

NEWS



For Immediate Release

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Hospitals Are Crucial to Rhode Island Economy

Hospitals Contribute \$7.6 Billion to Local Economy and Support 41,559 Jobs

PROVIDENCE, R.I. – May 8, 2017 – The Hospital Association of Rhode Island released its annual [economic impact report](#) today. The report found hospitals in Rhode Island have a significant impact on both community health and the economy at large. Hospitals serve as economic engines in our local economy by providing high-quality health care, increasing demand for goods and services in other industries, and providing economic stability and growth for health care professionals throughout the state. In 2015, hospitals throughout Rhode Island contributed more than \$7.6 billion to the local economy.

Hospital purchases of goods and services necessary to deliver quality patient care create a ripple effect throughout the local economy, producing additional jobs and spending. Highlights of hospitals' economic impact in 2015 include:

- Employing 20,525 health care professionals
- Supporting 21,034 jobs with economic activity
- Paying \$1.8 billion in wages and benefits
- Generating \$2.1 billion for the local economy through purchasing goods and services
- Empowering employees to spend \$3 billion in the local economy.

“Our industry is vital to the state’s economy and health,” said M. Teresa Paiva Weed, president, Hospital Association of Rhode Island. “Hospitals support one in ten jobs in Rhode Island. Hospitals are an economic engine that is providing Rhode Islanders with well-paying jobs and supporting local business.”

The report was produced in collaboration with the American Hospital Association using data reported annually by hospitals to the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services.

Founded more than a half century ago, the Hospital Association of Rhode Island is a statewide trade organization that assists member hospitals in effectively meeting the health care needs of Rhode Island, through advocacy, representation, education and services. HARI members work collaboratively to improve the quality of care delivered and address issues threatening access to health care. HARI members work together to ensure that all Rhode Islanders will receive comprehensive, high-quality health care.