# Rhode Island Standards and JA Economics: A Correlation

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<th>Topic Descriptions</th>
<th>Key Learning Objectives</th>
<th>Rhode Island Economics Standards</th>
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<td><strong>Unit 1: Elements of the Economy</strong></td>
<td><strong>Reading Objectives:</strong></td>
<td>E 1 (9-12) –1</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Theme 1 Scarcity and Opportunity Cost</strong></td>
<td>- Define economics</td>
<td>Students demonstrate an understanding of basic economic concepts by…</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>- Explain why scarcity forces decisions</td>
<td>a. applying the concept that choices involve trade-offs in real world situations or historical contexts.</td>
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<td>- Identify opportunity costs</td>
<td>b. applying the concept that economic choices often have long-run intended and unintended consequences in real world situations and historical contexts.</td>
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<td></td>
<td>- Evaluate the economic soundness of a decision</td>
<td><strong>E 1 (9-12) –2</strong> Students demonstrate an understanding that scarcity and abundance causes individuals to make economic choices by…</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>- Distinguish between needs and wants</td>
<td>a. Applying the concept that personal choices often have long-run intended and unintended consequences using historical examples.</td>
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<td>- Evaluate how needs and wants affect the choices that people make.</td>
<td>b. Evaluating personal choices using a cost-benefit analysis.</td>
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<td></td>
<td>- Describe the benefits of voluntary exchange and specialization.</td>
<td>E 2 (9-12) –1 Students demonstrate an understanding of the variety of ways producers and consumers exchange goods and services by…</td>
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<td></td>
<td>- Distinguish between self-interest and selfishness.</td>
<td>a. analyzing local, regional, national, and global markets for goods and services.</td>
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<td></td>
<td>- Identify how self-interest helps you and others.</td>
<td>b. analyzing the trade-offs in a typical day and identify ways to lower the opportunity costs.</td>
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<td></td>
<td>- Separate income into two categories: consumption and savings.</td>
<td>c. Categorize items as needs or wants.</td>
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<td></td>
<td>- Explain how a business acting in its self-interest benefits others.</td>
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# Unit 1: Elements of the Economy

## Theme 2 Allocation and Decision Making: Is There a Best Choice?

Students discover that sound decision making is based on weighing the marginal costs and marginal benefits. To get the most value out of the resources available, choose only those actions that promise marginal benefits that are equal to or greater than marginal costs. Individuals, businesses, and countries will be more prosperous when their choices reflect the implications of thinking on the margin and using comparative advantage to specialize.

Students explore the following topics:

- Tools for allocating resources
- Consumers and marginal thinking
- Comparative advantage and specialization for individuals
- Economic systems: How nations allocate resources

### Reading Objectives

- List the steps in the PACED model for decision making
- Identify decisions that the PACED model can be used for
- Explain how a budget can help with decision making
- Explain the differences across free market, command, traditional, and mixed economies
- Analyze how economic systems impact the economic choices of its consumers and businesses
- Apply marginal thinking to a daily choice
- Identify diminishing marginal utility to a choice
- Identify the best use of time, talent, or treasure using comparative advantage
- Analyze the comparative advantage and show that specializing can lead to more trade
- Apply the PACED model to decide on an optimal career path after high school.
- Create an annual budget for a household to achieve short-, medium-, and long-term goals.
- Evaluate trade-offs at the margin when deciding how to grow a business.
- Design an advertisement that will lure customers to buy a product based on marginal thinking.
- Analyze how to allocate time and talent (i.e., labor) based on comparative advantage.
- Define key terms related to allocation and decision making.
- As consumers, evaluate marginal costs and marginal benefits of economic decisions.
- As workers, evaluate how opportunity cost is affected by allocation of talent and time based on trade and comparative advantage.

## Rhode Island Economics Standards

- E 1 (9-12) – 1
  Students demonstrate an understanding of basic economic concepts by…
  d. analyzing how and why economic systems have changed over time.
## Topic Descriptions

**Unit 1: Elements of the Economy**  
**Theme 3 Business Decisions**  

Students discover that a businesses' success stems from continually satisfying their own consumers. Businesses are rewarded for doing so through a steady stream of profits. These profits allow them to produce more or invest their profits. Economic reasoning and marginal analysis help business owners make sound production and investment choices.  

Students explore the following topics:  
- Why be in business?  
- Business behavior  
- What to sell?  
- Economic goals in the market economy.

