Lincoln Chafee’s January 16, 2013 Budget Address

**Governor: Lincoln Chafee (D) riedc.com**

**Right-to-work state: No**

**Population 2013: 1,053,766 Population growth forecast 2013 thru 2018: 2.51% Median household income: \$61,765 Median age: 39.7**

## Work Force Education by Percentage



## Rankings that Matter

<b>GDP</b> .....	45 (\$43,774*)
<b>Business Tax Climate</b> .....	46
<b>Small Business Policy</b> .....	40
<b>Career Readiness Certificates</b> .....	47 (67)
<b>High School Graduation</b> .....	37
<b>Health</b> .....	19

\* Real GDP in US millions

## Legislative Update

- Beginning in 2015, Rhode Island will have an Executive Office of Commerce. The newly-created Secretary of Commerce position will also function as CEO of the Rhode Island Commerce Corp., formerly the state’s Economic Development Corp.
- In addition to signing a bill allowing same-sex marriage in Rhode Island, Governor Chafee also signed Temporary Caregiver Insurance (TCI) into law. Under TCI, work-

ers can take up to four weeks of leave from their job while caring for a sick family member or welcoming a new child.

- The legislature maintained the Enterprise Zone Tax Credit providing tax credits to businesses located in enterprise zones. Expansion of an enterprise zone in Pawtucket is credited for drawing a new company—and 240 jobs—into the city.