

# Rhode Island Nonprofits At-a-Glance

THE  
RHODE  
ISLAND  
FOUNDATION

A REPORT BY THE INITIATIVE FOR NONPROFIT EXCELLENCE



Edition II: December 2012

A program of The Rhode Island Foundation

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## INTRODUCTION

We released the first edition of Nonprofits At-a-Glance nearly two years ago. Since then, we have seen continued growth in the sector despite a decline in funding for many nonprofits. Nonprofit organizations remain an important thread in the fabric of life in Rhode Island, caring for our elderly residents, producing world-class theater, tutoring children in our neighborhood schools, advocating for those in need, cleaning up the state's fragile ecosystems, and providing housing for homeless families.

The latest statistics about the economic impact of the sector underscore its importance. Revenue from public charities pumped more than \$8 billion into the Rhode Island economy in 2010.<sup>1</sup> Education (including elementary, secondary, and higher education) and health care (including hospitals, primary health facilities, and nursing facilities) represent three-fourths of this revenue, or approximately \$6 billion.<sup>2</sup> More than 18% of Rhode Islanders are employed by nonprofit organizations.<sup>3</sup> Without the programs, services and jobs generated by nonprofits, the state would not be as robust.

We have refreshed our original overview of the state's nonprofit organizations, featuring the most current information available derived from public sources. We updated information on the number of nonprofit organizations in the state, their primary locations, the overall budget and asset size of organizations in all sectors. In a separate section, we describe the breakdown of number, type, asset size and budget size by sector of Rhode Island nonprofits. We also added a new table that captures giving by major Rhode Island funders. We do not analyze the size or scope of the nonprofit sector, nor do we weigh in on the debate over the number of nonprofit organizations in Rhode Island. This report is offered as an informational tool, and we welcome any feedback or questions you may have.



-Jill Pfitzenmayer, Ph.D.

Vice President, The Initiative for Nonprofit Excellence

## HOW MANY NONPROFITS ARE THERE IN RHODE ISLAND?

**According to Guidestar, (December, 2012), there are 6,818 501(c)(3) organizations and 409 501(c)(4) organizations in Rhode Island.**

All Rhode Island nonprofit organizations are required to register with the Secretary of State’s office annually. The number of active nonprofit organizations registered with the Rhode Island Secretary of State in 2012 is **8,143** and includes organizations with all 501(c) designations. In addition to public charities and foundations, this number includes condominium associations, religious groups, sports teams, and other civic organizations.

Those Rhode Island organizations designated as public charities, excluding religious institutions, total **3,286**. A complete IRS definition of a public charity is provided on page 7.

## NONPROFIT DEMOGRAPHICS

### WHAT TYPES AND SIZES ARE RHODE ISLAND NONPROFITS?

When a nonprofit files a 990 tax form, it must select an identifying code called the NTEE code. This defines the primary type of work it does. From the NTEE codes, nonprofits may be sorted by the fields of interest that are commonly used by The Rhode Island Foundation and other funders.

Figure 1 (p. 3) compares the number of public charities with assets over \$25,000 from 1990-2012. Figure 2 (p. 4) depicts the number of nonprofits in 2000 and 2012 according to their primary field of interest. Most nonprofits (63%) operate with a budget and asset size below \$100,000. Figure 3 (p. 4) shows their distribution. Figure 4 (p. 5) presents the number of nonprofits located in each Rhode Island city and town, and Figure 5 (p. 5) depicts the sources of revenue for reporting public charities.

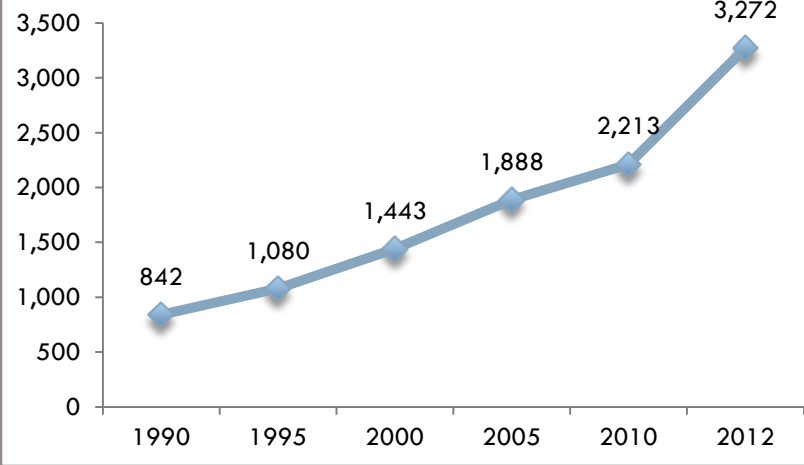
There are several definitions of “nonprofit” and all fall under the IRS subsection codes for tax-exempt organizations. The code section 501 contains 33 categories and there are four additional tax-exempt categories. Most nonprofit organizations are defined by the IRS as:

501(c)(3) Religious, Educational, Charitable, Scientific, Literary, Testing for Public Safety, to Foster National or International Amateur Sports Competition, or Prevention of Cruelty to Children or Animals Organizations

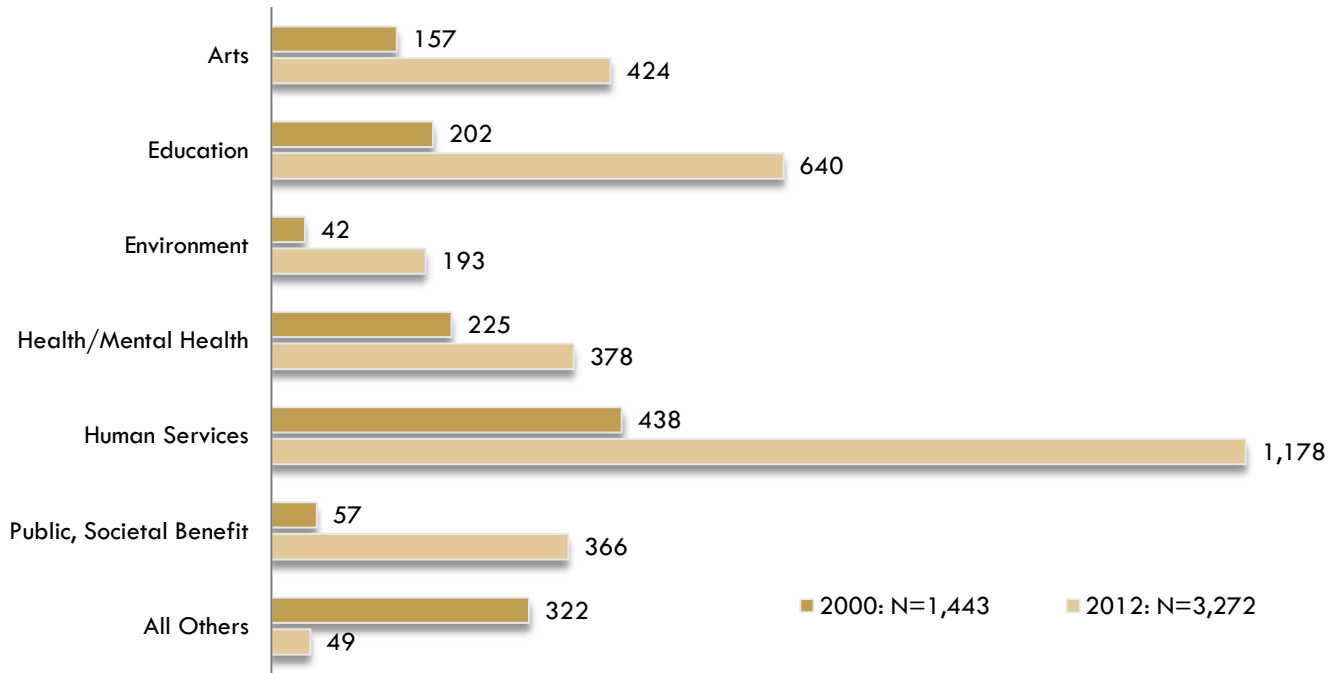
501(c)(4) Civic Leagues, Social Welfare Organizations, and Local Associations of Employees.

