

Expert Residency Certificates – 5-year analysis

2020-21 to 2024-25

Overview

The Expert Residency Certificate Report is an annual report that provides data from the prior five school years. This report will provide a deeper understanding of the annual issuance of Expert Residency certificates in Rhode Island. The report is designed to track trends in the issuance of Expert Residency certificates.

Background: The Expert Residency certificate was first issued in 2015 (expiring Aug 2016). This is a preliminary certificate which is:

...awarded to prospective educators who demonstrate sufficient preparation in subject matter, administrative expertise, or other certificate area specific requirements to be considered for positions as educators while pursuing certification. These prospective educators can seek employment as teachers of record in employing agencies that are willing to employ them while the individual pursues full certification. Certified educators seeking to add new certification areas may also use the Expert Residency Preliminary Certificate as part of a route to certification in that area. (pp 3-4 of [Certification Regulations](#))

The data within the report includes:

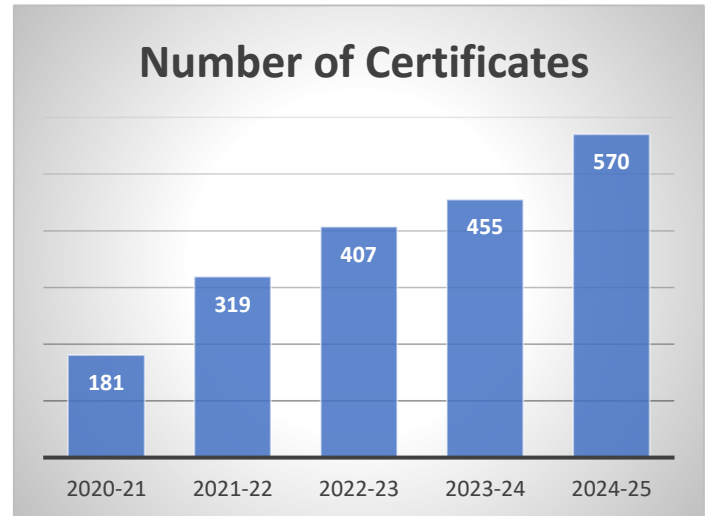
1. Number of Expert Residency certificates issued starting 2020-21 to 2024-25.
2. Number of Expert Residency certificates issued to teachers who held other full certification, as well as did not hold full certification.
3. Number of Expert Residency certificates that are issued for the first time as well as renewals.
4. Distribution of Expert Residency certificates by certification areas.
5. Distribution of Expert Residency certificates by school districts.
6. Demographic data on Expert Residency certificate holders.

At the time of writing this report, certification regulations related to Expert Residency certificates have changed significantly. The new regulations were promulgated June 4, 2025. However, the expert residency certificates issued under those regulations are not yet included in the scope of this report. Here is a summary of the changes for the issuance and renewal of the Expert Residency certificates

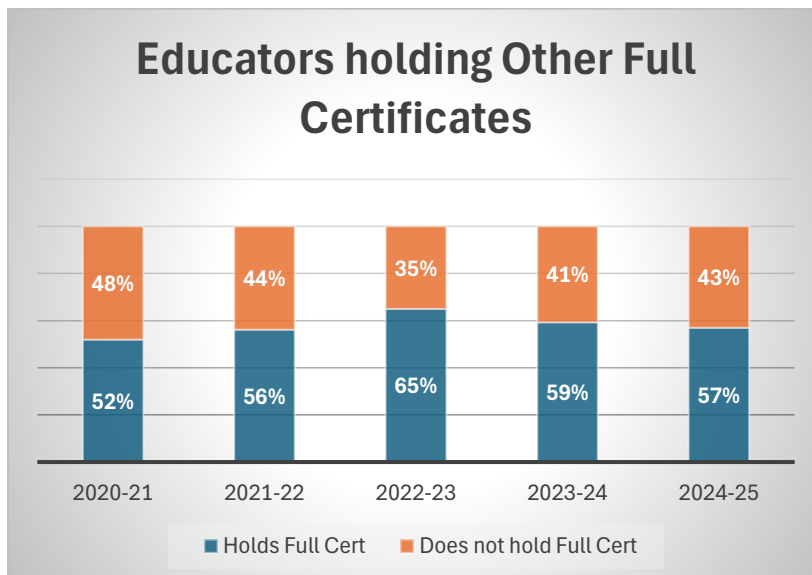
Expert Residency Certificates 2020-21 to 2024-25

1. How many expert residency certificates were issued?

- The adjacent graph shows the numbers of Expert Residency certificates that have been issued since 2020.
- This has become a popular certificate, and the total number of certificates has tripled in the last 5 years.