## Key Learning Objectives

**Reading Objectives:**  
- Use the profit equation to calculate profits.  
- Identify factors that affect revenue and cost and explain how businesses respond to changes.  
- List strategies for increasing profit.  
- Explain how producers use marginal analysis to make sound choices.  
- Interpret price signals from the perspectives of the producer and the consumer.  
- Associate different price signals with different market conditions.  
- Use economic profit to determine best production alternatives.  
- Calculate profit margin and explain its importance.  
- Connect the promise of profits to rewards associated with ethical behavior.  
- Explain how businesses benefit from specialization and trade.  
- Analyze opportunity costs to determine comparative advantage.  
- List ways that trade benefits the consumer.  
- List seven goals of the market economy.  
- Explain how the goals in a market economy relate to consumers, businesses, and government.

**Hands–On Objectives:**  
- Examine how changes in revenue and costs affect profits and analyze how a business can respond to increased competition.  
- Create a pitch to lenders…  
- Analyze price signals reflecting changes in consumer demand…  
- Analyze the impact of laws, regulations, and subsidies on business decisions and consumer demand.  
- Make connections among different economic goals in a market economy…  
- Define key terms related to businesses and free enterprise.  
- Analyze how businesses respond to incentives.  
- Explain how producers use marginal analysis.  
- Explain how businesses use price signals and profit margins to make decisions.  
- Explain how businesses stay competitive.  
- Explain why businesses specialize and how they benefit from…

## Rhode Island Economics Standards

**E 1 (9-12) –1**  
Students demonstrate an understanding of basic economic concepts by…  
- Evaluating historical and contemporary choices using marginal analysis.

**E 1 (9-12) –2**  
Students demonstrate an understanding that scarcity and abundance causes individuals to make economic choices by…  
- Applying the concept that personal choices often have long-run intended and unintended consequences using historical examples.  
- Evaluating personal choices using a cost-benefit analysis.

**E 2 (9-12) –1**  
Students demonstrate an understanding of the variety of ways producers and consumers exchange goods and services by…  
- analyzing the role of income, price, competition, profit, property rights, and specialization in the economy  
- analyzing the roles of supply and demand in an economy  
- analyzing local, regional, national, and global markets for goods and services.
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<td><strong>Reading Objectives:</strong></td>
<td><strong>E 2 (9-12) – 1</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>1.4 Entrepreneurship and Business</strong></td>
<td>- Recognize the basis of entrepreneurship is adding value, filling a need, or solving a problem.</td>
<td>Students demonstrate an understanding of the variety of ways producers and consumers exchange goods and services by…</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>- Identify the key characteristics of entrepreneurs.</td>
<td>a. analyzing the role of income, price, competition, profit, property rights, and specialization in the economy</td>
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<td>- Recognize the three factors that influence entrepreneurial success.</td>
<td>c. analyzing local, regional, national, and global markets for goods and services.</td>
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<td>- Recognize the types of information-based decisions entrepreneurs make to launch and improve a business.</td>
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<td>- Explain why a new, innovative product or service generates a higher price and profit.</td>
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<td>- Describe the effect of competition on price as new sellers enter the market.</td>
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<td>- Identify the stages of a single business life cycle.</td>
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<td>- Explain the effect innovation has as a disruptor in a business’s life cycle.</td>
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<td>- Identify the short-term negative effects of innovation.</td>
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<td>- Recognize the importance of small businesses in the U.S. economy.</td>
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<td>- Identify the three major types of business organization.</td>
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<td></td>
<td>- Compare advantages and disadvantages of types of business organization.</td>
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<td>- Define a stockholder and bondholder.</td>
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<td></td>
<td>- Identify the ways in which stockholders can realize capital gains, dividends, and capital losses.</td>
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<td><strong>Hands on Objectives:</strong></td>
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<td>- Identify the ways in which bondholders are repaid, how they earn interest income, and the risks they face.</td>
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<td>- Analyze how changes in the production of goods and services affects the markets for labor and goods and services as well as the household consumer.</td>
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<td>- Evaluate how innovations in automated processes can lead to creative destruction and then examine how the labor market might adjust to such innovations.</td>
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<td>- Determine the best business structure for a company and explain the risks and rewards of that choice.</td>
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<td>- Participate in a competitive simulation where groups invest in stocks and bonds to see who invests most wisely.</td>
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<td>- Define key terms related to businesses and free enterprise.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Topic Descriptions</td>
<td>Key Learning Objectives</td>
<td>Economics Standards</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Unit 1 Project: Budget Economics</strong></td>
<td>Students conduct research about possible future income and expenses to create a working budget and then analyze the economics of the budget. Students will identify the impact of scarcity on personal finances and reflect on the opportunity costs of their choices.</td>
<td>E 1 (9-12) – 2 Students demonstrate an understanding that scarcity and abundance causes individuals to make economic choices by… a. Applying the concept that personal choices often have long-run intended and unintended consequences using historical examples. b. Evaluating personal choices using a cost-benefit analysis.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Objectives:</strong></td>
<td>- Use a budgeting process to create a future budget</td>
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<td>- Analyze the economics of a personal budget</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Unit 1 Case Study: Scarcity and Business Decisions</strong></td>
<td>Students consider a personal example and then a business example of the challenges created by scarcity when a group has to work together to determine how to make the best use of time, talent, and treasure</td>
<td>E 1 (9-12) – 2 Students demonstrate an understanding that scarcity and abundance causes individuals to make economic choices by… a. Applying the concept that personal choices often have long-run intended and unintended consequences using historical examples. b. Evaluating personal choices using a cost-benefit analysis.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Objectives:</strong></td>
<td>- Use economic reasoning to analyze opportunity costs and make budget decisions</td>
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<td>- Practice nominal group technique to make a group decision</td>
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<td>- Explain why scarcity matters</td>
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### Unit 2: Markets
#### 2.1 Consumers Rule
Students learn about the economic term demand and investigate how economic demand explains how consumers influence the market, letting producers know what they want and are willing to buy. Students explore the following topics:
- Price-Allocation System
- Law of Demand
- The Demand Curve
- Consumer Demand Changes