**Fig. 1 Number of Reporting Rhode Island Public Charities: 1990-2012**

Sources: The Nonprofit Almanac, 2008; Guidestar, 2012; NCCS Dataweb 2012



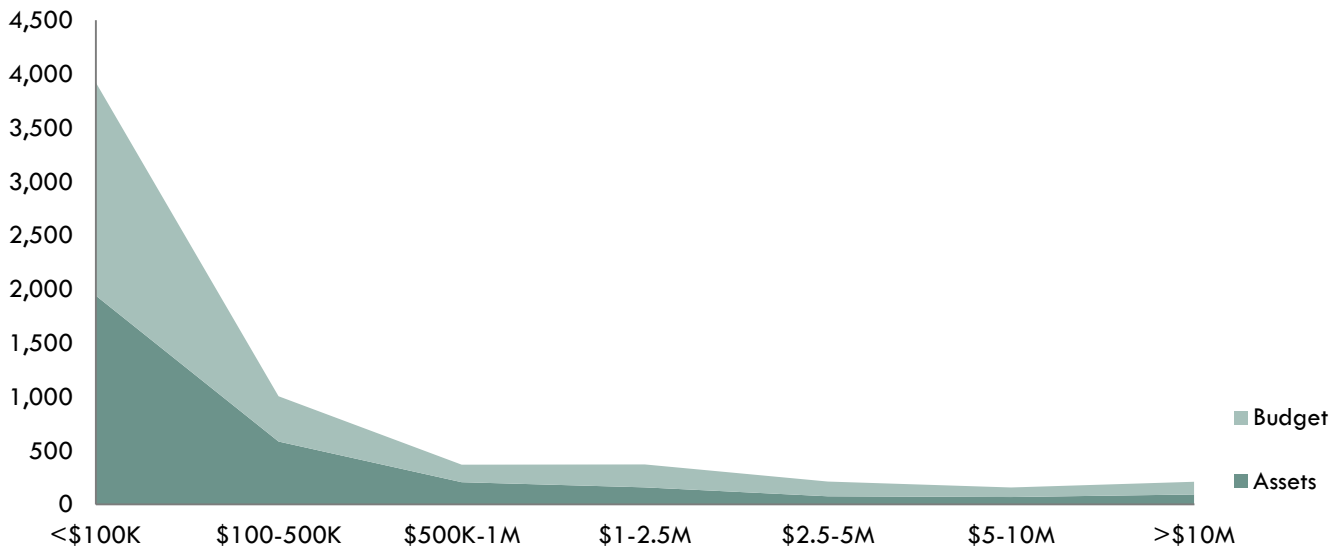
**Fig. 2 Number of Rhode Island Public Charities by Field of Interest: 2000-2012**



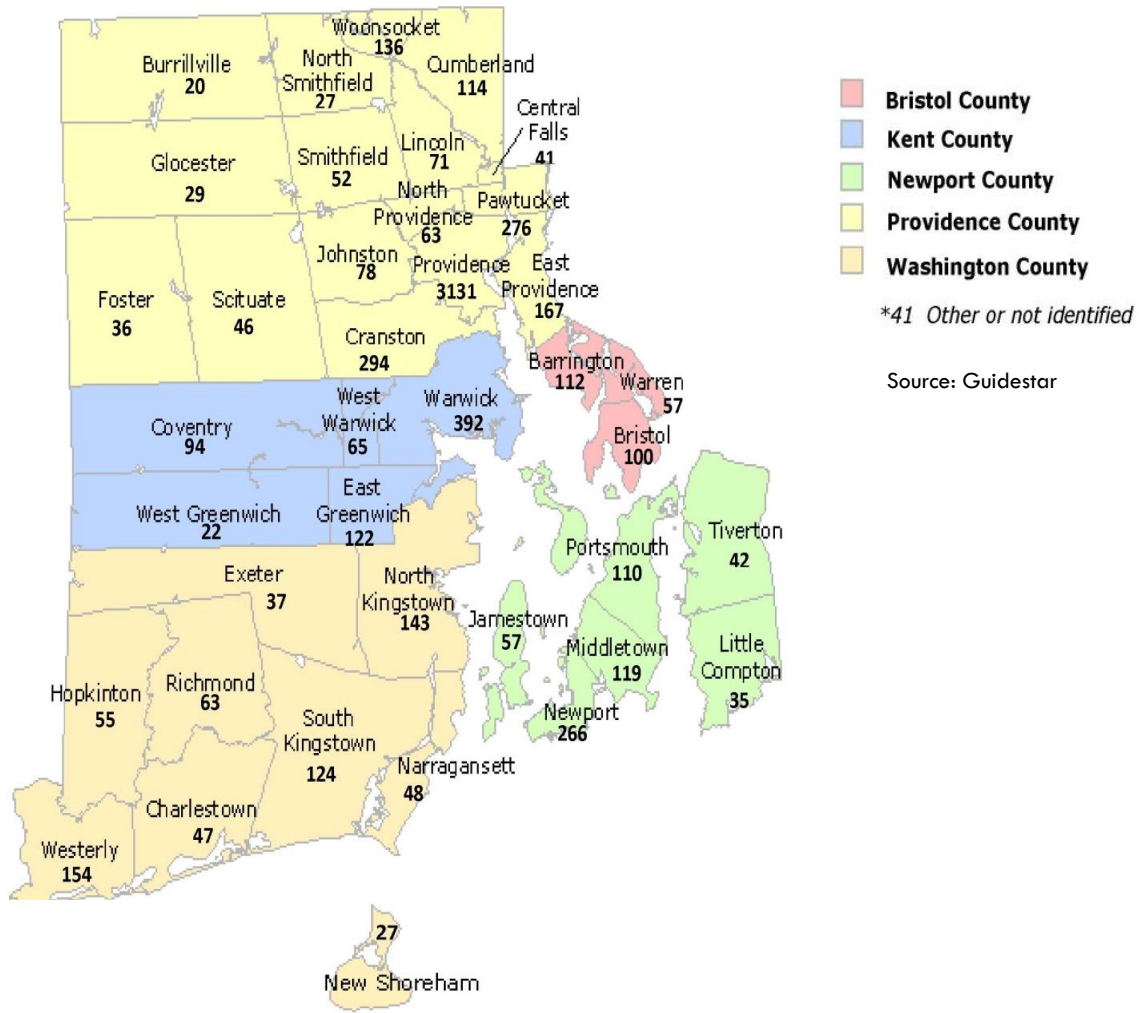
Source: NCCS database; Guidestar

Source: Guidestar

**Fig. 3 Distribution of Rhode Island Public Charities by Asset and Budget Size: 2012**



**Fig. 4 Location of Rhode Island Public Charities by City/Town: 2012**



## NONPROFIT EMPLOYMENT IMPACT

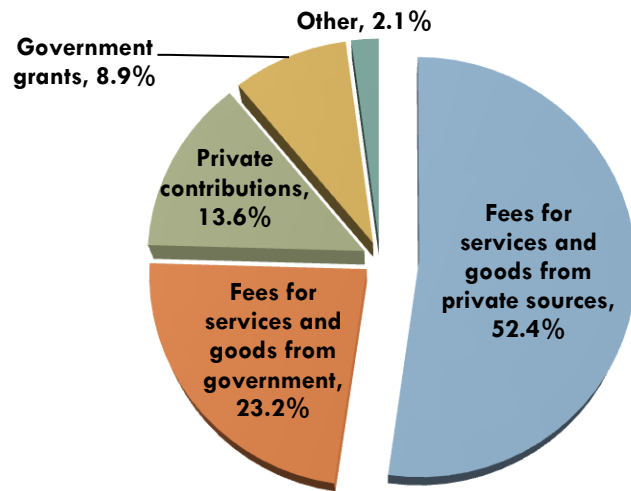
### How many Rhode Islanders work in the nonprofit sector?

From the latest public figures available, Rhode Island nonprofits employ more than 18% of the state’s labor force. Rhode Island and New York are tied as the states with the highest percentage of people employed by nonprofit organizations, second to Washington, D.C. at more than 26%. Nonprofit employees include: staff at colleges, universities, and hospitals; social service providers, artists, performers, researchers, advocates, and environmental workers. Volunteers make up approximately 13,000 of the total workforce, and paid workers the remaining 65,000.<sup>4</sup>

**How are Rhode Island Nonprofits Funded?**

Nonprofits have a variety of funding sources; we don't have data specific to our state but we can depict national figures for revenue sources (see Fig. 5, right).<sup>5</sup> The top Rhode Island-based organizations awarding grants in the state of Rhode Island are noted in Table A (below).

**Fig. 5 Sources of Revenue for Reporting Public Charities, 2009**



Source: Urban Institute, National Center for Charitable Statistics, Core Files (Public Charities, 2009).

Note: Figures do not sum up to 100 percent because overall investment was negative.

