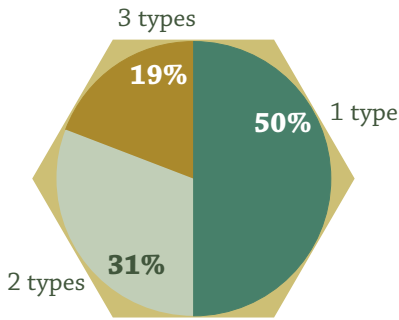


Rhode Island

\$354 Million

Percent of firms in one or more types of business



Environmental Horticulture is a major sector of agriculture in Rhode Island. There are more than 780 firms in this industry.

These firms are involved in:

- ◆ **PRODUCTION:** nurseries, greenhouses, herbs, cut flowers, turfgrass.
- ◆ **RETAIL:** garden centers, florists.
- ◆ **LANDSCAPE SERVICES:** landscape design, installation, maintenance, lawn care, tree care.

Many firms are involved in more than one of these types of business.

Income of firms surveyed

69%

INCREASE

12%

DECREASE

19%

SAME

The Environmental Horticulture industry produces income. The estimated value in Rhode Island for 2007 is \$354 million in gross income.

- ◆ Similar to the previous survey in 2004, income has grown for about two-thirds of firms.
- ◆ Over the three year period, between 2004 and 2007, more than **540 firms increased their income.** The average increase per firm was 23 percent.
- ◆ Many additional firms, not counted in this survey, derive at least partial income from this industry. These include seasonal outlets such as roadside markets, hardware stores, mass market stores, and property maintenance firms.

People employed by businesses

51%

FULL TIME

14%

PART TIME

35%

SEASONAL

Environmental Horticulture provides MANY jobs. At least 11,000 people are employed in this industry. An additional 4,000 are needed.

- ◆ Half of those in this industry are fully employed. An estimated **5,600 jobs are full time.** An additional 1,800 are needed.
- ◆ This industry paid an estimated **\$150 million to employees** in 2007 including benefits, almost half (42 percent) of state income.
- ◆ Three-quarters of businesses (73 percent) reported an increase in the cost of labor. The average increase per firm from 2004 to 2007 was 40 percent.

Types of businesses

56%

LANDSCAPE & TREE SERVICES

63%

RETAIL

50%

WHOLESALE PRODUCTION/SALES

19%

OTHER

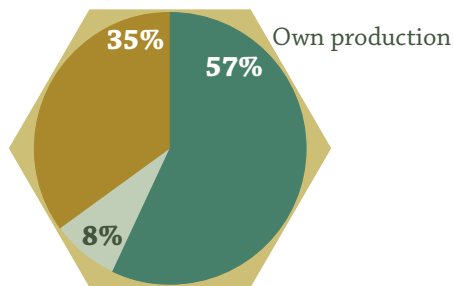
Environmental Horticulture is diverse.

More than half of firms offer, derive income from, and provide jobs in, landscape and tree services.



Income from plant sales

Finished plants



Pre-finished plants

Plant production and sales are a significant part of the Environmental Horticulture industry. Plant sales generate over \$290 million.

This includes:

- ◆ \$165 million from plants produced totally by the seller. Half of firms selling plants grew many from start to finish.
- ◆ \$23 million from young plants purchased (“pre-finished”), then grown further prior to selling.
- ◆ \$102 million from “finished” plants bought for resale, either wholesale or retail.

Plant production generates \$188 million. A majority of firms (75 percent) sell plants.

More facts about Environmental Horticulture in Rhode Island



- ◆ The industry is keeping an estimated 31,000 acres in agriculture, of which 41 percent is open space and 21 percent is in a land preservation program.
- ◆ Businesses in this industry paid an estimated \$26 million in taxes in 2007. Over two-thirds of the firms (69 percent) reported an increase in taxes paid. The average increase per firm was 32 percent.
- ◆ The top three major concerns as expressed by a majority of this industry were health care costs, energy costs, and immigration/labor issues.