#### Reading Objectives:
- Explain how the price consumers are willing to pay and producers’ costs create a price-allocation system in market economies.
- Identify the conditions that would allow for both buyers and sellers to benefit from an exchange.
- Identify the effect of diminishing marginal utility on the price consumers are willing to pay for a good or service.
- Summarize the law of demand.
- Use the law of demand to predict changes in price and quantity demanded.
- Use the substitution and income effects to explain the law of demand.
- Differentiate between quantity demanded and demand.
- Explain how to graph a demand curve.
- Discuss market demand and demand elasticity.
- Identify the factors that shift demand.
- Evaluate how a change in a demand shifter will impact consumer demand.

#### Hands On Objectives:
- Compete with other businesses to stimulate demand, knowing that consumers face diminishing marginal utility.
- Graph demand curves.
- Hypothesize whether consumer demand is likely to be inelastic or elastic when the prices for a variety of goods and services change and then analyze the reasons why.
- Hypothesize whether consumer demand is likely to be inelastic or elastic when the prices for a variety of goods and services change and then analyze the reasons why.
- Develop a concept map that shows the connections among the key concepts related to how consumers affect what is available in the market.
- Define key terms related to consumer behavior.
- Analyze the factors related to consumer behavior.

### Rhode Island Economics Standards

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Standards</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>E 1 (9-12) –3 Students demonstrate an understanding that societies develop different ways to deal with scarcity and abundance by…</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>a. differentiating between subsistence, traditional, mixed, command, and market economies.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>E 2 (9-12) –1 Students demonstrate an understanding of the variety of ways producers and consumers exchange goods and services by…</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>b. analyzing the roles of supply and demand in an economy</td>
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<tr>
<td>c. analyzing local, regional, national, and global markets for goods and services.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Topic Descriptions</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Unit 2: Markets</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>2.2 Producers Provide</td>
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<tr>
<td>How do producers and consumers negotiate price with each other?</td>
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<td>Students learn about the economic term supply as they examine the effect producers have in the market. Students explore the following topics:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>▪ Supply Boot Camp</td>
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<td>▪ Supply Shifters</td>
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<td>▪ Market-Clearing Price</td>
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<td>▪ Competition and Market Structure</td>
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</table>
## Unit 2: Markets

### 2.3 Economic Growth

**What makes economic growth possible?**

Students explore how consumers and business owners need each other as they focus on economic growth and what makes growth possible. They learn about the specific foundational elements needed in a society to allow for economic growth and general wealth, including the following:

- Rule of law and property rights
- Competition drives growth
- Human and physical capital and financial markets
- Entrepreneurship and technological advances

### Reading Objectives:

- Describe how the rule of law supports economic growth
- Explain how fair courts support rule of law and property rights
- Recognize three ways in which private property supports economic growth
- List the benefits brought about by competition
- Define creative destruction and explain how it contributes to economic growth
- Describe how free trade opens opportunities for economic growth.
- Identify types of capital that businesses use to produce goods and services
- Explain how economic growth is influenced by investments in human and physical capital
- Describe the role of financial markets in a growing economy
- Assess the role of entrepreneurship in economic growth and prosperity
- Describe how technological innovation increases productivity
- Explain how technology advancement stimulates economic growth
- Describe how limited government helps people prosper
- Identify how the government determines what to tax
- Recognize the different types of taxes