**Table A. Top Rhode Island-based organizations awarding grants in the state of Rhode Island**

Name	Total giving:	(as of):	Type of grantmaker:
The Rhode Island Community Foundation	\$ 25,596,191	12/31/2011	Community foundation
The Champlin Foundations	\$ 17,074,565	12/31/2010	Independent foundation
United Way of Rhode Island	\$ 13,025,502	6/30/2011	Public charity
Hasbro Children's Fund, Inc.	\$ 7,828,785	12/26/2010	Company-sponsored foundation
CVS Caremark Charitable Trust, Inc.	\$ 7,311,594	12/31/2010	Company-sponsored foundation
Jewish Federation of Rhode Island	\$ 4,396,392	6/30/2011	Public charity
FM Global Foundation	\$ 3,996,717	12/31/2010	Company-sponsored foundation
van Beuren Charitable Foundation, Inc.	\$ 3,644,394	12/31/2010	Independent foundation
The Sachem Foundation	\$ 3,410,262	12/31/2011	Independent foundation
The Textron Charitable Trust	\$ 3,191,351	12/31/2010	Company-sponsored foundation
Ira S. and Anna Galkin Charitable Trust	\$ 2,689,499	12/31/2011	Independent foundation
Warren Alpert Foundation	\$ 2,062,500	12/31/2011	Independent foundation
Feinstein Foundation, Inc.	\$ 1,912,329	12/31/2010	Independent foundation
McAdams Charitable Foundation	\$ 1,545,768	12/31/2010	Independent foundation
The Carter Family Charitable Trust	\$ 1,472,382	6/30/2011	Independent foundation
Amica Companies Foundation	\$ 1,438,771	12/31/2011	Company-sponsored foundation
Shriners of Rhode Island Charities Trust	\$ 1,241,361	12/31/2010	Independent foundation

## "Public Charities" as defined by the IRS:

Generally, organizations that are classified as public charities:

Churches, hospitals, qualified medical research organizations affiliated with hospitals, schools, colleges and universities,

Have active programs of fundraising, receiving contributions from many sources, including the general public, governmental agencies, corporations, private foundations or other public charities,

Receive income from the conduct of activities in furtherance of the organization's exempt purposes, or

Actively function in a supporting relationship to one or more existing public charities.

Private foundations, in contrast, typically have a single major source of funding (usually gifts from one family or corporation rather than funding from many sources) and most have as their primary activity the making of grants to other charitable organizations and to individuals, rather than the direct operation of charitable programs.

Source: <http://www.irs.gov/charities/charitable/article>

### For more information on Rhode Island's nonprofit sector:

- Foundation Center (<http://www.fdncenter.org>)
- Guidestar (<http://www.guidestar.org>)
- National Center for Charitable Statistics at the Urban Institute (<http://www.nccs.urban.org>)
- The Rhode Island Foundation (<http://www.rifoundation.org>)

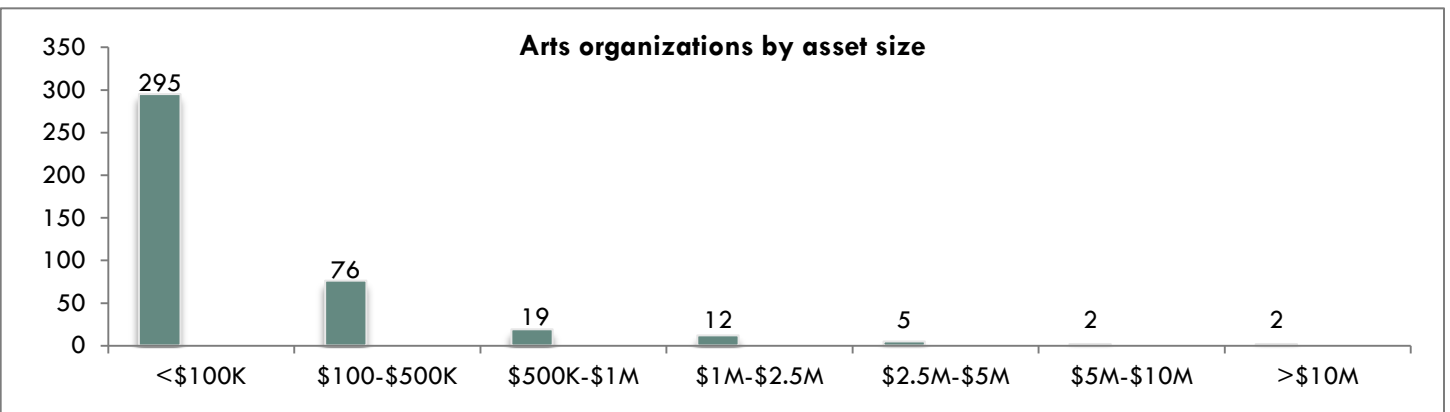
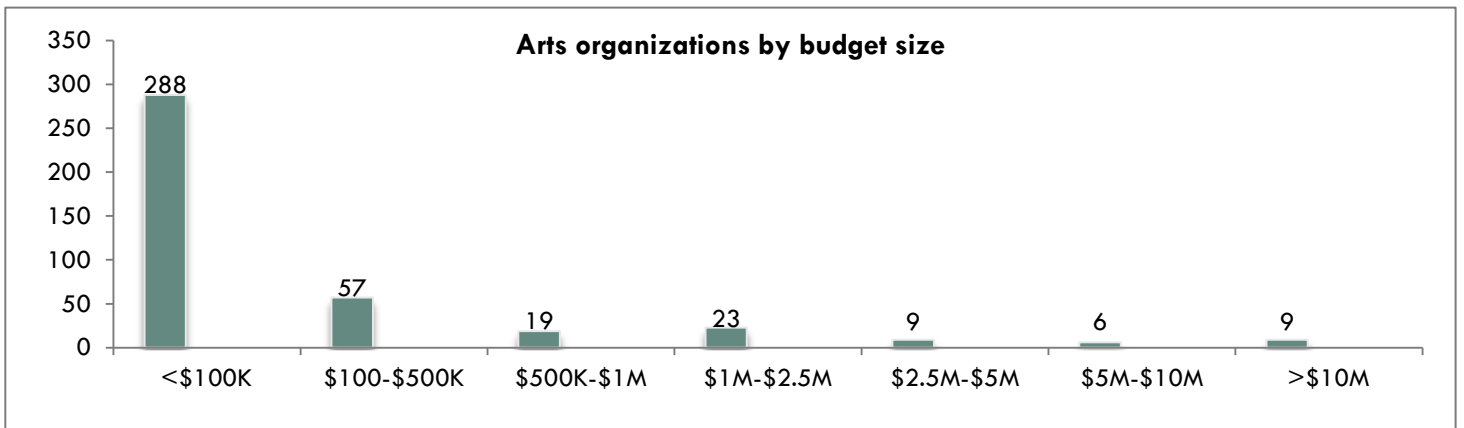
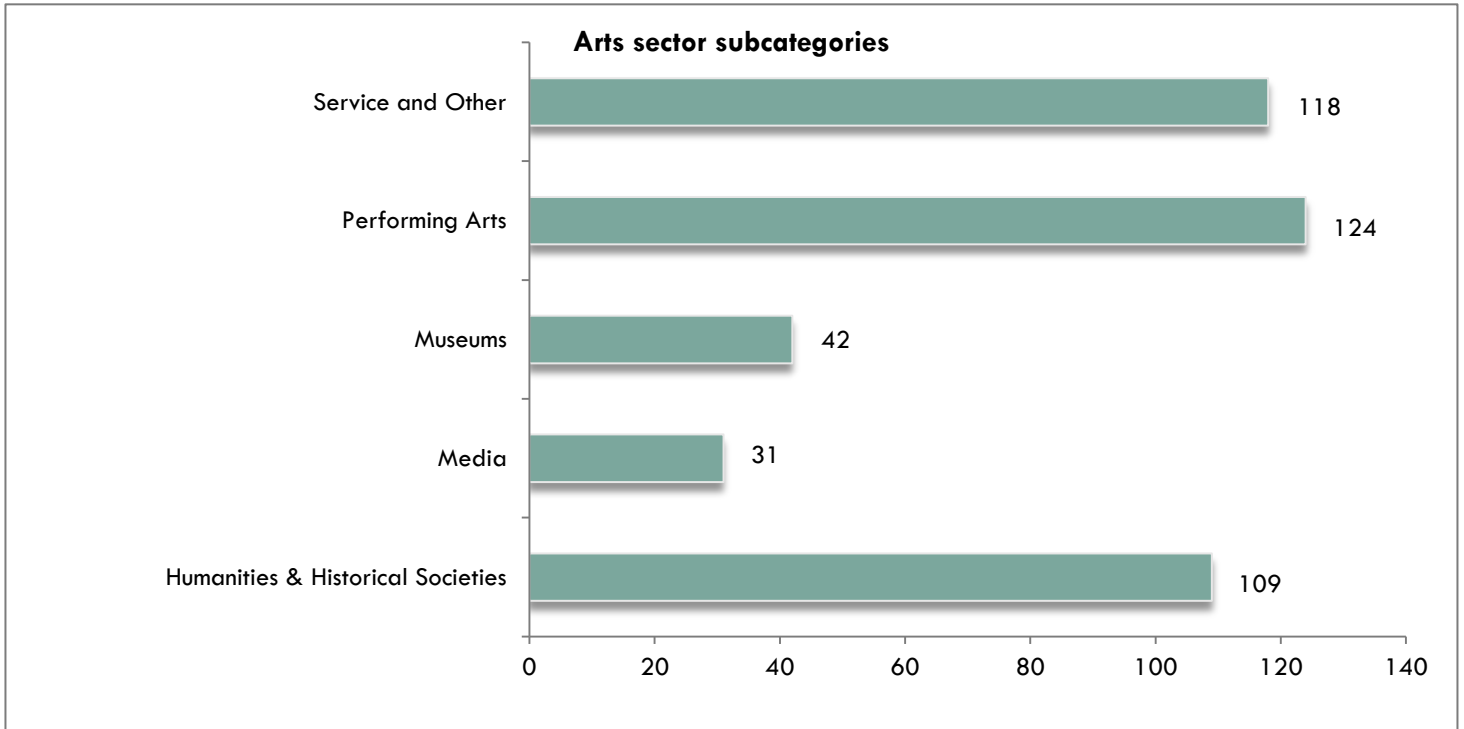
## APPENDIX

