

RHODE
ISLAND

STOP THE DECLINE

AND

SPARK THE COMEBACK



OUR ECONOMIC ENGINE IS OUT OF GAS

HIGH UNEMPLOYMENT

Currently 47th in the country

Highest for 9 consecutive months during 2013 - 2014

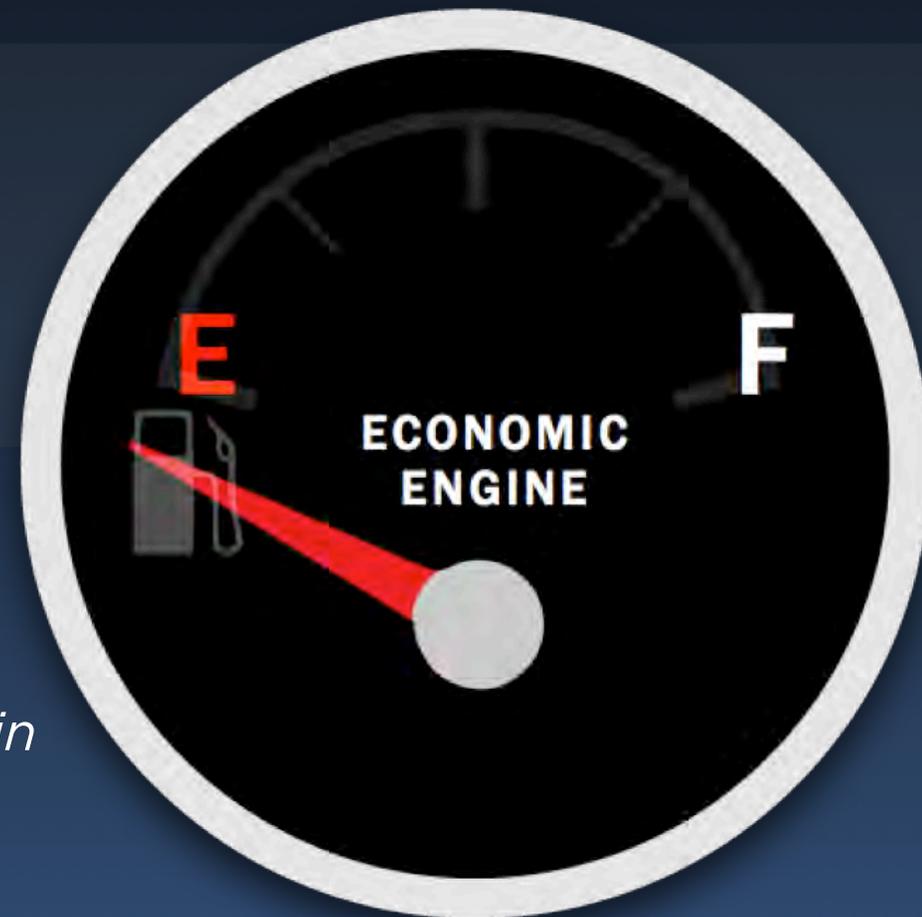
POOR GROWTH

48th in short-term job growth

48th in long-term job growth

MORE JOBS IN LOW GROWTH INDUSTRIES

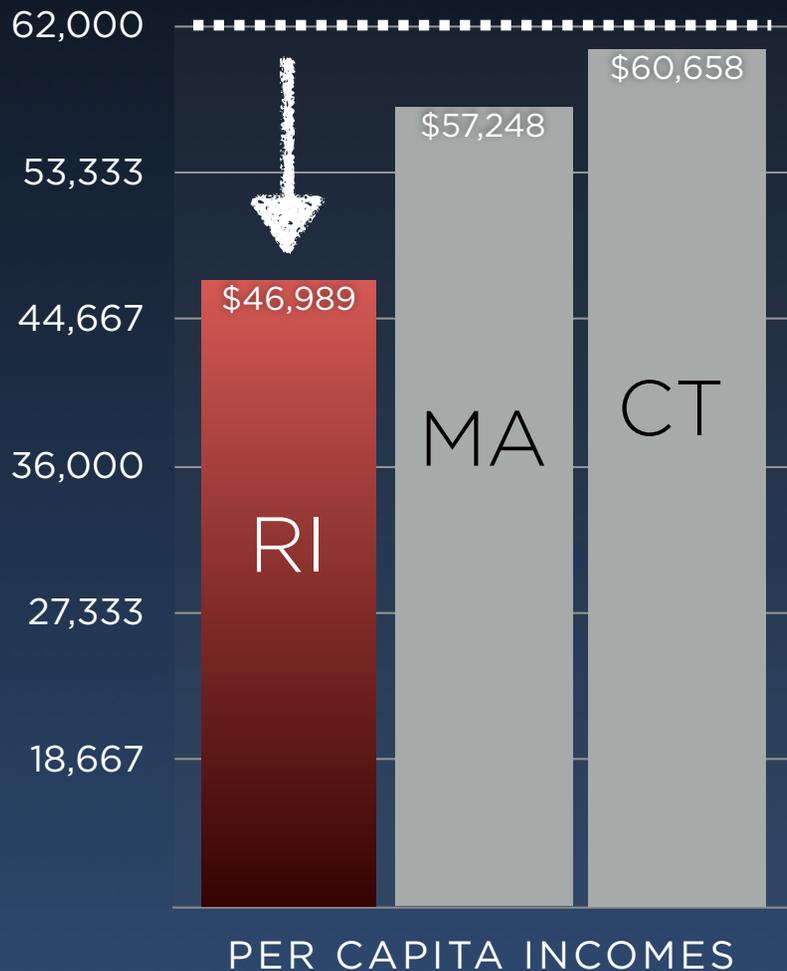
Disproportionate share of our jobs are in low growth industries