### Hands-On Objectives:

- Analyze the importance of establishing property rights.
- Predict results of boundary disputes
- Analyze the impact of competition in specific industries
- Identify the country of origin for common items and analyze the comparative advantage of making the product there
- Analyze how improvements in human and physical capital contribute to productivity
- Determine what human capital is needed for success in a specific career choice
- Analyze how innovation causes creative destruction
- Determine the most effective tax policy to achieve specific national goals.
- Construct a concept map

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**Rhode Island Economics Standards**

E 2 (9-12) – 1

Students demonstrate an understanding of the variety of ways producers and consumers exchange goods and services by...

a. analyzing the role of income, price, competition, profit, property rights, and specialization in the economy
b. analyzing local, regional, national, and global markets for goods and services.

E 2 (9-12) – 2

Students analyze how innovations and technology affects the exchange of goods and services by...

a. investigating and synthesizing the role of technology in solving and/or creating economic issues of the past and present.

HP 4 (9-12) – 2

Students demonstrate an understanding that innovations, inventions, change, and expansion cause increased interaction among people (e.g., cooperation or conflict) by...

a. evaluating the effect of technology and innovation on promoting territorial expansion.
b. proving whether innovation and invention have been beneficial or detrimental to society.
### Topic Descriptions

#### Unit 2: Markets

**2.4 Economic Systems and Structures**

*What happens when government expands its influence in market decisions?*

Students take a deeper look at how different economic systems influence their daily lives. They will consider the question, "What happens when government expands its influence in market decisions?" as they learn about the following topics:

- Economic systems and the market
- Government versus market-based decisions
- Government and growth
- Economic freedom

### Key Learning Objectives

**Reading Objectives:**

- Differentiate between a command economy, a free market economy, and a mixed economy.
- Evaluate efficiency, growth, and prosperity possibilities in each system.
- Compare and contrast how the government and market makes decisions about resources.
- Analyze the incentives and interactions of voters, politicians, and bureaucrats.
- Describe economic freedom.
- Recognize factors that influence a country’s level of economic freedom.

**Hands-On Objectives:**

- Hypothesize why there are no pure market economies in the world today.
- Evaluate how limited government intervention in a market economy can have a positive effect.
- Create and perform an advertisement for an event based on the principles of a command or market economy.
- Analyze how market economies have come to exist within North Korea’s command economy.
- Analyze how scarcity and competition influence decision making in the government...
- Explore the level of economic freedom in various countries and make recommendations on how to increase it.
- Define key terms related to economic systems and structures.
- Compare economic systems and structures and evaluate how limited government intervention affects market outcomes.

### Rhode Island Economics Standards

E 1 (9-12) – 1

Students demonstrate an understanding of basic economic concepts by...

- analyzing how and why economic systems have changed over time.

E 1 (9-12) – 3

Students demonstrate an understanding that societies develop different ways to deal with scarcity and abundance by...

a. differentiating between subsistence, traditional, mixed, command, and market economies.

b. evaluating how societies differ in their management of the factors of production (land, labor, capital, and entrepreneurship).

E 2 (9-12)– 1

Students demonstrate an understanding of the variety of ways producers and consumers exchange goods and services by...

a. analyzing the role of income, price, competition, profit, property rights, and specialization in the economy.
## Unit 2 Project- Supply and Demand

Students will research a “superfood” that has experienced recent dramatic growth in the market. They will analyze the factors affecting supply and demand and write a blog post analyzing the economics of their selected products.

### Objectives:
- Explain the interaction of supply and demand in the market
- Analyze how a market reacts to changes in supply and demand
- Use graphs to illustrate changes in supply and demand

### Case Study - Government and the Market

Students consider the personal and business consequences of making hasty decisions rather than using critical thinking, based on data and other factual information. Students apply the RED model to a price ceiling situation.