2. How many expert residency certificates are issued to fully certified teachers?



- Over the last five years, 2 out every 3 educators who sought the Expert Residency certificate already held a full certificate

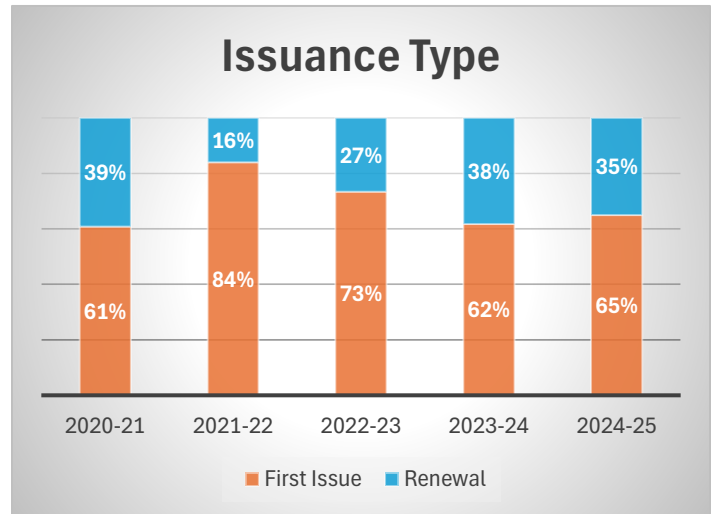
3. How many Expert Residency certificates are issued for the first time and how many are renewals?

Expert Residency certificates are issued to individuals who:

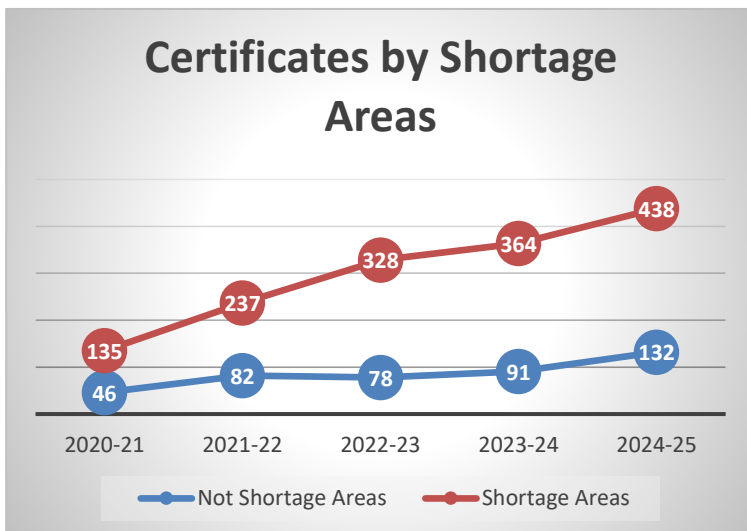
- Hold a bachelor’s degree, demonstrate subject matter proficiency through content examinations, and have met other coursework or experience requirements specific to individual certification areas.
- When appropriate, an Expert Residency certificate can be issued instead of a renewal of an Emergency certificate.

To renew, the educator must

- Enroll in a preparation program or have a credential development plan prior to first renewal.
- The preparation program and the employing agency must recommend renewal based on the educator’s performance and progress. The graph above shows the percentage of certificates that were renewed each year.



4. What is the distribution of expert residency certificates by typical shortage areas?



- Regulations promulgated in 2018 indicate that RIDE will identify shortage areas at least every five (5) years.
- These shortage areas will be identified based on national trends in annual federal loan forgiveness and local trends in high needs areas.
- The adjacent graph shows the numbers of Expert Residency certificates in the areas identified by RIDE as [Shortage Areas](#).
- The certificate areas of English to Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL) certificate at each grade span, special education certificates at the secondary and early childhood level, and mathematics at the secondary level are all shortage areas and are at the top of the list of most frequently requested certificate areas.

5. What is the distribution of Expert Residency certificates by certification areas?

- English to Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL) and Bilingual and Dual Language (BDL) certificates are the largest group of certificates (739) making them nearly 4 in every 10 certificates. They account for 38% of the certificates issued over the last 5 years.
- Special Education form the next group with 320 certificates (17%), followed by Math/Science which is 193 (10%) of the certificates.
- The table below breaks down the numbers and percentages of certificates by areas grouped into higher level categories.