The appendix of this report is devoted to a breakdown of nonprofits in the six major sectors: arts, education, environment and animals, health, human services and public and societal benefit. These are the sector designations defined by Guidestar and do not necessarily match the Rhode Island Foundation sectors. Please also note, these numbers represent figures from Guidestar, including profiles that may not include budget and asset size, thus accounting for varying total numbers.

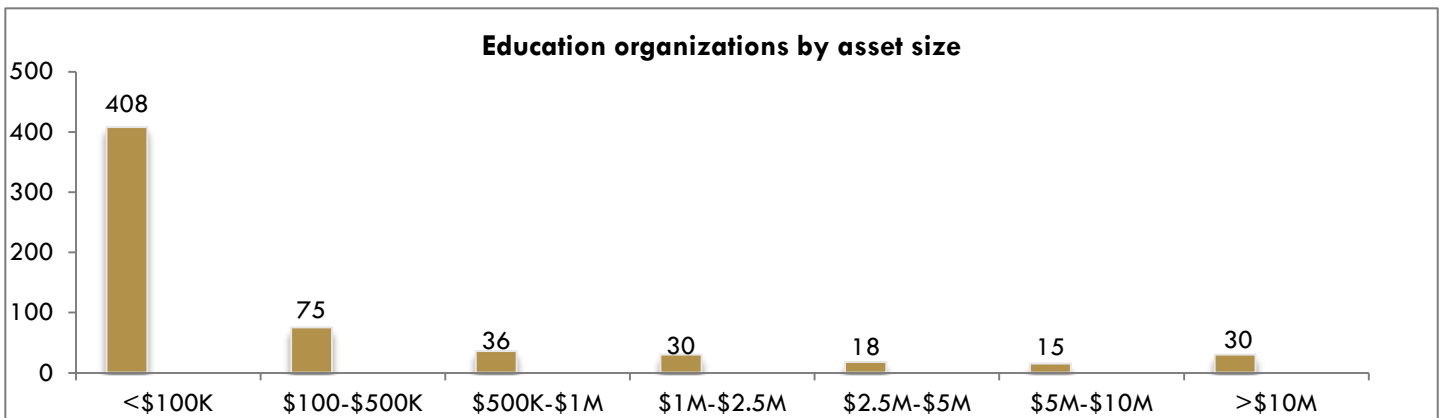
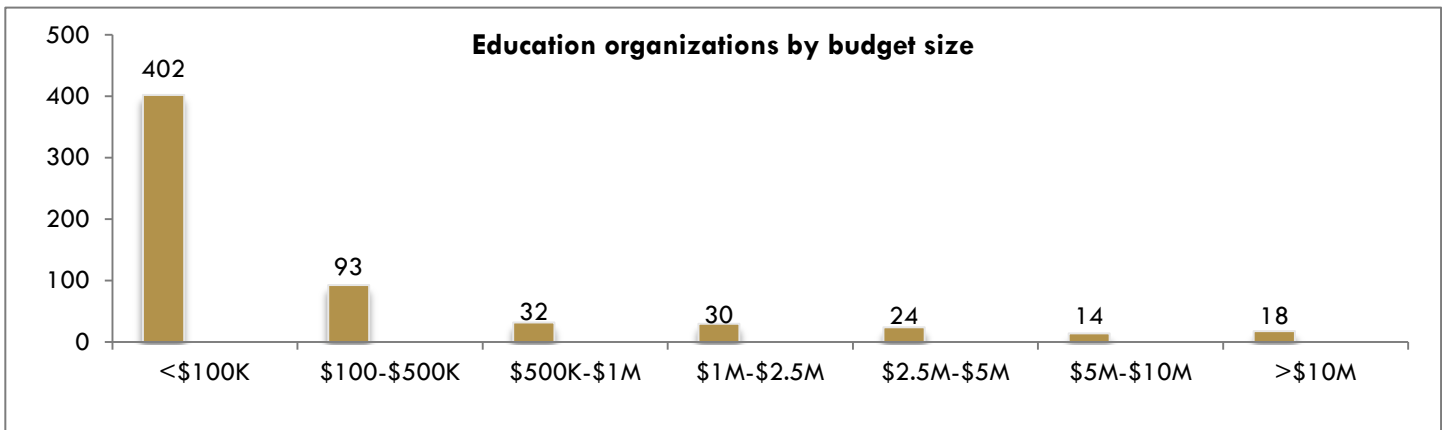
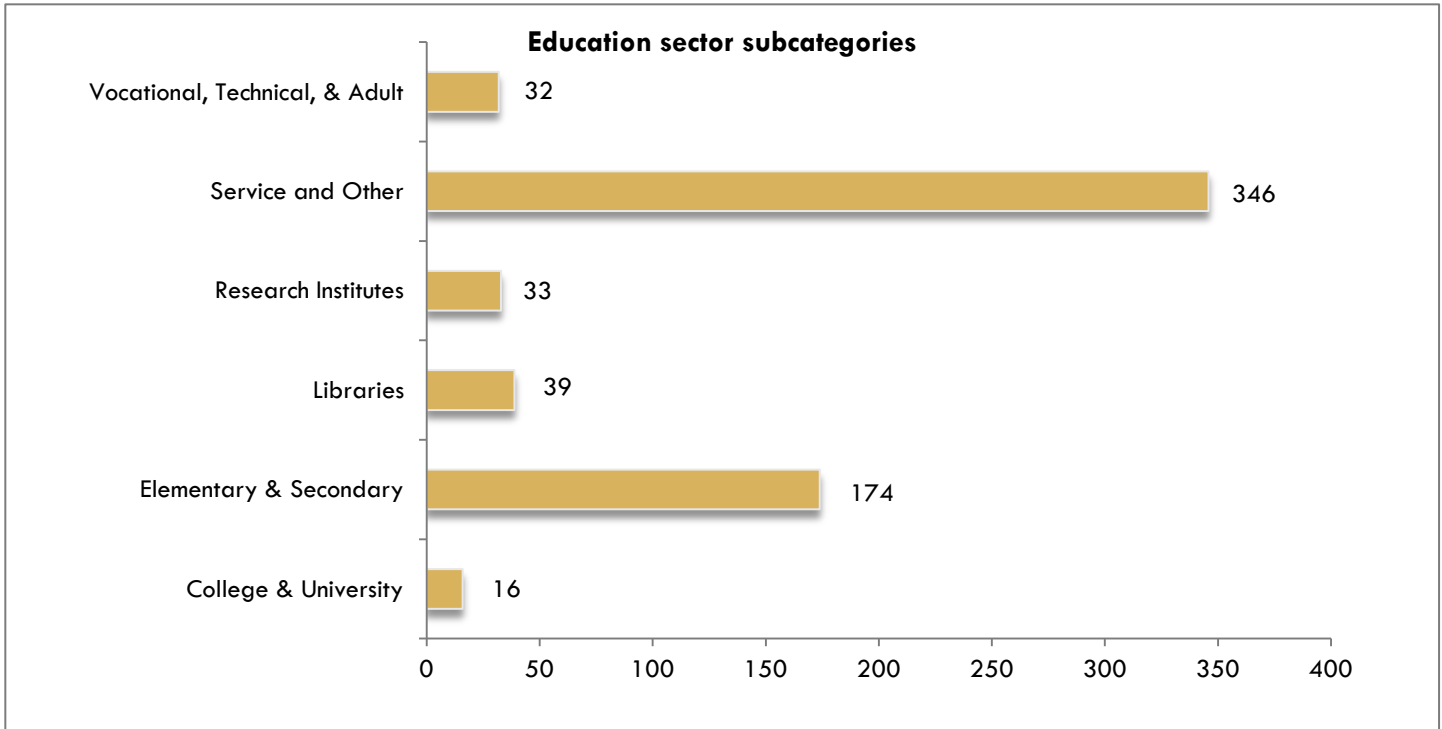
For a "yellow pages" listing of nonprofit organizations in Rhode Island, please visit the Directory of Rhode Island Nonprofits on the Initiative for Nonprofit Excellence page of the Rhode Island Foundation website. The directory contains basic contact information for most nonprofits and is searchable by keyword.



