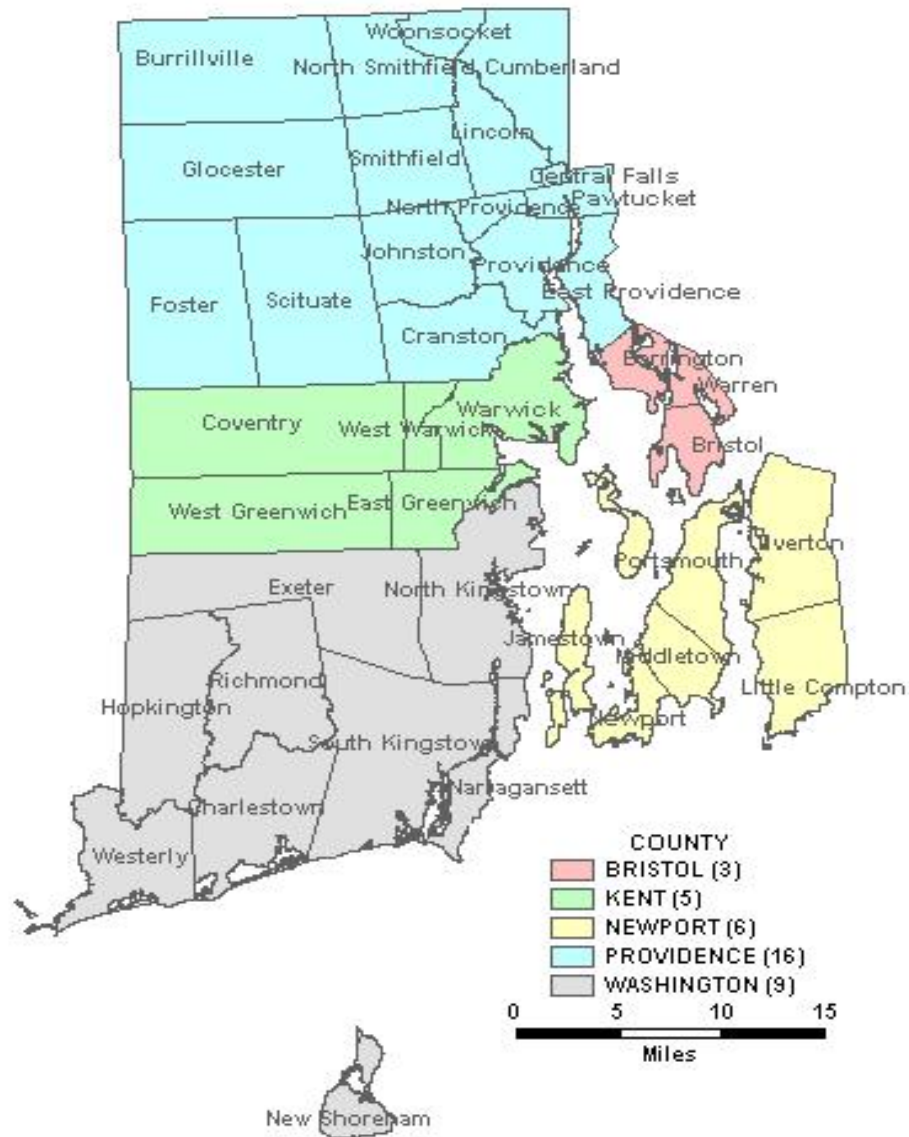


Town of Jamestown



Rhode Island Economic Development Corporation

Research Division
One West Exchange Street
Providence, RI 02903
Phone: (401) 222-2601
FAX: (401) 222-2102
www.riedc.com

Town of Jamestown

Conanicut Island enjoys a strategic location at the mouth of Narragansett Bay. John Winthrop, Governor of Massachusetts Bay Colony, wrote to Roger Williams asking that the island be settled and fortified to deter any attack through the "back door of Boston."

Jamestown was incorporated on November 4, 1678, and was renamed in honor of Prince James, later King James II. Because it is an island, it has never been developed as a commercial area or port, but rather as a quiet residential town. In 1940, the Jamestown Verrazano Bridge was completed, connecting Jamestown with the mainland. The Newport Bridge, completed in 1969, gave Jamestown access to both sides of Narragansett Bay.

The island is 9.5 square miles, with a good highway system following most of its shoreline. The south end, off Beaver Tail Light, is a high rocky coast projecting into the Atlantic Ocean, where some of the best surfcast fishing in the world can be found. Narragansett Bay surrounds the northern end of the island.