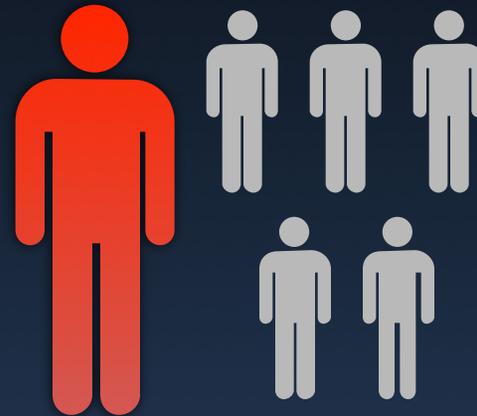
[SOURCE: BLS, DEC. 2014, US Chamber of Commerce]

...AND WE'RE RELATIVELY POORER THAN NEIGHBORING STATES

LOWER PER CAPITA INCOMES



MORE RELIANT ON STATE ASSISTANCE



1 IN 6

Rely on food stamps to put food on the table

19.9%

of Rhode Islanders' income is from aid, assistance, benefits, etc.

WE'RE NOT EQUIPPING OUR STUDENTS WITH THE SKILLS THEY NEED TO COMPETE

RHODE ISLAND HAS FEWER HIGH SKILL JOBS AND WORKERS THAN NEIGHBORING STATES

	RI	MA	CT
Share of high-skills jobs	32%	39%	36%



	RI	MA	CT
High School Graduation Rate	77%	83%	83%
NAEP Math Scores	283	299	287
NAEP Reading Scores	265	275	275

Percentage of CCRI students requiring remediation courses: 66%

[SOURCE: National Skills Coalition, 2011 National Center for Education Statistics, Providence Journal]

FISCAL STORM CLOUDS LOOM WITH NO ACTION

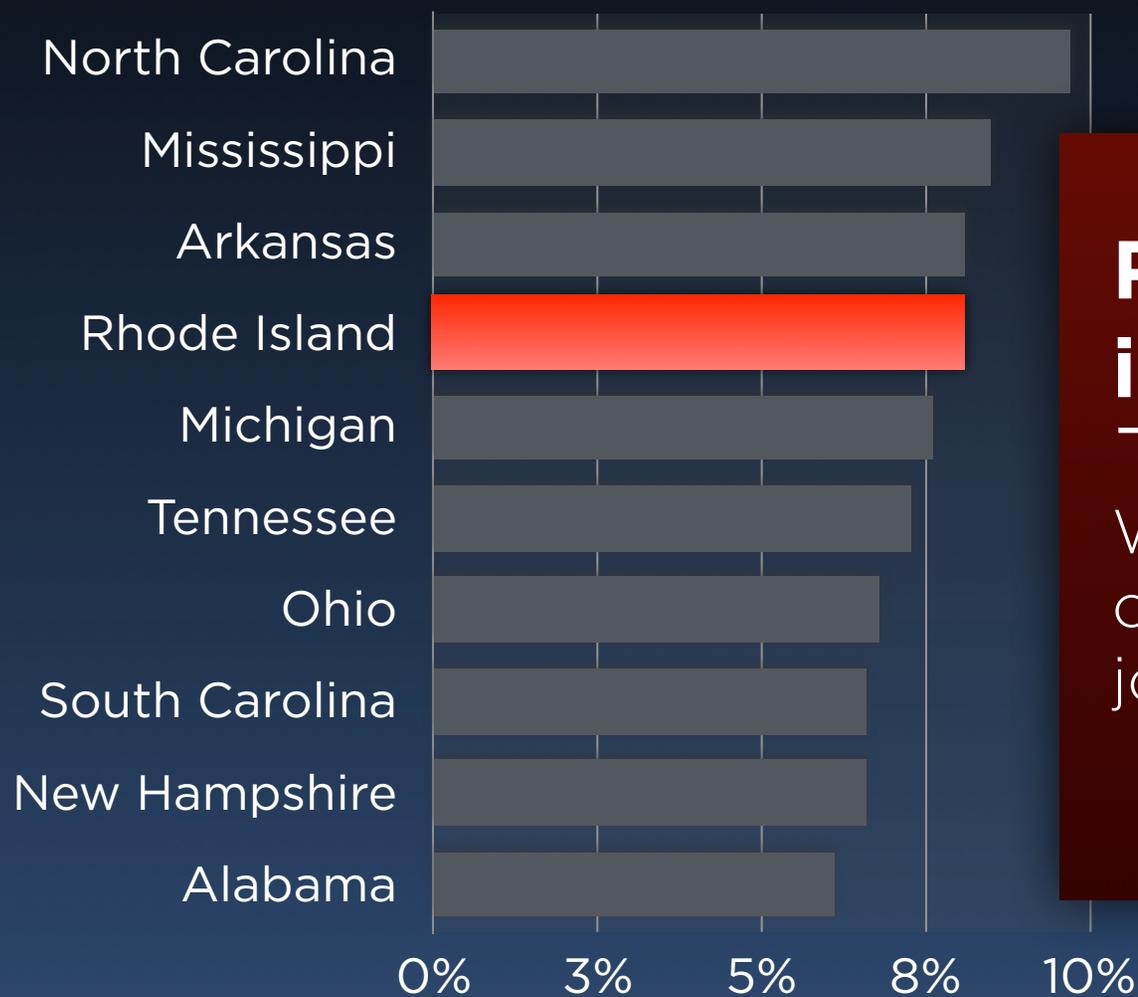
PROJECTED GENERAL REVENUE DEFICIT
(IN MILLIONS)



