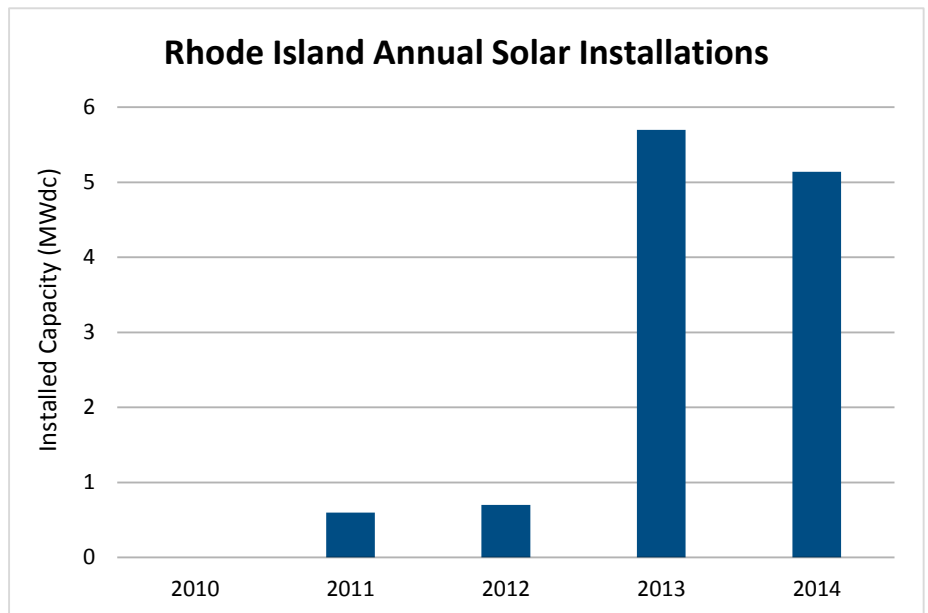


Solar Spotlight: Rhode Island

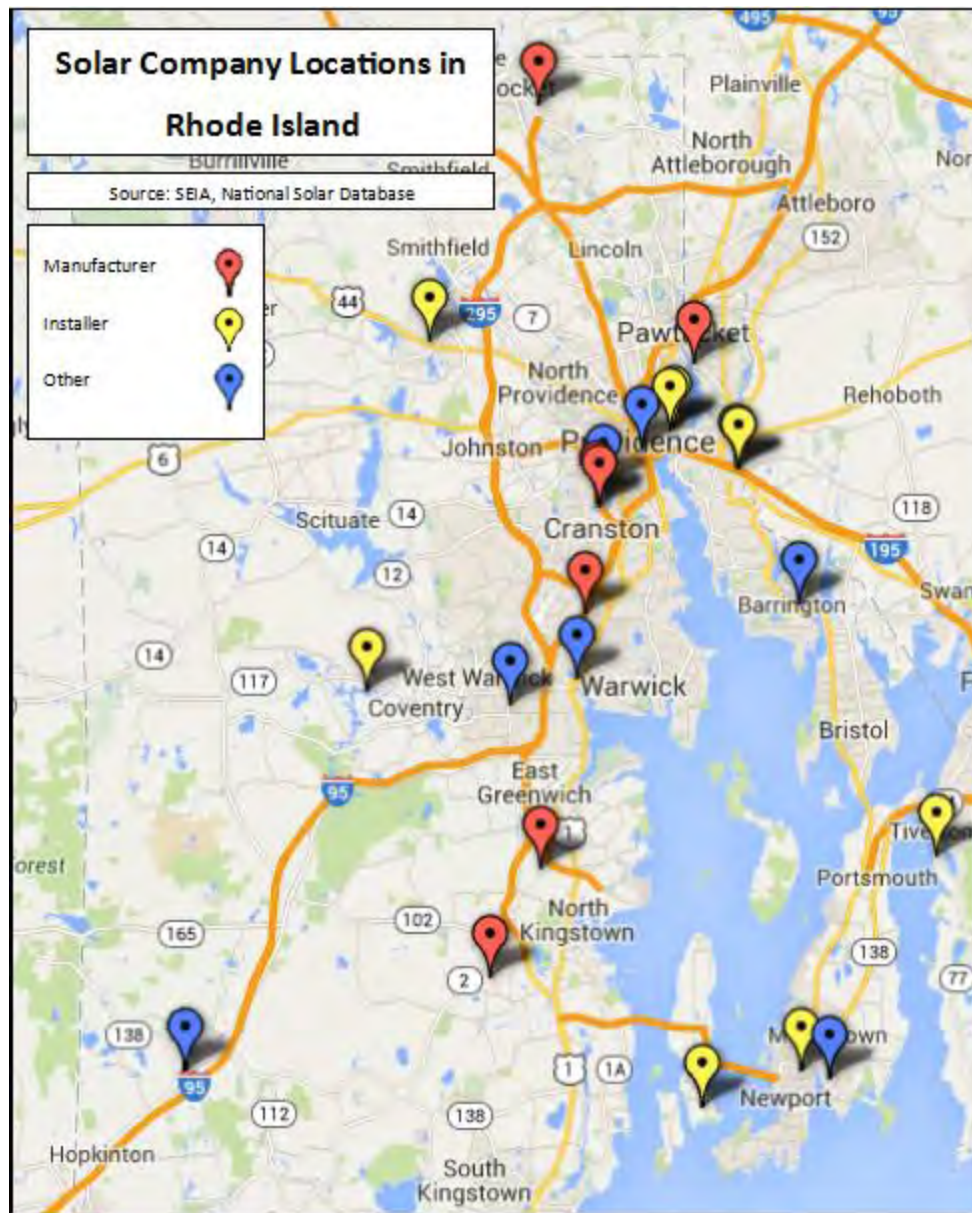
At a glance

- There are currently more than **26 solar companies**ⁱ at work throughout the value chain in Rhode Island, **employing 300**ⁱⁱ. These companies provide a wide variety of solar products and services ranging from solar system installations to the manufacturing of components used in photovoltaic panels. Solar firms in this state can be broken down across the following categories: 7 manufacturers, 8 contractor/installers, 4 project developers, 2 distributors and 4 engaged in other solar activities including financing, engineering and legal support.
- **5 MW** of solar capacity were installed in Rhode Island in 2014. Rhode Island ranks 37th nationally in 2014 installed solar capacity.ⁱⁱⁱ
- Of the solar capacity installed in Rhode Island in 2014, **400 kW** were residential, **1,040 kW** were commercial and **3,700 kW** were utility-scale.^{iv}
- The **15 MW of solar energy currently installed** in Rhode Island ranks the state 32nd in the country in installed solar capacity. There is enough solar energy installed in the state to power 2,610 homes.^v
- In 2014, **\$8 million** was invested on solar installations in Rhode Island.
- Average installed residential and commercial photovoltaic system **prices have dropped steadily across the nation— by 12% from last year** and 45% from 2010.^{vi}



Notable Projects