### Objectives:
- Use the RED model to make an economic decision
- Explain why consumers and business owners need each other

### E 2 (9-12) – 1

Students demonstrate an understanding of the variety of ways producers and consumers exchange goods and services by:

b. analyzing the roles of supply and demand in an economy

### E 3 (9-12) – 1

Students demonstrate an understanding of the interdependence created by economic decisions by:

a. identifying and evaluating the benefits and costs of alternative public policies and assess who enjoys the benefits and bears the costs

b. evaluating the government’s monetary and fiscal policies.
## Topic Descriptions

### Unit 3: National Economy

#### 3.1 Government’s Role in a Flourishing Market Economy

*How can limited government help consumers and businesses prosper?*

Students will learn more about the government’s role in the economy. They will consider the question, "How can limited government help consumers and businesses prosper?" as they learn about the following topics:

- Property rights, public goods, and market failures
- The role of financial markets
- Banks and other financial institutions
- Economics of government failures

## Key Learning Objectives

### Reading Objectives:

- List the three roles of a limited government
- Recognize the characteristics of a public good
- Identify situations when government should address market failure
- Describe the roles individuals living in households and operating businesses play in capital markets
- Identify ways businesses can raise funds for capital investments
- Explain how the flow of household savings to business investment leads to economic growth and prosperity
- Identify the forms of money in the United States’ money supply
- Recognize the three functions of stable money
- Recognize the equation of exchange
- Explain how the fractional reserve banking system works to create money and boost investment
- Provide an example of government failure, including the concentrated benefits and dispersed costs
- Recognize the three types of government failure
- Identify government’s basic use of monetary, fiscal, and trade policy in a free enterprise economy

### Hands-On Objectives:

- Compare and contrast public and private goods
- Evaluate a variety of goods and services and determine which should be provided as a public good
- Formulate strategies for personal saving that can maximize lifetime consumption
- Analyze how the fractional reserve system helps to increase the money supply in the economy
- Analyze the effects of price floors
- Evaluate the incentives politicians face when determining how to respond to demands to cut spending
- Construct a concept map linking ideas related to government role in a flourishing market economy
- Define key terms related to government role in a flourishing market economy
- Analyze how limited government can help consumers and businesses prosper

## Rhode Island Economics Standards

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>E 3 (9-12) – 2</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Students demonstrate an understanding of the role of government in a global economy by…</td>
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<tr>
<td>a. evaluating how policymakers encourage or discourage economic activity.</td>
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<tr>
<td>b. interpreting source materials (e.g., media reports) about economic conditions and explain how these conditions influence decisions made by policy makers.</td>
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<tr>
<th>C&amp;G 1 (9-12) – 1</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Students demonstrate an understanding of origins, forms, and purposes of government by…</td>
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<tr>
<td>a. describing or explaining competing ideas about the purposes and functions of politics and government</td>
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<tr>
<td>b. comparing and contrasting different forms of government and their purposes</td>
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<tr>
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<tr>
<td>Students demonstrate an understanding of sources of authority and use of power, and how they are/can be changed, by…</td>
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<tr>
<td>a. identifying how actions of a government affect relationships involving the individual, society and the government (e.g., Homeland Security)</td>
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Unit 3: National Economy

3.2 The Role of the Federal Government

What are the effects of fiscal policies?

Students examine the effects of fiscal policies (spending and taxing) as they learn more about the role the government plays in the economy. Students will look at the following topics as they frame an answer to the essential question, “What are the effects of fiscal policies?”

- Introduction to macroeconomics
- Business cycles and unemployment
- Fiscal policies
- Taxes, spending, deficits, and debt

Reading Objectives:
- Identify the characteristics of a healthy, growing economy
- Describe the process for the government’s economic problem solving
- Recognize how GDP is calculated and used to measure the overall health of the economy
- Label and describe the components of the business cycle
- Define unemployment and identify the types of unemployment
- Recognize strategies for dealing with personal unemployment
- Define fiscal policies and apply them to economic failures
- Recognize why the federal government uses fiscal policies
- Recognize intended and unintended consequences of fiscal policies
- Describe key changes in the government’s power to tax
- Identify examples of goods and services the government provides using tax money
- Recognize positive and negative impacts of taxes and government spending
- Explain the two perspectives on deficit-spending and the national debt’s growing share of GDP

Hands-On Objectives
- Differentiate between nominal and real GDP and interpret what changes in each measure imply about the U.S. economy
- Analyze the factors influencing changes in the labor force participation rate over time
- Formulate strategies for dealing with the four different types of unemployment that a person may face in his or her lifetime
- Analyze the factors that affect the degree to which fiscal policy can help economies recover from downturns
- Debate the pros and cons of government involvement in the economy
- Analyze the impact of budget deficits on students’ personal futures and determine the best way for the U.S. to finance future changes to fiscal policy
- Construct a concept map linking ideas related to the effects of fiscal policies
- Define key terms related to the effects of fiscal policies

Rhode Island Economics Standards

E 3 (9-12) – 1
Students demonstrate an understanding of the interdependence created by economic decisions by:

a. identifying and evaluating the benefits and costs of alternative public policies and assess who enjoys the benefits and bears the costs
b. evaluating the government’s monetary and fiscal policies.

