

The Firearm Industry Creates Jobs in Rhode Island

Rhode Island companies that manufacture, distribute, and sell sporting firearms, ammunition, and supplies are an important part of the state's economy. Manufacturers of firearms, ammunition, and supplies, along with the companies that sell and distribute these products, provide well-paying jobs in Rhode Island and pay significant amounts in tax to the state and Federal governments.

The Economic Impact of the Sporting Arms and Ammunition Industry in Rhode Island

	Direct	Supplier	Induced	Total
Jobs (FTE)	535	369	405	1,309
Wages	\$45,912,300	\$31,703,200	\$26,254,100	\$103,869,600
Economic Impact	\$178,026,300	\$104,478,800	\$76,306,500	\$358,811,600

The Firearm & Ammunition Industry is an Important Part of Rhode Island's Economy

Companies in Rhode Island that manufacture, distribute, and sell firearms, ammunition, and hunting equipment employ as many as 535 people in the state and generate an additional 774 jobs in supplier and ancillary industries. These include jobs in supplying goods and services to manufacturers, distributors, and retailers, and those that depend on sales to workers in the firearm and ammunition industry.¹

These are good jobs paying an average of \$79,400 in wages and benefits. And today, every job is important. The state currently has an unemployment rate of 3.4 percent. This means that there are already 19,600 people trying to find jobs in the state and collecting unemployment benefits.²

The Economic Benefit of the Industry Spreads Throughout the State

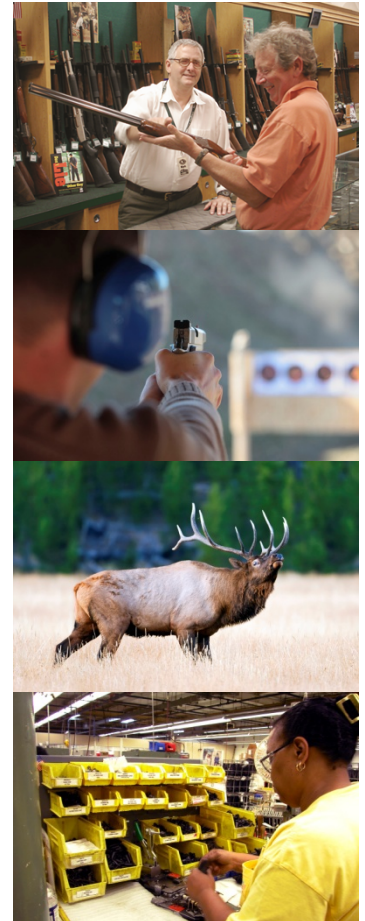
Not only does the manufacture and sale of firearms and hunting supplies create good jobs in Rhode Island, but the industry also contributes to the economy as a whole. In fact, in 2023 the firearm and ammunition industry was responsible for as much as \$358.81 million in total economic activity in the state.

The broader economic impact flows throughout the economy, generating business for firms seemingly unrelated to firearms. Real people, with real jobs, working in industries as varied as banking, retail, accounting, metal working, even in printing, all depend on the firearm and ammunition industry for their livelihood.

The State Also Benefits From the Taxes Paid By The Industry

Not only does the industry create jobs, it also generates sizeable tax revenues. In Rhode Island, the industry and its employees pay over \$33.82 million in taxes including property, income, and sales based levies.³

Taxes Generated in Rhode Island		
Tax Impact	Business Taxes	Excise Taxes
Federal Taxes	\$22,765,900	\$1,657,900
State Taxes	\$11,052,700	
Total Taxes	\$33,818,600	\$1,657,900



¹ John Dunham & Associates, Florida, December 2023. Direct impacts include those jobs in firearms and ammunition manufacturers, as well as companies that manufacture products such as ammunition holders and magazines, cases, decoys, game calls, holsters, hunting equipment, scopes, clay pigeons and targets. Direct impacts also include those resulting from the wholesale distribution and retailing of these products.

² The Bureau of Labor Statistics. Available online at: www.bls.gov/lau/home.htm. Data for December-23.

³ This is in addition to over \$1.66 million in federal excise taxes per Alcohol and Tobacco Tax and Trade Bureau.