Historically, Jamestown is in the middle of the Bicentennial picture. British forces marched down Narragansett Avenue in 1775 while burning the town. Indian and colonial artifacts are displayed in the Sydney L. Wright Museum. Memorabilia from the 300-year-old Jamestown Ferry System can be seen in the Jamestown Museum.

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Town of Jamestown

Address: Town Hall
93 Narragansett Avenue
Jamestown, RI 02835

Established in 1639
Incorporated in 1678

Fiscal Year Begins: March 1st
Fax: Admin/Finance 423-7229

Hours: 8:30 am - 4:30 pm , (July/August 4:00pm)

Location: Newport County

Website: www.jamestownri.net

Form of Government: An appointed Town Administrator and a five-member Town Council headed by the Council President.

Police Department: 250 Conanicus Avenue

Election Date: May, Odd Years

Financial Town Meeting: 1st Monday in March

Council Meetings: Second and Fourth Mondays Monthly @ 7:00 p.m.

Town Administrator: Maryanne Crawford, CPA 423-7220

Assessor: Kenneth S. Gray 423-7200

Building/Minimum Housing: Frederick W. Brown 423-7200

Canvassing Authority Clerk: Karen K. Montoya 423-7200

Clerk, Town: Arlene D. Petit 423-7200

Finance Director: Christina D. Collins 423-7220

Highway Supervisor: Kevin F. Deacon 423-7290

Housing Auth. Exec. Director: Sirje Carl 423-1561

Librarian: Judith H. Bell 423-7280

Planner, Town: Lisa W. Bryer 423-7210

Police Chief: Thomas P. Tighe 423-1212

Probate Judge: J. Peter McGuirl 789-0044

Public Works Director: Steven J. Goslee 423-7220

Recreation Director: Matthew Bolles 423-7260

School Superintendent: Katherine Sipala 423-7020

Solicitor, Town: J. William W. Harsch 421-8200

Water Official: Steven J. Goslee 423-7220

Welfare Director: Margaret A. Grenier 423-0175

Zoning Official: Frederick W. Brown 423-7200

Fire Departments and Fire Districts

Jamestown Fire Department, 50 Narragansett Avenue, Jamestown, RI 02835 423-0062

Fire Chief: James R. Bryer

School Committee

Catherine L. Kaiser, Chairperson 53 Conanicus Avenue 02835

William C. Brennan 238 Narragansett Avenue 02835

James R. Filkins 3 Bayberry Road 02835

Elizabeth H. Gooding 45 Highland Drive 02835

Julie A. Kallfelz 56 Green Lane 02835

Town Council

Kenneth G. Littman, President 26 Ocean Avenue 02835

Julio J. DiGiando 63 Clarke Street 02835

Claire M. Ferguson 37 Bay View Drive 02835

David Long 15 Marine Avenue 02835

Guy J. Settipane 301 Seaside Drive 02835

Population Characteristics

Population: The population count for The Town of Jamestown as of April 1, 2000, was 5,622. This represented a 12.46% increase (623 persons) from the 1990 population of 4,999.

Rank: In 2000 Jamestown ranks 35th in population among Rhode Island's 39 cities and towns.

Median Age: In 2000 the median age of the population in Jamestown was 44.2.

Age Distribution: In 2000, 78.0% or 4,384 persons residing in Jamestown were 18 years of age or older. 4,268 were 21 and over, 966 were 62 and over, and 828 were 65 and over.

Population Density: The 2000 population density of Jamestown is 580 persons per square mile of land area. Jamestown contains 9.69 square miles of land area (25,105,547 Sq. meters) (6,203.76 acres) and 25.64 square miles of water area (66,414,721 square meters) (16,383.93 acres).

Housing Units: The total number of housing units in the The Town of Jamestown as of April 1, 2000, was 2,769. This represented an increase of 252 units from the 2,517 housing units in 1990. Of the 2,769 housing units 410 were vacant. 341 of the vacant units were for seasonal or recreational use.

Households: In 2000, there are 2,359 households in Jamestown with an average size of 2.38 persons. Of these, 1,625 were family households with an average family size of 2.88 persons.

Race:

Total Population of One Race: 5,575

White: 5,484

Black or African American: 44

American Indian and Alaska Native: 12

Asian: 22

Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander: 0

Some Other Race: 13

Total Population of two or More Races: 47

Hispanic or Latino: In 2000, 50 persons of Hispanic origin resided in Jamestown. This represented 0.9% of the population.