E 3 (9-12) – 2
Students demonstrate an understanding of the role of government in a global economy by:

a. evaluating how policymakers encourage or discourage economic activity.
b. interpreting source materials (e.g., media reports) about economic conditions and explain how these conditions influence decisions made by policymakers.
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| Unit 3: National Economy | Reading Objectives:  
- Describe the history and mission of the Federal Reserve System  
- Recognize the structure of the Federal Reserve System  
- Describe the tools of monetary policy and how they help the Federal Reserve System accomplish its goals  
- Describe how monetary policies use interest rates to influence behaviors in savers and borrowers  
- Distinguish between real interest rate and nominal interest rate  
- Identify factors leading to higher or lower interest rates for borrowing and lending  
- Define inflation, and describe its effect on purchasing power  
- Recognize the effects of inflation in the macro-economy  
- Explain the intended and possible unintended consequences of monetary policy to manage inflation  | E 3 (9-12) – 1  
Students demonstrate an understanding of the interdependence created by economic decisions by…  
a. identifying and evaluating the benefits and costs of alternative public policies and assess who enjoys the benefits and bears the costs  
b. evaluating the government’s monetary and fiscal policies. |

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| - Examine how frequent banking panics led to the creation of the Federal Reserve System  
- Examine the methods used by the Federal Reserve to influence the availability of money and credit  
- Examine the effects of changes in interest rates on the economic behavior of consumers and businesses  
- Analyze the impact of compounding interest on students’ ability to save for the future  
- Examine the impact of inflation on household budgets and determine strategies for adjusting to inflation  
- Examine the causes of stagflation and the limitations of fiscal and monetary policy to deal with it  
- Construct a concept map linking ideas related to the effects of monetary policies  
- Define key terms related to the effects of monetary policies  
- Analyze the reasons for and effects of monetary policies |
### Unit 3: National Economy

#### 3.4 National Economic Indicators

*How do you measure the success of the economy?*

Students learn more about national economic indicators, exploring the macroeconomic data that policymakers collect, monitor, analyze, and use to make forecasts in order to make policy choices. They will examine the effects of policy decisions and economic freedom on business and household affairs. Students will explore the following topics as they frame an answer to the essential question, "How do you measure the success of the economy?"

- Macroeconomic indicators
- Everyday economist: how can I know how we are doing?
- "No policy" option: economic freedom

#### Reading Objectives:

- Recognize key economic indicators, and what they indicate
- Describe key price indexes, and explain how they differ
- Describe how you can use a price index to make informed choices
- Identify the fiscal and monetary policies that may be used in response to a recession
- Identify the fiscal and monetary policies that may be used in response to inflation
- Define economic freedom
- Analyze how economic freedom influences other measures of well-being
- Evaluate how economic freedom impacts your life

#### Hands-On Objectives:

- Compare endowments of human capital in the U.S. with those in a developing country
- Analyze the factors affecting productivity and per capita income in different countries
- Calculate the CPI for four cities and the overall CPI rate for the economy
- Recognize the effects of tariffs
- Examine problems associated with recessions and inflation and determine the most effective policy option(s) to remedy them
- Analyze the impact of market freedom on a network of food banks
- Construct a concept map linking ideas related to measures of economic well-being
- Define key terms related to measures of the success of the economy
- Analyze what different economic measures indicate about the success of the economy

#### Economics Standards

E 3 (9-12) – 1

Students demonstrate an understanding of the interdependence created by economic decisions by:

c. identifying and evaluating the benefits and costs of alternative public policies and assess who enjoys the benefits and bears the costs

d. evaluating the government’s monetary and fiscal policies.
## Unit 3 Project: Surviving Unemployment

### Objectives:
- Explain what unemployment insurance is and how it works
- Describe the four types of unemployment
- Identify strategies an individual can use to prepare for periods of unemployment

### E 3 (9-12) – 1
Students demonstrate an understanding of the interdependence created by economic decisions by...

| a. | identifying and evaluating the benefits and costs of alternative public policies and assess who enjoys the benefits and bears the costs |
| b. | evaluating the government’s monetary and fiscal policies. |

## Unit 3 Case Study: Government Referee

### Objectives:
- Analyze the role government plays in market situations
- Write an argument supporting a position related to government intervention

### E 3 (9-12) – 2
Students demonstrate an understanding of the role of government in a global economy by...

| a. | evaluating how policymakers encourage or discourage economic activity. |
| b. | interpreting source materials (e.g., media reports) about economic conditions and explain how these conditions influence decisions made by policymakers. |
### Unit 4: International Trade

#### 4.1 International Trade

Do the benefits of international trade outweigh the costs?