Certificate Area Group	Number of Certificates	Percentage
ESOL/BDL	739	38%
Special Education	320	17%
Math/Science	193	10%
Special Subjects	164	8%
Secondary	157	8%
Administrators	120	6%
Early Childhood	80	4%
World Language	41	2%
Middle Grades	39	2%
Special Education-Administrators	32	2%
Support Professional	26	1%
Elementary	20	1%

6. What has been the certificate area breakdown for the past five years?

The following tables include expert residency certificate area details for the past five years.

The listing includes both independent and dependent certificate areas. Readers should consider how certification rules may impact this Expert Residency certificate data. For an individual to obtain an Expert Residency for a dependent certificate, they must also hold the independent related certificate area. This sometimes results in the issuance of an additional area in a non-shortage certificate. The certificate areas that were issued for an educator to attain a dependent certificate are noted with an asterisk. In such instances, the independent certificates that were issued may not indicate a true need for that certificate area.

Certificate Areas	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24	2024-25	Grand Total
Administrators	10	22	39	37	44	152
AD-Building Level Administrator	7	13	26	25	30	101
AD-Building Level Administrator (Fast Track)			2		1	3
AD-School Business Administrator	1			1	1	3
DA-Curriculum and Instruction		3	3	1	3	10

Certificate Areas	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24	2024-25	Grand Total
DA-Special Education	2	6	6	9	9	32
DA-Superintendent of Schools			2	1		3
All Grades	75	159	217	252	268	971
AG-Adapted Physical Education Teacher				5	17	22
AG-Art Teacher	7	6	8	22	23	66
AG-Dance Teacher				3	5	8
AG-ESOL Teacher	49	120	179	181	185	714
AG-Family and Consumer Science Teacher	1					1
AG-Health Teacher	2	3	4	5	5	19
AG-Library Media Teacher	1	2	2	2	1	8
AG-Music Teacher	7	10	5	7	4	33
AG-Physical Education Teacher		4	3	4	4	15
AGSPED-Deaf & Hard of Hearing Teacher-ASL					1	1
AGSPED-Severe Intellectual Disability Teacher		5	6	8	10	29
AG-Theatre Teacher	1	1		7	5	14
AG-WL Teacher-French				2	1	3
AG-WL Teacher-German	1	1				2
AG-WL Teacher-Italian		1	1		1	3
AG-WL Teacher-Portuguese			1	1		2
AG-WL Teacher-Spanish	6	6	8	5	6	31
Early Childhood	22	31	33	30	53	169
EC-BDL Teacher - English	1					1
EC-BDL Teacher - Spanish		1	1	1	1	4
EC-Education Teacher	14	23	11	12	20	80
EC-Special Education Teacher	7	7	21	17	32	84
Elementary	8	7	11	19	38	83
EG-BDL Spanish Teacher	2	2	5	6	4	19
EG-Education Teacher	2	1	1	5	11	20
EG-Special Education Teacher	4	4	5	8	23	44
Middle Grades	17	26	20	262	34	123
MG-English Teacher	1	4	1	2	1	9
MG-English Teacher - Secondary Extension	3	4	4	1	1	13
MG-English Teacher- Elementary Extension	1	1	1	1	1	5
MG-Mathematics Teacher	2	2	3	4	3	14
MG-Mathematics Teacher- Elementary Extension	3	2	2	2	1	10
MG-Mathematics Teacher- Secondary Extension		2		1		3
MG-Science Teacher	1	2	3	2	5	13
MG-Science Teacher- Elementary Extension		1		3	2	6
MG-Science Teacher- Secondary Extension	3	2	2	1	1	9
MG-Social Studies Teacher	1	2		1	1	5
MG-Social Studies Teacher - Elementary Extension				1		1
MG-Social Studies Teacher - Secondary Extension	2	1	1	1	1	6

Certificate Areas	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24	2024-25	Grand Total
MG-Special Education Teacher		3	3	6	17	29
Secondary	41	69	83	87	127	407
SG-Agriculture Teacher					1	1
SG-BDL Teacher- Spanish			1			1
SG-Biology Teacher	4	4	5	6	4	23
SG-Business Education Teacher	4		1	6	7	18
SG-Chemistry Teacher	3	2	3	3	2	13
SG-English Teacher	6	11	11	14	22	64
SG-General Science Teacher	1	5	10	7	12	35
SG-Mathematics Teacher	6	13	15	14	15	63
SG-Physics Teacher			1	2	1	4
SG-Social Studies Teacher	7	20	15	13	19	74
SG-Special Education Teacher	10	14	21	22	44	111
Support Professional	8	5	3	4	6	26
SP-ESOL Specialist/Consultant	5	4	1	1	3	14
SP-Reading Specialist/Consultant	3	1	2	3	2	11
SP-School Counselor					1	1
Grand Total	181	319	406	455	570	1931