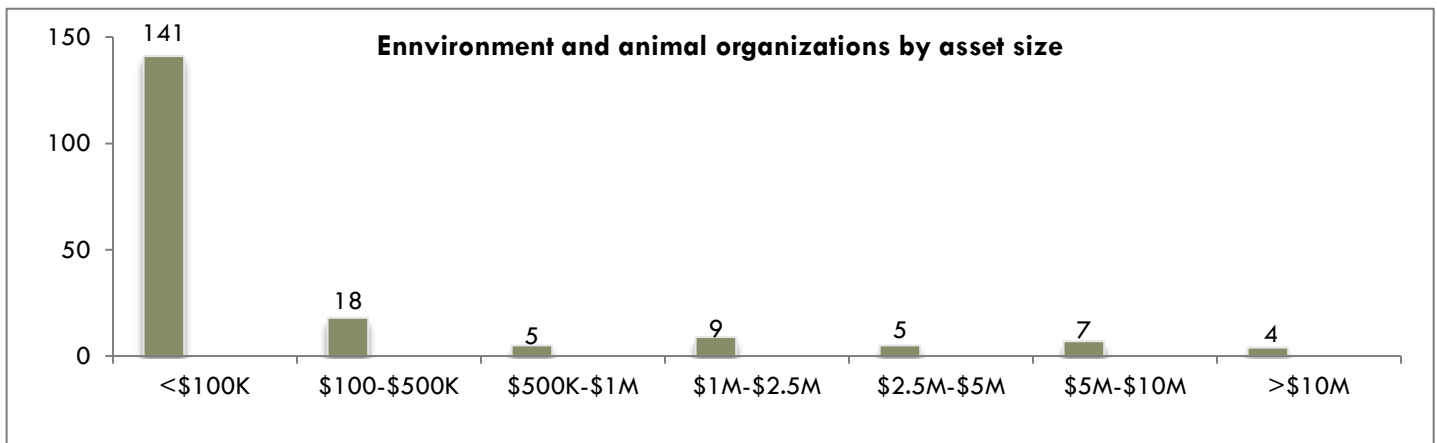
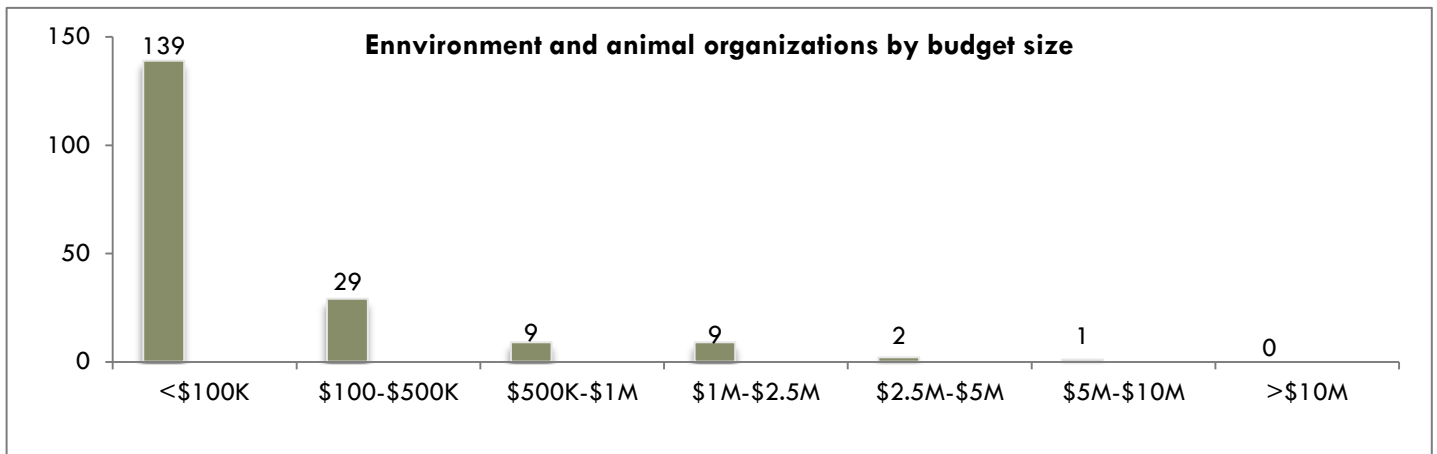
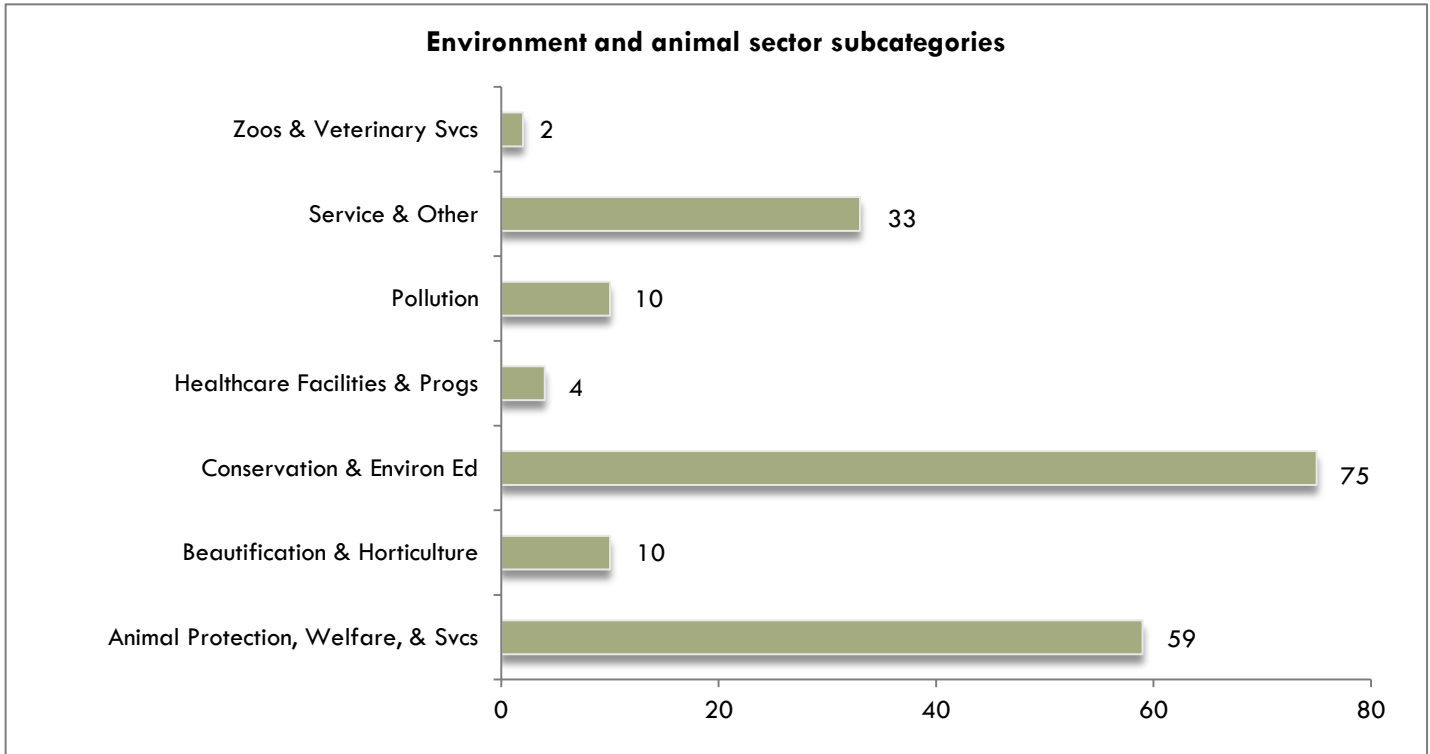
## Arts