Some people want free and open trade of goods, services, and resources sold internationally with limited government interference. On the other hand, some people feel we’d be better off if the government closed the borders and made the country more self-sufficient. Students learn about each of the two perspectives to make an informed decision about these opposing approaches to trade.

### Reading Objectives:
- Identify the positive and negative attributes of a closed economy
- Identify the positive and negative attributes of an open economy
- Describe how international trade looks in a closed economy versus an open one
- Analyze and evaluate open and closed economies and decide which model will lead to the best market outcomes and quality of life

### Hands-On Objectives
- Gather evidence about a debate topic and evaluate the credibility of sources
- Develop clear arguments that include a claim, warrants, and impact
- Present a clear position in an argument that appeals to listeners and addresses opposing viewpoints
- Analyze and evaluate the benefits of international trade
- Identify the positive and negative attributes of a closed economy
- Identify the positive and negative attributes of an open economy
- Describe how international trade looks in a closed economy versus an open one
- Describe how government policy changes in international trade can have intended and unintended consequences for the citizens of a country
- Using economic reasoning, compare and contrast the overall impact of a closed versus an open economy
- Analyze and evaluate open and closed economies and decide which model will lead to the best market outcomes and quality of life

### Rhode Island Economics Standards

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</tr>
<tr>
<td>c. identifying the ways the world is organized: politically, socially, culturally, economically, environmentally (e.g., nation-state)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>d. organizing information to show relationships between and among various individuals, systems, and structures (e.g., politically, socially, culturally, economically, environmentally)</td>
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### Unit 4: International Trade

#### 4.2 Trade Policies: Beyond Free Trade

**Do the benefits of trade barriers outweigh the costs?**

Trade barriers, by design, slow or prevent trade with another country by adding a limitation on the free trade between the buyers and sellers. These take different forms and lead to different outcomes—both intended and unintended. Students examine the benefits and costs of building trade barriers between international borders as they form an answer to the question, “Do the benefits of trade barriers outweigh the costs?”

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<td>- Use economic reasoning to compare and contrast the outcomes of trade barriers versus free trade</td>
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| **Hands-On Objectives** |
| - Gather evidence about a debate topic and evaluate the credibility of sources |
| - Develop clear arguments that include a claim, warrants, and impact |
| - Present a clear position in an argument that appeals to listeners and addresses opposing viewpoints |
| - Analyze and discuss the benefits and costs of trade barriers |
| - Describe at least three trade policy tools |
| - Identify the two choices the U.S. can make to encourage free trade |
| - Recognize the role of NAFTA, EU, and WTO in international trade |
| - Use economic reasoning to compare and contrast the outcomes of trade barriers versus free trade |
| - Analyze and evaluate trade barriers and free trade and decide which model will lead to the best market outcomes and quality of life |
| - Evaluate government and market solutions for handling problems in the market economy |

**E 3 (9-12) – 1**

Students demonstrate an understanding of the interdependence created by economic decisions by…

a. identifying and evaluating the benefits and costs of alternative public policies and assess who enjoys the benefits and bears the costs

**E 3 (9-12) – 2**

Students demonstrate an understanding of the role of government in a global economy by…

a. evaluating how policymakers encourage or discourage economic activity.

b. interpreting source materials (e.g., media reports) about economic conditions and explain how these conditions influence decisions made by policy makers.
## Unit 4: International Trade

### 4.3 Trade Deficits

*Do the benefits of a trade deficit outweigh the costs?*

Students learn about imports and exports and how these global exchanges influence the United States economy. Today, with more openness to international trade, the share of the total RGDP that is made up of exports and imports is over 30 percent. Students explore what it means to us as a country when we are importing more than we're exporting—meaning a trade deficit—as they answer the question, "Do the benefits of a trade deficit outweigh the costs?"