7. Where do educators with this certificate work?

Educators do not have to be employed to seek this certificate. Moreover, this is not a certificate that is requested by the employment agency. Therefore, across the 5 years of analysis for this report, 23% (447 out of 1931) of the educators with Expert Residency certificates are not reported in a work assignment. This percentage has reduced in each year of this report

Educators with Expert Residency certificates are employed most often in Providence, Woonsocket, and Pawtucket. Among charter schools, Blackstone Valley Prep (BVP), and Achievement First take the top spots. The table below lists the districts where educators are reported as employed.

Employment Status	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24	2024-25	Grand Total
Not Working	44	78	79	97	149	447
Not working as percentage of all certificates	24%	24%	19%	21%	26%	23%

Working in	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24	2024-25	Grand Total
Providence	66	127	192	203	190	778
Pawtucket	3	8	33	36	38	118
Woonsocket	12	17	18	24	39	110
Achievement First Rhode Island	5	7	1	10	25	48
Blackstone Valley Prep, A RI Mayoral Academy	5	6	5	8	13	37
West Warwick	1	5	3	6	6	21
Cumberland	1		3	4	9	17
Warwick	4	3	2	6	2	17
Paul Cuffee Charter Sch	1	4	5	1	5	16
Central Falls	3	3	4	1	3	14
Highlander	2	3	4	3	2	14
Rhode Island Nurses Institute Middle College	1	2	3	5	3	14
Johnston		2	2	1	8	13
Beacon Charter School		3	4	3	2	12
East Providence			2	5	5	12
Learning Community	1	5	4	2		12
North Kingstown	2	2	3	2	3	12
Portsmouth	2	3	3		4	12
Southside Charter School	2		4	2	3	11
Exeter-West Greenwich	1		1	3	5	10
The Hope Academy		5	1	2	2	10
Kingston Hill Academy	2	2	1	2	2	9
Newport	1	1	2	1	4	9
Trinity Academy for the Performing Arts	2	2	2	1	2	9
Cranston	2	1		2	3	8
East Greenwich		4	3		1	8

Working in	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24	2024-25	Grand Total
Scituate	2	3	1	1	1	8
Bristol Warren		1	1		5	7
Tiverton	2	3	1		1	7
Barrington	2		1	1	2	6
International Charter			2	4		6
MET Career and Tech		2			4	6
RISE Prep Academies				4	2	6
Westerly	1		1	2	2	6
Foster-Glocester	1	3			1	5
Middletown	2		1	1	1	5
R.I. Sch for the Deaf		1	1	2	1	5
Sheila Skip Nowell Leadership Academy	2	2		1		5
South Kingstown			2	3		5
Burrillville		1		1	2	4
Coventry		1	1	1	1	4
Nuestro Mundo Public Charter					4	4
Providence Preparatory Charter			1		3	4
Segue Institute for Learning	2	2				4
Davies Career and Tech	1		1	1		3
Dept of Corrections		1	1	1		3
Lincoln			2		1	3
Narragansett		2	1			3
North Providence	1				2	3
The Greene School		1	1		1	3
Blackstone Academy	1				1	2
Chariho			1		1	2
Excel Academy Rhode Island					2	2
New Shoreham		1		1		2
Smithfield	1				1	2
Urban Collaborative					2	2
DCYF					1	1
Foster				1		1
Jamestown		1				1
Northern RI Collaborative			1			1
Village Green Virtual		1				1
West Bay Collaborative			1			1
Grand Total	181	319	406	455	570	1931

8. What is the demographic breakdown of these certificate holders for the past five years?

Workforce diversity is an important part of RIDE’s strategic priorities. This section is helpful to understand baseline numbers and identify areas of growth towards achieving that priority. The following graphs show the demographic (race and ethnicity) information on educators with Expert Residency certificates. This is a self-reported data element and is updated by the educator when they log in to their certification portal.

As you can see from the graphs below, the percentage of educators who identify their race as *White* has held steady around the 80% mark over the last 5 years. As far as Ethnicity goes, the percentage of Expert Residency certificate holders identify as *Not Hispanic* has stayed around the 80% mark.