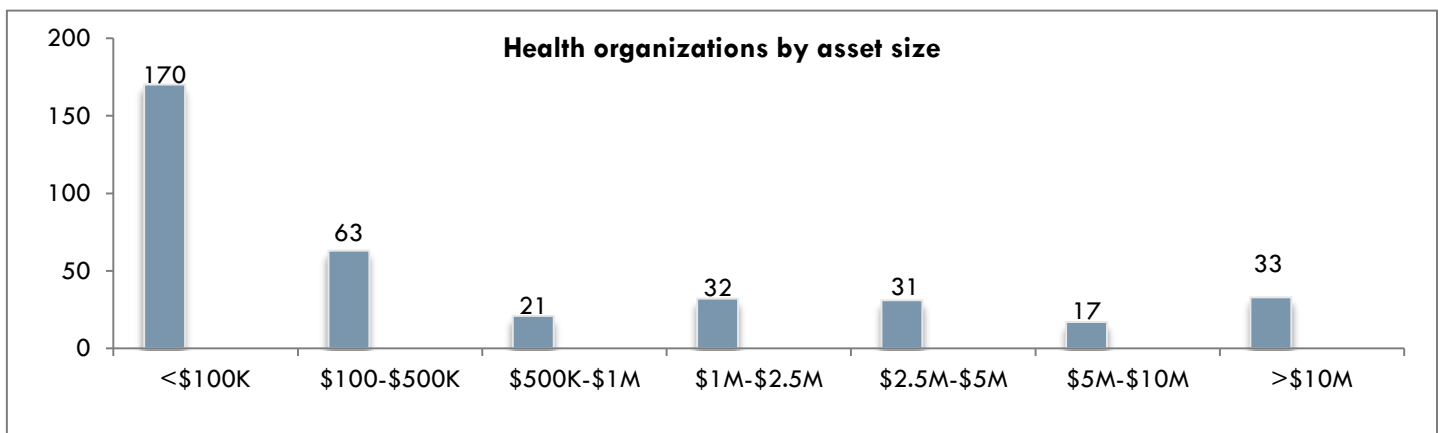
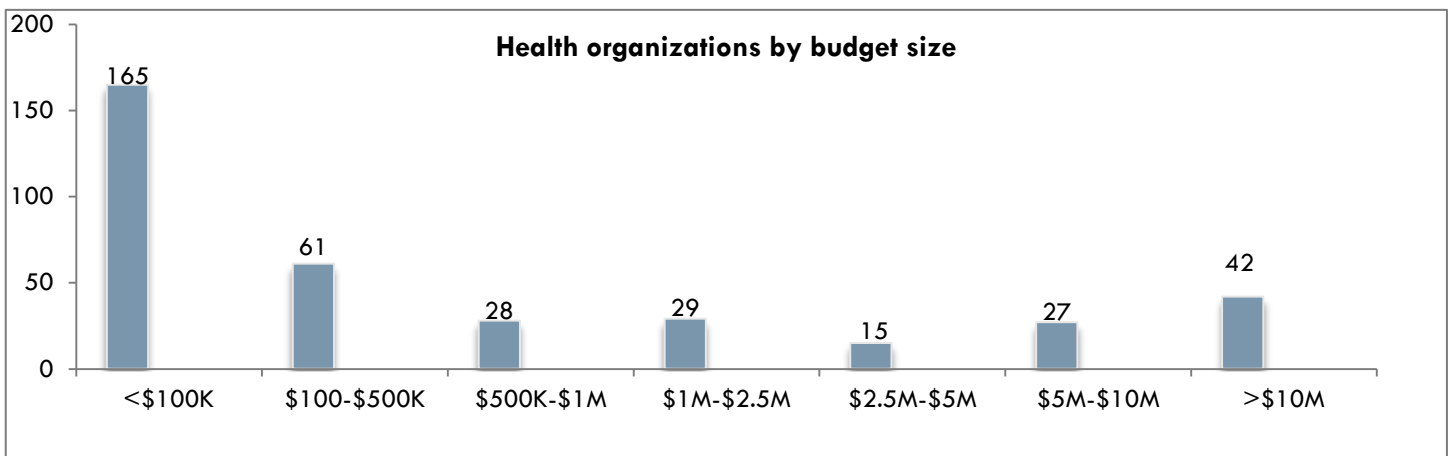
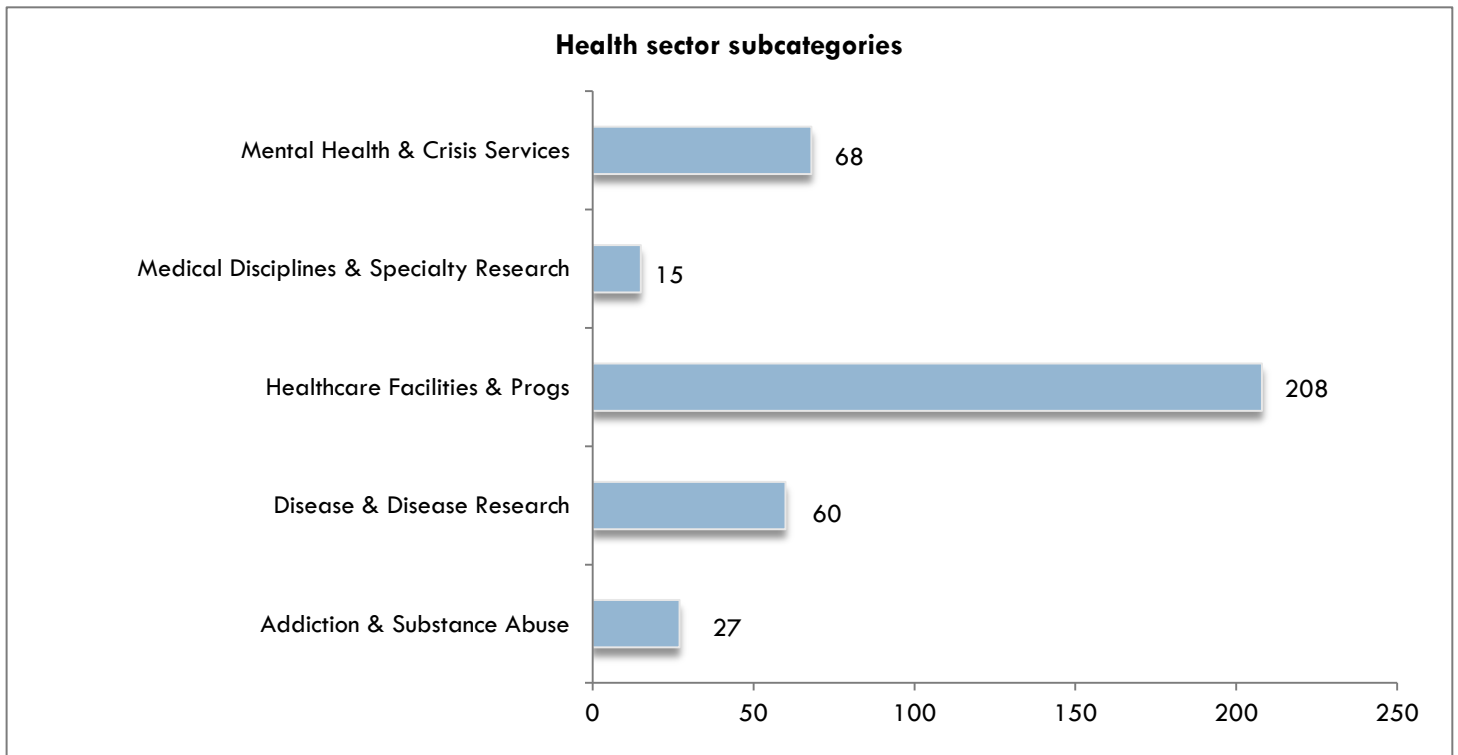
## Education