Census 2000 Demographic Profiles:

General Characteristics	Number	Percent
Total population	5,622	100.0
Male	2,733	48.6
Female	2,889	51.4
Median Age (years)	44.2	(X)
Under 5 years	222	3.9
18 years and over	4,384	78.0
65 years and over	828	14.7
One race - Total	5,575	99.2
White	5,484	97.5
Black or African American	44	0.8
American Indian and Alaska Native	12	0.2
Asian	22	0.4
Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander	0	0.0
Some other race	13	0.2
Two or more races	47	0.8
Hispanic or Latino (of any race)	50	0.9
Average household size	2.38	(X)
Average family size	2.88	(X)
Total housing units	2,769	100.0
Occupied housing units	2,359	85.2
Owner-occupied housing units	1,863	79.0
Renter-occupied housing units	496	21.0
Vacant housing units	410	14.8
Social Characteristics	Number	Percent

Town of Jamestown

Population 25 years and over	4,160	100.0
High school graduate or higher	3,876	93.2
Bachelor's degree or higher	1,097	45.7
Civilian veterans (civilian population 25 years and older)	770	17.6
Disability Status (population 21 to 64 years)	581	17.1
Foreign Born	236	4.2
Now Married (population 15 years and over)	2,922	63.5
Speak a language other than English at home (5 years and older)	526	9.7

Economic Characteristics	Number	Percent
In Labor Force (16 years and older)	3,052	67.1
Mean travel time to work in minutes (16 years and older)	34.2	(X)
Median household income (dollars)	63,073	(X)
Median family income (dollars)	77,990	(X)
Per capita income (dollars)	38,664	(X)
Families below poverty level	27	1.7
Individuals below poverty level	163	2.9

Housing Characteristics	Number	Percent
Single-family owner-occupied homes	1,767	100.0
Median value (dollars)	215,200	(X)
Median of selected monthly owner costs	(X)	(X)
With a mortgage	1,455	(X)
Not mortgaged	453	(X)

Jamestown Employment 2002

Town of Jamestown

NAICS Sectors

	<u>Jamestown</u>		
	Number of Units	Average Employment	Total Wages
Total, Private & Government:	192	1,215	\$ 33,782,484
Total, Private Only:	179	971	26,180,649
Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing & Hunting	*	*	*
Mining	0	0	0
Utilities	0	0	0
Construction	32	70	2,199,916
Manufacturing	*	*	*
Wholesale Trade	13	25	1,421,595
Retail Trade	17	153	2,731,866
Transportation & Warehousing	*	*	*
Information	*	*	*
Finance & Insurance	4	16	869,398
Real Estate & Rental & Leasing	9	12	279,941
Professional & Technical Services	27	80	3,906,409
Management of Companies & Enterprises	*	*	*
Administrative & Waste Services	15	35	973,077
Educational Services	*	*	*
Health Care & Social Assistance	13	139	3,071,196
Arts, Entertainment, & Recreation	8	102	2,401,430
Accommodation & Food Services	14	218	4,736,840
Other Services, except Public Administration	14	64	1,832,380
Unclassified Establishments	0	0	0
	-	-	-
Public Administration	13	244	\$ 7,601,835

Source: Department of Labor and Training, 2002

Town of Jamestown

2004/2005 Municipal Tax Rates
(Per \$1,000 of Assessment)

& These communities have homestead exemptions available. (Providence rate with homestead exemption \$23.96)

* These communities also have local Fire district taxes.

These communities may exempt wholesale inventories.

\$ These communities may exempt retail inventories.