State's General Revenue budget is growing faster than the rate of inflation

OUR MANUFACTURING SECTOR HAS BEEN CUT IN HALF

STATES HARDEST HIT BY MANUFACTURING JOBS LOST
BY SHARE OF STATE EMPLOYMENT



**RI is 4th worst
in the nation**

Worst in New England. Loss of 80,000 manufacturing jobs since the 1980s

WE'VE LOST
MIDDLE CLASS JOBS AND

REPLACED
THEM WITH LOWER
WAGE JOBS



43.5%

64.6%

of jobs lost were
middle wage jobs

of jobs created have been
lower wage jobs

(\$60,800 & UP)

(\$40,300 - \$60,799)

[SOURCE: RHODE ISLAND NOV. 2014 REVENUE ESTIMATING CONFERENCE]

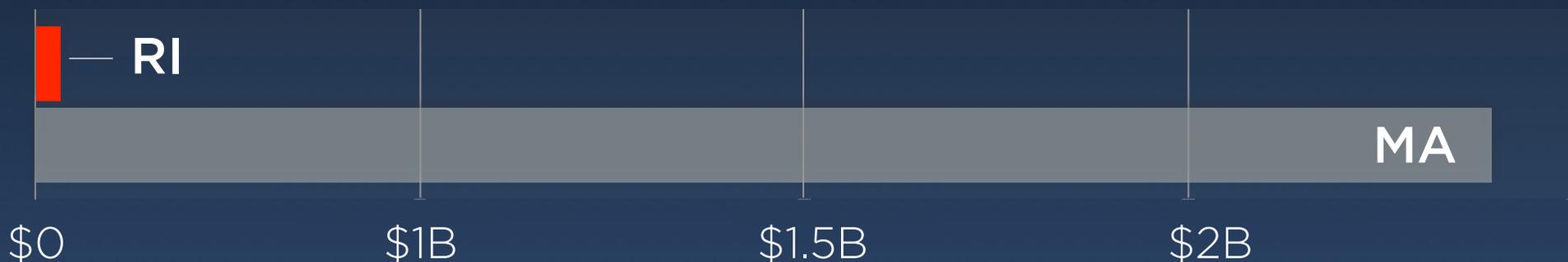
WE'VE FAILED TO REPOSITION OURSELVES FOR JOB CREATION IN GROWTH INDUSTRIES

25th

RHODE ISLAND'S
INNOVATION RANKING
BY BLOOMBERG

Rhode Island has fewer higher wage jobs and a lower innovation capacity than neighboring states

FEDERAL R&D CONTRACTS IN FY2013



Rhode Island received just \$47 million in federal R&D contracts compared to nearly \$3 billion for Massachusetts

[SOURCE: BLOOMBERG, STEM REPORT CARD]