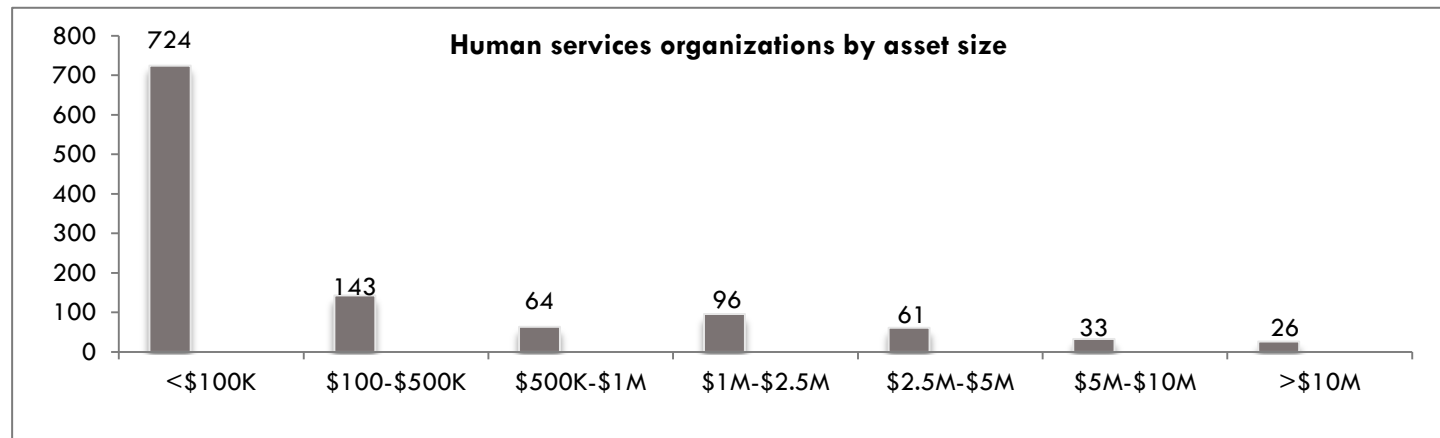
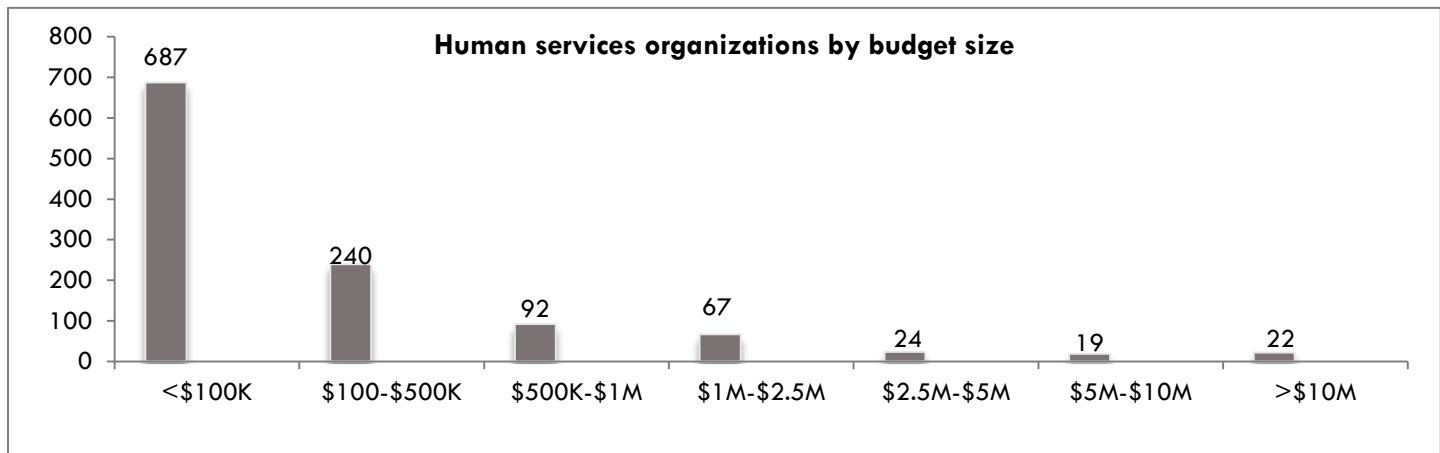
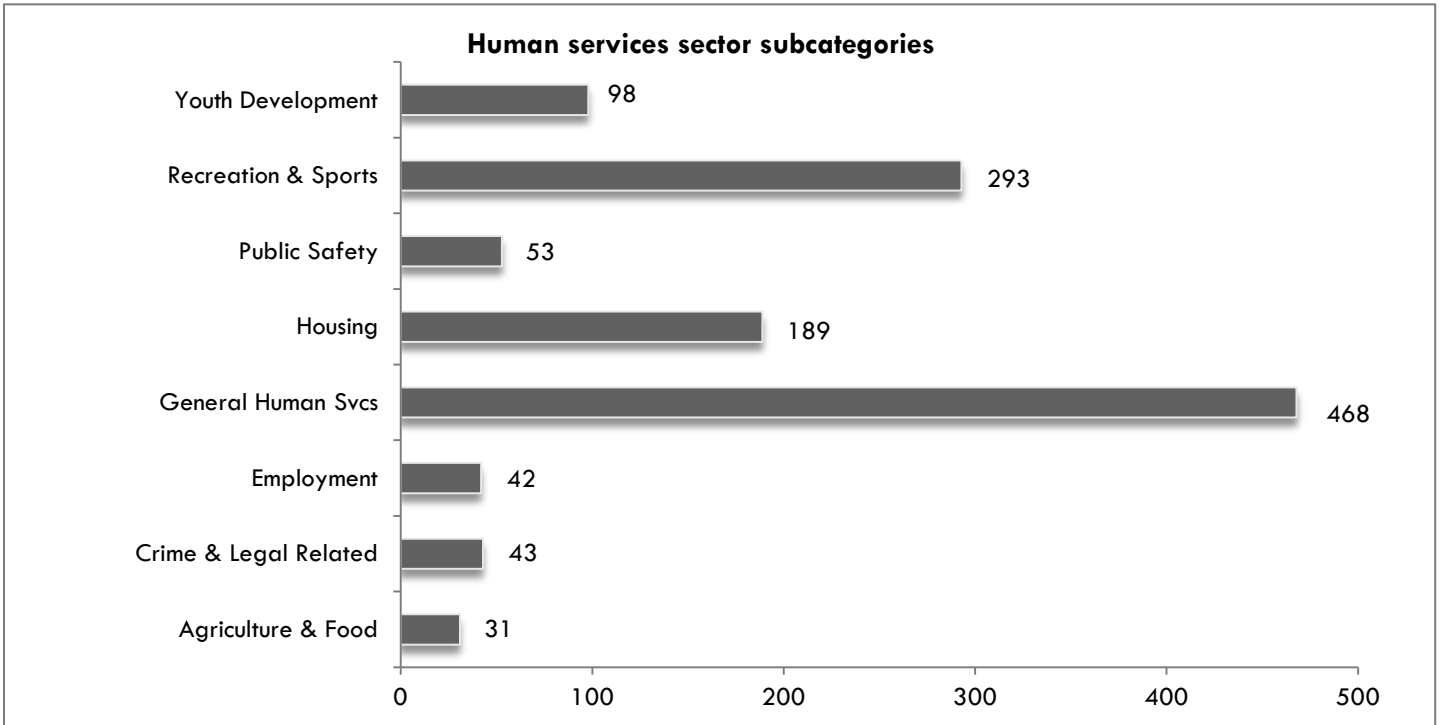
## Environment & animals