Modified: October 5, 2004

Municipality	Residential Property Tax Rates Per \$1,000 Percent of Full Value Base Year Assessment Effective			Commercial Real Estate Rate Per \$1,000	Motor Vehicle Rate Per \$1,000	Retail & Wholesale Inventory Rate Per \$1,000	Business Personal Property Rate Per \$1,000
Barrington	18.99	100%	2003	18.99	42.00	8.88	18.99
Bristol	16.85	100%	2001	16.85	17.35	6.97	16.85
Burrillville * # \$	12.55	100%	2003	12.55	40.00	Not Taxed	12.55
Central Falls &	13.04	100%	2003	34.85	48.65	19.47	51.33
Charlestown *	12.59	100%	2001	12.59	13.08	5.38	12.59
Coventry * \$	25.63	100%	2001	25.63	18.75	7.75	25.63
Cranston &	23.23	95%	2003	30.80	42.44	12.70	34.84
Cumberland * #	16.73	100%	2002	16.73	19.87	10.03	16.73
East Greenwich * # &	17.91	100%	2002	17.91	22.88	9.48	17.91
East Providence &	15.20	100%	2003	19.35	37.10	15.44	44.59
Exeter #	14.70	100%	2002	14.70	32.59	14.00	14.70
Foster	14.11	100%	/2002	14.11	36.95	7.39	14.11
Glocester * #	20.91	100%	2001	20.91	24.37	10.06	28.46
Hopkinton *	17.71	100%	2003	17.71	21.18	8.30	17.71
Jamestown	11.58	100%	2004	11.58	14.42	6.05	11.58
Johnston &	16.40	100%	2003	16.40	41.46	13.86	44.11
Lincoln * # &	18.64	100%	2003	22.74	30.66	9.82	26.84
Little Compton	4.53	100%	2003	4.53	13.90	Not Taxed	4.53
Middletown #	15.85	100%	2002	17.90	16.05	6.64	15.85
Narragansett	10.57	100%	2002	15.86	16.46	6.74	15.86
Newport &	13.72	100%	2001	16.30	23.45	9.48	16.30
New Shoreham # \$	3.77	80%	2000	3.77	9.75	Not taxed	3.77
North Kingstown # \$	14.38	100%	2003	14.38	22.04	Not taxed	14.38
North Providence &	28.71	100%	2004	31.02	41.95	17.54	57.50
North Smithfield #	14.26	100%	2003	14.26	37.62	12.43	37.24
Pawtucket	17.25	100%	2003	25.88	53.30	20.83	52.09
Portsmouth #	16.20	100%	2003	16.20	22.50	9.19	16.20
Providence &	29.65	50%	2004	37.00	76.78	30.70	49.50
Richmond *	18.83	100%	2003	18.83	22.64	9.10	18.83
Scituate	22.08	50%	2003	27.75	30.20	Not taxed	33.05
Smithfield	13.95	100%	2003	13.95	39.00	15.60	41.00
South Kingstown *	12.58	100%	2003	12.58	18.71	7.75	12.58
Tiverton *	14.36	100%	2002	14.36	19.14	7.71	14.36
Warren	14.82	100%	2003	14.82	26.00	14.82	7.87
Warwick	14.81	100%	2003	22.22	34.60	17.73	29.62
Westerly *	9.64	100%	2004	9.64	29.67	5.05	9.64
West Greenwich	18.50	100%	2001	18.50	19.02	7.79	18.50
West Warwick	17.31	100%	2003	24.80	28.47	11.77	28.17
Woonsocket # &	23.85	55%	2002	38.25	46.58	18.63	46.58

Points of Interest

BEAVERTAIL LIGHTHOUSE. Beavertail Point, Beavertail State Park. The 1938 hurricane uncovered the original base of the third lighthouse established in America (1749), an interesting example of early Colonial stonework. The present granite tower, just north of the original light, was erected in 1856. The point also offers spectacular views of Rhode Island's Atlantic coastline. Park-naturalist on duty. OPEN: Jun-Aug: 3 lectures/tours daily, Wed-Sun. 423-9941.

FIRE DEPARTMENT MEMORIAL BUILDING. 50 Narragansett Avenue. Exhibits include horse-drawn 1894 steam engine, other antique fire fighting equipment, and photographs. OPEN: Mon-Fri, 9-3 p.m. 423-0062.

JAMESTOWN MUSEUM. (1886) 92 Narragansett Avenue. 19th century schoolhouse with permanent exhibit of memorabilia from Jamestown ferries and annual special exhibits. OPEN: Mid-Jun-end of Aug, Tue-Sat, 1-4 p.m. 423-0784.

JAMESTOWN WINDMILL. (1787) North Road, off Rte. 138. Owned by Jamestown Historical Society; recently restored. OPEN: Mid-Jun-mid Sep, Sat & Sun, 1-4 p.m., and by appt. 423-1798.

REVOLUTIONARY EARTHWORKS BATTERY. Prospect Hill, off Beavertail Road. Second highest point on island. Outstanding view.

SYDNEY L. WRIGHT MUSEUM. Jamestown Philomenia Library, 26 North Road. Indian and Colonial artifacts from prehistoric and early settlements on Conanicut Island. OPEN: Mon & Wed, 10-5 p.m. & 7-9 p.m.; Tue & Thu, 12-5 p.m. & 7-9 p.m.; Fri & Sat, 10-5 p.m. (Sat, Jun 15-Sep 15, 10-1 p.m.) 423-7280.

WATSON FARM. (1796) North Road. This 280 acre farm on Conanicut Island is a working farm with cattle, sheep, horses, chickens and a large garden. A 2-mile walking trail with alternate shorter routes provides a picturesque vistas of farmland and Narragansett Bay. Self-guided walking brochure describes history of the farm and region, annual cycles for plants and animals, natural resources, and current products of the farm. 423-0005.