### Reading Objectives:
- Define globalization and at least two effects it has had in the world economy
- Describe the difference between balance of payments and balance of trade
- Evaluate productivity for lower-wage developing nations and higher-productivity advanced nations
- Analyze different perspectives on the government reducing the trade deficit versus free trade
- Evaluate the benefits and cost of government influencing the imports and exports of a nation

### Hands-On Objectives:
- Gather evidence about a debate topic and evaluate the credibility of sources
- Develop clear arguments that include a claim, warrants, and impact
- Present a clear position in an argument that appeals to listeners and addresses opposing viewpoints
- Analyze and discuss the benefits and costs of a trade deficit
- Define globalization and at least two effects it has had in the world economy
- Describe the difference between balance of payments and balance of trade
- Evaluate productivity for lower-wage developing nations and higher-productivity advanced nations
- Analyze different perspectives on the government reducing the trade deficit versus free trade
- Evaluate the benefits and cost of government influencing the imports and exports of a nation

### Rhode Island Economics Standards

**E 3 (9-12) – 2**
Students demonstrate an understanding of the role of government in a global economy by...

- evaluating how policymakers encourage or discourage economic activity.
- interpreting source materials (e.g., media reports) about economic conditions and explain how these conditions influence decisions made by policy makers.

**C&G 5 (9-12)-2**
Students demonstrate an understanding of the benefits and challenges of an interconnected world by...

- describing the interconnected nature of a contemporary or historical issue
- analyzing and evaluating a contemporary or historical issue (e.g., free trade versus fair trade, access to medical care and terrorism)
## Unit 4: International Trade

### 4.4 Social Problems: Government or Market Solutions?

*Can economics solve social problems?*

Students learn about the impact of global trade on social issues. They explore ways the free market and government policies can address social issues as they frame an answer to the question: “Can economics solve social problems?” Costs?”

### Reading Objectives:
- Distinguish between a social issue and an economic issue
- Identify social issues that develop when government makes all economic decisions
- Recognize how income and population growth have been affected by economic development
- Distinguish between positive and normative perspectives on economics
- Compare and contrast the potential tools available to the U.S. government and the international market for addressing social issues
- Evaluate the best solution for addressing social issues related to international trade—the international market or U.S. government policies

### Hands-On Objectives
- Gather evidence about a debate topic and evaluate the credibility of sources
- Develop clear arguments that include a claim, warrants, and impact
- Present a clear position in an argument that appeals to listeners and addresses opposing viewpoints
- Analyze and discuss the benefits and costs of using government policies to solve social problems
- Distinguish between a social issue and an economic issue
- Identify social issues that develop when government makes all economic decisions
- Recognize how income and population growth have been affected by economic development
- Distinguish between positive and normative perspectives on economics
- Compare and contrast the potential tools available to the U.S. government and the international market for addressing social issues
- Evaluate the best solution for addressing social issues related to international trade—the international market or U.S. government policies

### Economics Standards

- **E 3 (9-12) – 1**
  Students demonstrate an understanding of the interdependence created by economic decisions by…
  - a. identifying and evaluating the benefits and costs of alternative public policies and assess who enjoys the benefits and bears the costs

- **E 3 (9-12) – 2**
  Students demonstrate an understanding of the role of government in a global economy by…
  - a. evaluating how policymakers encourage or discourage economic activity,
  - b. interpreting source materials (e.g., media reports) about economic conditions and explain how these conditions influence decisions made by policy makers.

- **C&G 3 (9-12) – 1**
  Students demonstrate an understanding of citizens’ rights and responsibilities by…
  - c. analyzing the scope and limits of personal, cultural, economic, or political rights
### Unit 4 Project: International Trade

Students consider how international trade affects a household budget by completing a shopping spree activity. They then conduct research on an American-made product and a product that is no longer made in America to investigate the economic reasons behind their decisions.

**Objectives:**
- Analyze the role government plays in market situations
- Write an argument supporting a position related to government intervention

**C&G 5 (9-12) -3**
Students demonstrate an understanding of how the choices we make impact and are impacted by, an interconnected world by…
- predicting outcomes and possible consequences of a conflict, event, or course of action
- identifying and summarizing the intended and unintended consequences of a conflict, event, or course of action
- using deliberation, negotiation, and compromise to plan and develop just solutions to problems (e.g., immigration, limited energy resources, nuclear threat) created when nations or groups act

### Unit 4 Case Study: Weighted Pros and Cons

Students use a weighted pro and con list to determine whether or not a business should expand internationally.

**Objectives:**
- Use a weighted pro and con list to make a business decision

**E 3 (9-12) – 2**
Students demonstrate an understanding of the role of government in a global economy by…
- evaluating how policymakers encourage or discourage economic activity.
- interpreting source materials (e.g., media reports) about economic conditions and explain how these conditions influence decisions made by policy makers.

**C&G 5 (9-12) – 1**
Students demonstrate an understanding of the many ways Earth’s people are interconnected by…
- identifying the ways the world is organized: politically, socially, culturally, economically, environmentally (e.g., nation-state)
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