WE HAVE HIGH COSTS IN SEVERAL AREAS

2ND

HIGHEST MEDICAID
SPENDING PER ENROLLEE IN THE COUNTRY

2ND

HIGHEST FIRE SAFETY COSTS IN THE COUNTRY
PER \$1,000 PERSONAL INCOME

3RD

HIGHEST PUBLIC EMPLOYEE
COMPENSATION RATES IN THE COUNTRY

4TH

HIGHEST ROAD
COSTS PER MILE *BUT* 45TH IN ROAD QUALITY

8TH

HIGHEST
EDUCATION SPENDING *BUT* 27TH IN EDUCATIONAL
ACHIEVEMENT

WE HAVEN'T INVESTED STRATEGICALLY

IN AREAS THAT SPUR JOB CREATION

	RI	MA	CT	NJ	NY
Statewide Tourism Spending	\$0.47M	\$15M	\$13M	\$9M	\$60M
Economic Development Agency Budgets	\$4M	\$80M	\$41M	\$29M	\$70M
Economic Development Agency Personnel	35	150	99	200	314

Rhode Island's economic development budget has been slashed by \$2 million since the Great Recession, and by more than \$4 million since 2001.

NOT ENOUGH TOOLS IN OUR ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT TOOLKIT

	RI	MA	CT	NJ	NY
State-level Tax Increment Financing	NO	YES	YES	YES	YES
State-funded Small Business Loan Program	NO	YES	YES	YES	YES
Refundable/Transferable Tax Credits for Real Estate Development	NO	YES	YES	YES	YES

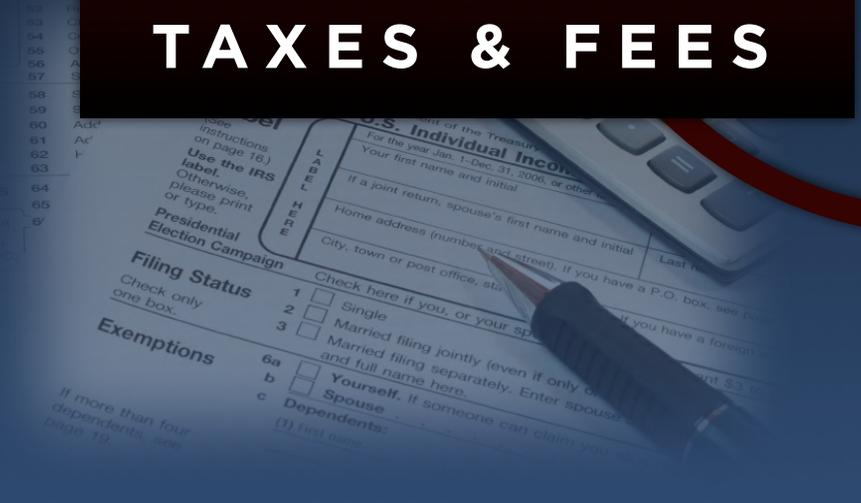
CONTINUING ON OUR CURRENT PATH LEADS TO A VICIOUS CYCLE

STAGNANT JOB GROWTH

**INCREASED
TAXES & FEES**

**ANNUAL
BUDGET CUTS**

NO INVESTMENTS
IN JOB GROWTH



UNTARGETED CUTS AREN'T THE CURE

TOTAL FY2017 DEFICIT:

**\$255.6
MILLION**

*THE FY2017 DEFICIT
EXCEEDS THE ENTIRE
GENERAL REVENUE
BUDGETS OF 21 AGENCIES*



TOTAL OPERATING COSTS:
\$212.8 MILLION

Rhode Island Higher Education Assistance Authority
Governor's Commission on Disabilities
Commission on the Deaf & Hard of Hearing
Office of the Mental Health Advocate
Office of the Child Advocate
Rhode Island Atomic Energy Commission
Rhode Island Commission for Human Rights
Historical Preservation and Heritage Commission
Rhode Island Council on the Arts
Rhode Island Ethics Commission
Rhode Island Emergency Management Agency
Military Staff
Coastal Resources Management Council
Executive Department (Governor's Office)
Board of Elections
Department of Business Regulation
Department of Labor And Training
Office of Public Defender
Department of Health
Department of Environmental Management
Department of Human Services

SIGNIFICANT TAX HIKES WOULD ONLY MAKE US LESS COMPETITIVE

IN ORDER TO CLOSE THE DEFICIT, WE'D HAVE TO

RAISE THE STATE
SALES TAX

Currently 7.0%

TO AT LEAST:

8.3%

8.8%

IN FY2016
AN 18% INCREASE

IN FY2017
A 25% INCREASE

THE RIGHT CHOICE IS TO REALLOCATE RESOURCES TO INVEST IN JOB GROWTH

JOB GROWTH



INCREASED REVENUES

A VIRTUOUS CYCLE



INVESTMENTS



Education



Infrastructure



Property tax relief

THE CHOICE IS

OURS TO MAKE

