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New England's 50 fastest-growing companies for 2026

The Globe and Statista's second annual ranking highlights businesses that weathered one of the most turbulent periods since the 1970s, and excelled.

By **Robert Gavin** Globe Correspondent, Updated March 18, 2026, 5:30 a.m.



C.J. BURTON FOR THE BOSTON GLOBE

If you want to know how to build a fast-growing company — or maybe just survive — when tumult and uncertainty are all around, consider The Podglomerate.

The podcasting services firm, based in Portsmouth, New Hampshire, weathered a boom-and-bust cycle when the podcasting industry soared in the wake of the pandemic, then plunged. Companies folded and laid off thousands, but The Podglomerate kept growing revenues at double-digit annual rates, attracting podcasters by offering a range of services, from production to marketing to advertising sales.

"It's hard work, transparency, flexibility," says CEO Jeff Umbro, who founded the company in 2017. "People trust our work."

The Podglomerate is one of many businesses in *The Boston Globe*'s second annual ranking of New England's fastest-growing companies that not only weathered one of the most turbulent periods since the 1970s but also excelled. In the years after the pandemic, these companies confronted soaring inflation, spiking energy prices, high interest rates, persistent labor shortages, and business uncertainty of all kinds.

They also navigated a slowing New England economy. But they still managed to achieve growth levels ranging from strong to spectacular to mind-blowing.

The rankings are based on the companies' compounded rate of revenue growth from 2021 to 2024 and were compiled by data and analysis firm Statista. To qualify, companies had to generate a minimum of $100,000 in revenue in 2021 and $1.5 million in 2024 and be willing to share that data publicly.

The top firm this year, Portsmouth, New Hampshire-based health-tech company Tenovi, increased its revenues nearly 50 times, or 4,800 percent, from 2021 to 2024. Salient, an AI-powered weather forecasting firm in Falmouth, expanded revenues nearly 16 times (1,500 percent) over the same period. And HighByte, a Portland, Maine, software company specializing in industrial data management, grew revenues 14 times (1,300 percent).

It wasn't just technology businesses. Hingham tour operator Old Sod Travel Collection (which led last year's list) boosted its sales by nearly 1,200 percent, or 13 times. Sales at Haven Hot Chicken, a New Haven-based fast-food chain, jumped about 700 percent, or 8 times. So did those of Sticky Brand, a Vermont maker of premium custom stickers and print products.

How did these companies do it? Some had the right products at the right time. Some built diverse lines of business. Some got lucky. But many also shared the important quality of vision: the ability to look to the future and be strategic even when the present demanded much of their attention.

New England's Fastest-Growing Companies 2026

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Rank	Company	Sector	State	Absolute growth rate 2021-2024	Compound annual growth rate 2021-2024	2024 revenue	Number of employees 2024	Year founded	Last year's rank
1	Tenovi	Health Care and Life Sciences	NH	4790.48%	265.69%	$8,981,717	30	2020	N/A
2	Salient	Professional, Scientific, and Technical Services	MA	1482.72%	151.07%	$1,872,107	19	2019	N/A
3	HighByte	IT and Software	ME	1337.46%	143.15%	$3,460,739	37	2018	N/A
4	TALON	Fintech, Financial Services, and Insurance	NH	1325.30%	142.46%	$6,513,830	37	2014	4
5	Old Sod Travel Collection	Hospitality and Travel	MA	1197.76%	135.00%	$7,245,505	41	2012	1

6	J. Arthur & Co.	Advertising and Marketing	RI	750.52%	104.12%	$2,054,807	16	2014	N/A
7	Haven Hot Chicken	Food and Beverages	CT	709.90%	100.82%	$11,657,407	135	2020	N/A
8	Sticky Brand	Ecommerce	VT	674.05%	97.81%	$13,973,483	20	2019	7
9	Symbotic	Logistics and Transportation	MA	609.84%	92.19%	$1,788,179,000	1,763	2007	12
10	Valere	IT and Software	MA	436.14%	75.02%	$5,361,419	190	2021	N/A
11	CrowdComfort	IT and Software	MA	400.24%	71.03%	$8,465,105	32	2013	N/A
12	Tower Title	Fintech, Financial Services, and Insurance	RI	360.74%	66.40%	$19,196,425	38	2019	13
13	LinkSquares	IT and Software	MA	342.60%	64.19%	$49,933,049	240	2015	N/A
14	RxAnte	Health Care and Life Sciences	ME	285.27%	56.77%	$108,870,981	240	2011	22
15	RapDev	IT and Software	MA	271.38%	54.86%	$24,652,950	102	2018	9
16	OEM Interactive	Advertising and Marketing	MA	266.28%	54.15%	$5,256,800	12	2015	23
17	Feast & Fettle	Food and Beverages	RI	263.79%	53.80%	$33,921,154	200	2016	6
18	Lantheus	Pharmaceuticals and Cosmetics	MA	260.74%	53.37%	$1,533,910,000	808	1956	21
19	Bevi	Food and Beverages	MA	214.06%	46.44%	$78,653,020	189	2013	N/A
20	Ardent Fitness	Retail	MA	203.02%	44.71%	$3,284,518	4	2020	3
21	Preserve Brands	Wholesale	MA	162.16%	37.89%	$5,595,233	2	2007	35
22	Broadreach Public Relations	Advertising and Marketing	ME	160.62%	37.62%	$1,607,952	11	2007	N/A
23	Keiter Corp.	Construction and Engineering	MA	158.41%	37.23%	$53,669,904	91	2009	32
24	IANS	Professional, Scientific, and Technical Services	MA	116.65%	29.40%	$56,589,692	182	2000	N/A
25	Shaheen & Gordon	Legal and Accounting Services	NH	112.17%	28.50%	$34,623,915	135	1981	N/A

Companies are ranked by compound annual growth rate.