- **Forbes Street Solar** was completed in Jun. 2014 by developer Hecate Energy and CME Energy. This PV project has the capacity to generate 3.7 MW of electricity— enough to power over 650 homes.^{vii}
- Several large retailers in Rhode Island have gone solar, including **Whole Foods. Tiffany & Co.** has installed one of the largest corporate photovoltaic systems in the state with 249 kW of solar capacity at their location in Cumberland.



ⁱ SEIA, National Solar Database, www.seia.org/research-resources/nationalsolar-database

ⁱⁱ The Solar Foundation, 2014 National and State Solar Jobs Census, www.thesolarfoundation.org/solar-jobs-census/

ⁱⁱⁱ Estimate using data from U.S. Energy Information Administration Form 826

^{iv} Ibid

^v Estimate using data from U.S. Energy Information Administration Form 826 and IREC U.S. Solar Market Trends 2013

^{vi} SEIA/GTM Research *Solar Market Insight*, www.seia.org/research-resources/us-solar-market-insight

^{vii} SEIA, Major Solar Projects List, www.seia.org/research-resources/major-solar-projects-list

Established in 1974, the Solar Energy Industries Association® is the national trade association of the U.S. solar energy industry. Through advocacy and education, SEIA® and its 1,000 member companies are building a strong solar industry to power America. As the voice of the industry, SEIA works to make solar a mainstream and significant energy source by expanding markets, removing market barriers, strengthening the industry and educating the public on the benefits of solar energy. www.seia.org