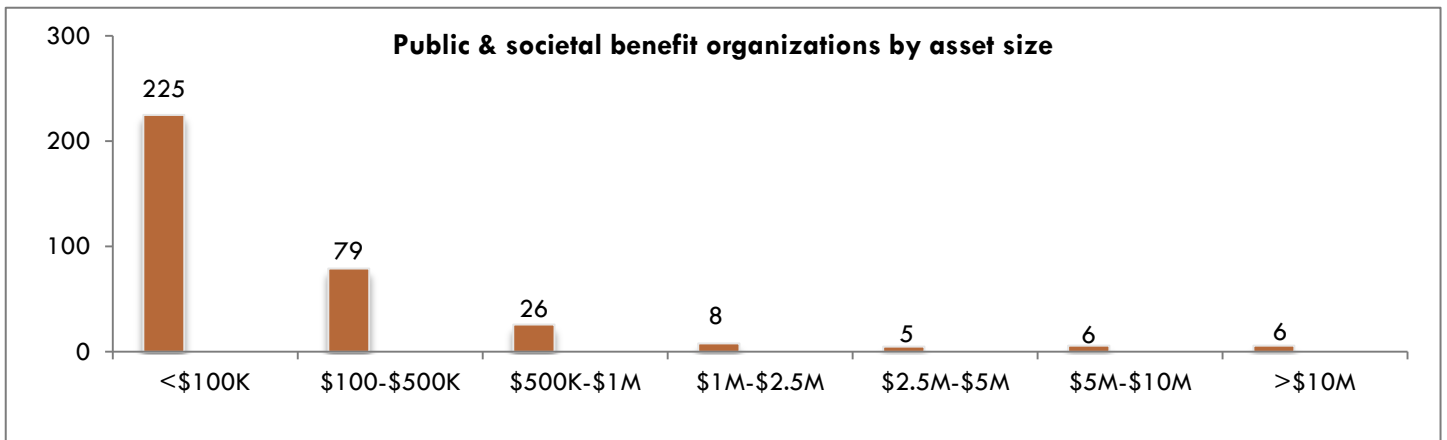
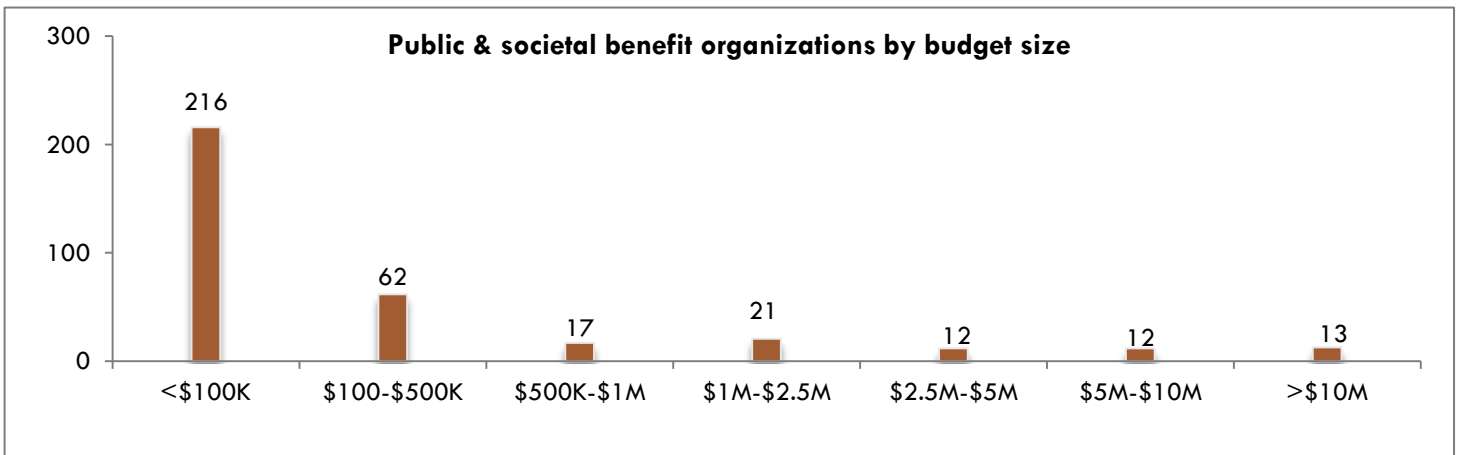
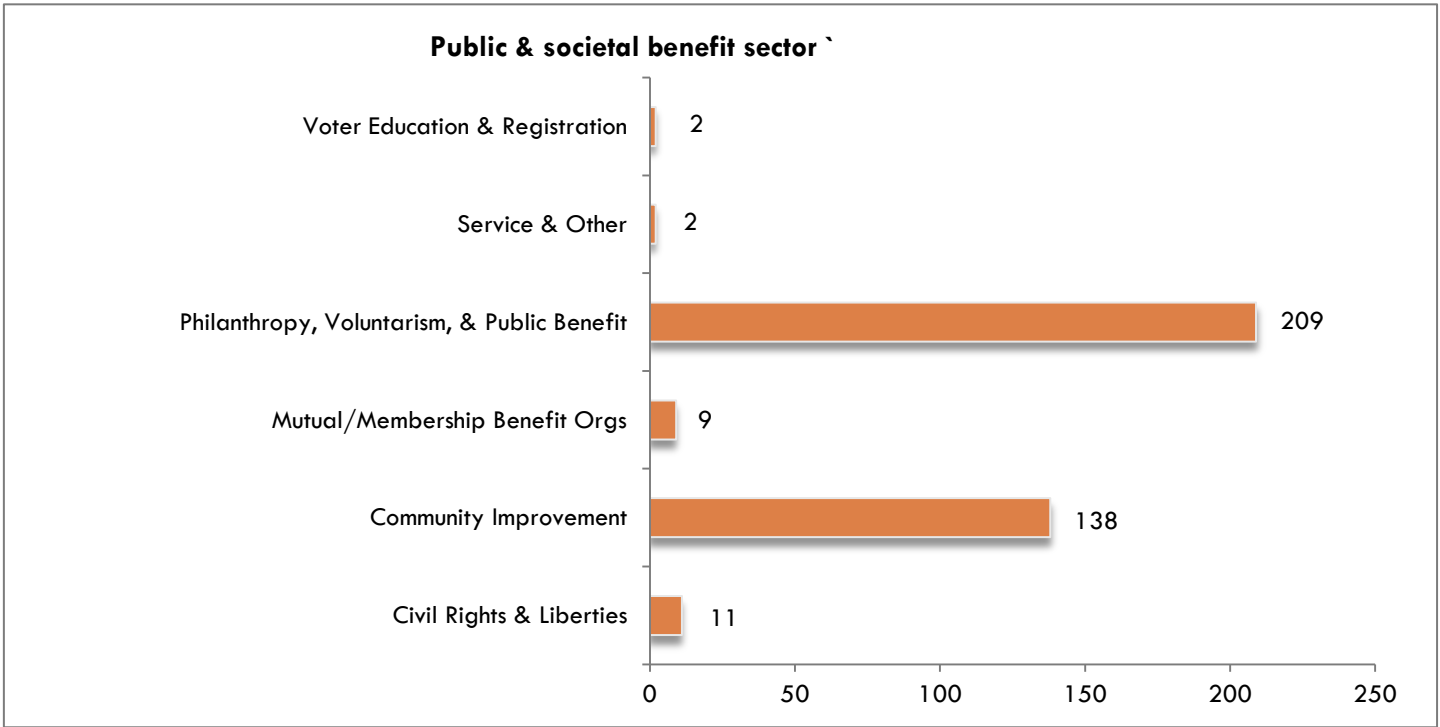
## Health



## Human Services



## Public & Societal Benefit



## THE RHODE ISLAND FOUNDATION



Throughout our nearly 100 year history, the Foundation has been dedicated “to meeting the needs of the people of Rhode Island”. The peoples' most pressing needs have changed - and will continue to change - through the years.

In 2010, we identified two critical needs and began to increase our attention and resources within our education and health sectors, to raise awareness of these important issues and to position the Foundation as a catalyst for change. These focused efforts, our “signature initiatives”, address:

### Public education reform

Our primary goal for public education is to lead the effort-with our many partners-to reduce statewide drop-out rates for at-risk students.

### Primary healthcare reform

Our goal in primary healthcare is to lead the efforts, with our many partners, to reduce the number of Rhode Islanders without a primary care “medical home” and to increase the number of primary care physicians practicing in Rhode Island.

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

We would especially like to acknowledge and thank the following for their assistance in preparing this report:

- Walter Callender, C Squared Strategy
- Cheryl A. Del Pico, New Roots Providence
- Gayle Gifford, Cause & Effect
- David Karoff, Karoff & Associates
- Marti Rosenberg, New Roots Providence
- Members of The Rhode Island Foundation staff

<sup>1, 2</sup> “Number of Public Charities in Rhode Island.” National Center for Charitable Statistics, 2010.

<sup>3</sup> “Holding the Fort: Nonprofit Employment During a Decade of Turmoil.” Lester M. Salamon, S. Wojciech Sokolowski, and Stephanie L. Geller (Baltimore, MD: Johns Hopkins Nonprofit Economic Data Project, Bulletin #39, 2012).

<sup>4</sup> “Nonprofits Continue to Add Jobs in the Current Downturn, but Rate of Job Growth Falts: An Overview.” Lester M. Salamon, S. Wojciech Sokolowski, and Stephanie L. Geller (Baltimore, MD: Johns Hopkins Nonprofit Economic Data Project, Bulletin #37, 2011).

## THE INITIATIVE FOR NONPROFIT EXCELLENCE

The Initiative for Nonprofit Excellence (INE) builds the capacity of nonprofit organizations so they can better achieve their missions. We provide tools and information to promote:

- ▣ **Leadership development:** workshops, grants, and mentoring to foster strong leadership among nonprofit executives, staff, and boards, as well as nonprofit emerging leaders.
- ▣ **Organizational development:** workshops and technical assistance to improve operations or delivery services.
- ▣ **Systems development:** free tools and resources that inform, educate, systematize, standardize, or create efficiencies.
- ▣ **Engagement and reflection:** informal convenings that promote quality discourse and experiential learning.

The Rhode Island Foundation launched the Initiative in 2008. Since then, the INE has worked with more than 1,600 individuals and 700 organizations. We embrace collaboration and learning and use evaluation to continually improve our programs and services. We also offer programs designed for different levels of participation, depending on the needs of organizations. Online resources, hands-on workshops, and multi-year capacity-building programs are all available.

*Rhode Island Nonprofits At-a-Glance* is brought to you by The Initiative for Nonprofit Excellence at The Rhode Island Foundation.

The Rhode Island Foundation  
One Union Station  
Providence RI 02903

[www.rifoundation.org](http://www.rifoundation.org)  
[www.rifoundation.org/INE](http://www.rifoundation.org/INE)

The logo for the Initiative for Nonprofit Excellence features a light green background with a faint image of a building. The text "Initiative for Nonprofit Excellence" is written in a dark red, serif font, arranged in three lines.

Initiative for  
Nonprofit  
Excellence

The logo for The Rhode Island Foundation consists of a solid red square. The text "THE RHODE ISLAND FOUNDATION" is written in white, all-caps, serif font, arranged in four lines.

THE  
RHODE  
ISLAND  
FOUNDATION