

Money Needed

\$4 billion



Taxpayer Burden™

\$8,800



Financial Grade



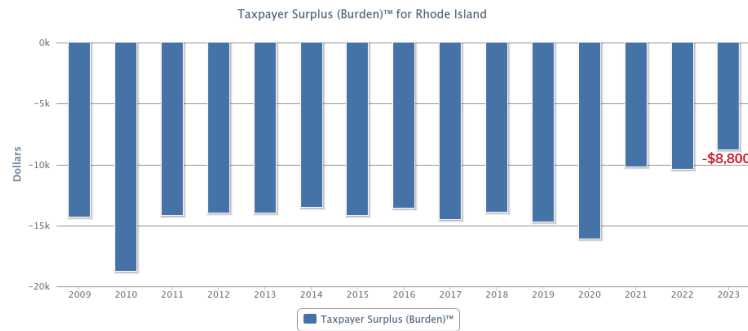
Ranking

37 out of 50



Rhode Island, like most other states, improved its financial condition in 2023. This is a positive development, and Truth in Accounting applauds the state's commitment to improving its fiscal solvency. The state increased its money available to pay bills by \$304.4 million. However, Rhode Island still needed \$4 billion to pay all its bills.

Rhode Island's financial outlook improved, with total revenues exceeding expenses. The state reported a \$218.5 million increase in education funding, driven by \$95.6 million from the American Rescue Plan, \$58.5 million for school construction, and \$39.8 million for local education aid. Additionally, the state's net pension liability decreased by \$155 million because of improved investment returns, while federal assistance grew by \$282.5 million.



However, unfunded pensions and other post-retirement benefits continued to impair Rhode Island's ability to pay its bills. As outlined in the comprehensive 2024 Financial State of the States report, inflation, market volatility, and other economic factors could further impact the state's financial situation. Based upon the state's latest audited financial report for the fiscal year 2023, Rhode Island had a Taxpayer Burden™ of \$8,800, earning it a "D" grade from Truth in Accounting.

- Rhode Island had \$8.6 billion available to pay \$12.6 billion worth of bills.
- The outcome was a \$4 billion shortfall, which breaks down to a burden of \$8,800 per taxpayer.
- Rhode Island's net pension liability decreased by \$155 million due in part to improved investment returns.

The State's Bills Exceeded Its Assets

Total Assets	\$20,796,050,000
Minus: Capital Assets	-\$8,007,271,000
Restricted Assets	-\$4,143,433,000
Assets Available to Pay Bills	\$8,645,346,000
Minus: Total Bills*	\$12,596,315,000
Money needed to pay bills	\$3,950,969,000
Each taxpayer's share of this burden	\$8,800

*Breakdown of Total Bills

Bonds	\$5,656,489,000
Other Liabilities	\$4,755,195,000
Minus: Debt Related to Capital Assets	-\$1,366,695,000
Unfunded Pension Benefits	\$3,247,030,000
Unfunded Retiree Health Care Benefits	\$304,296,000
Total Bills	\$12,596,315,000

Grade:

D

Bottom line: Rhode Island would need \$8,800 from each of its taxpayers to pay all of its outstanding bills and received a "D" grade for its finances. According to Truth in Accounting's grading scale, any government with a Taxpayer Burden between \$5,000 and \$20,000 is given a "D" grade.