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26	HCT Solutions	Health Care and Life Sciences	MA	111.14%	28.29%	$50,822,088	33	1989	40
27	Cookson Communications	Advertising and Marketing	NH	106.57%	27.36%	$2,547,000	13	2010	33
28	LogicSource	Professional, Scientific, and Technical Services	CT	103.77%	26.78%	$84,946,698	397	2009	31
29	Northcross Group	Management Consulting	ME	101.88%	26.39%	$5,562,402	28	2006	19
30	MMSD	Pharmaceuticals and Cosmetics	RI	95.82%	25.11%	$1,514,010	10	2007	N/A
31	STARC	Manufacturing	ME	93.12%	24.53%	$42,100,000	110	2014	N/A
32	Cloud Bridge	IT and Software	MA	89.16%	23.67%	$7,049,782	45	2019	2
33	F.L.Putnam	Fintech, Financial Services, and Insurance	MA	87.31%	23.27%	$42,253,135	131	1983	41
34	Commonwealth Land Trust	Education and Social Services	MA	80.08%	21.66%	$15,832,897	63	1984	N/A
35	BOND	Construction and Engineering	MA	77.74%	21.13%	$822,832,122	959	1907	N/A
36	Shawmut Design and Construction	Construction and Engineering	MA	67.04%	18.65%	$2,065,845,337	1,300	1982	N/A
37	Bergmeyer	Construction and Engineering	MA	63.12%	17.72%	$23,775,000	103	1975	45
38	Arcadia	IT and Software	MA	62.10%	17.47%	$110,963,000	364	2012	43

39	GraVoc	IT and Software	MA	59.59%	16.86%	$22,229,000	73	1994	44
40	Mount Auburn Cemetery	Leisure and Culture	MA	59.03%	16.72%	$17,743,000	116	1831	N/A
41	Overdrive	Advertising and Marketing	MA	56.29%	16.05%	$43,896,692	45	2001	N/A
42	SharkNinja	Manufacturing	MA	48.34%	14.05%	$5,528,639,000	3,600	1994	N/A
43	The Podglomerate	Media and Telecommunications	NH	47.31%	13.78%	$2,747,590	8	2017	10
44	LeMaitre	Health Care and Life Sciences	MA	42.38%	12.50%	$219,863,000	651	1983	N/A
45	iuvo	IT and Software	MA	41.99%	12.40%	$8,194,665	23	2017	N/A
46	Gray, Gray & Gray	Legal and Accounting Services	MA	41.12%	12.17%	$38,020,935	139	1945	N/A
47	Highbar Physical Therapy	Health Care and Life Sciences	RI	37.05%	11.08%	$30,700,000	312	2021	N/A
48	FM	Fintech, Financial Services, and Insurance	RI	33.52%	10.12%	$8,098,200,000	5,918	1835	N/A
49	Global Partners	Energy and Utilities	MA	29.55%	9.01%	$17,163,566,000	4,840	1933	38
50	DPV Transportation	Logistics and Transportation	MA	25.36%	7.82%	$23,178,327	283	2007	N/A

Companies are ranked by compound annual growth rate.
Table: DANA GERBER/GLOBE STAFF • Source: The Boston Globe and Statista, based on data from company applications.

Take consumer products maker SharkNinja of Needham, which is known for its blenders, vacuum cleaners, and other household gadgets. Manufacturers in recent years were beset by supply chain disruptions, surging materials costs, and shifting trade policies. But SharkNinja kept its eye on what comes next.



Mark Barrocas, CEO of SharkNinja. SHARKNINJA

The company launches 25 new products every year. It holds hack-a-thons for engineers and designers every six weeks to develop ideas and brainstorming sessions in other departments to find ways to save money, streamline operations, and identify opportunities.

And it posted double-digit annual sales growth, increasing overall revenues by nearly 50 percent, to $5.5 billion, from 2021 to 2024.

“Innovation is the lifeline of business,” CEO Mark Barrocas says. “I will burn the furniture before I cut innovation.”

These companies also found success despite a lackluster regional economy. Key New England employment sectors, such as tech-laden professional and business services, have been flat since around 2022, says Jeff Thompson, an economist at the Federal Reserve Bank of Boston. Others, such as manufacturing, are shedding jobs.

“New England is in a slow-growth zone,” Thompson says.

Few sectors have felt the economic ups and downs as keenly as construction. But BOND, a Medford construction company specializing in the education, health care, and energy sectors, took the challenges head on, CEO Tony Bond says. That meant partnering with unions to hire more workers and ease labor shortages, working with manufacturers to get better deals on material costs, and helping clients find savings to offset higher interest rates.

The result: Revenues grew nearly 80 percent between 2021 and 2024.

“We look at it, face it,” says Bond of the uncertainty. “You keep looking for solutions and keep pushing forward.”

The ability to move forward when instinct says hunker down is the product of leadership and culture, says Linda Edelman, Rhodes Professor of Management at Bentley University in Waltham. But another fundamental is just as important.

“You have to be courageous,” she says. “It’s scary when things are not going well, but you need to be prepared, ready to invest, ready to grow.”

Haven Hot Chicken, founded in 2020, originally planned to operate full-service restaurants featuring its spicy Nashville-style chicken, says Jason Sobocinski, the company president. But when the pandemic hit, the founders shifted to takeout and delivery.

Since then, Haven Hot Chicken has opened nine corporate stores in Connecticut and recently launched its first franchise location, in Franklin.

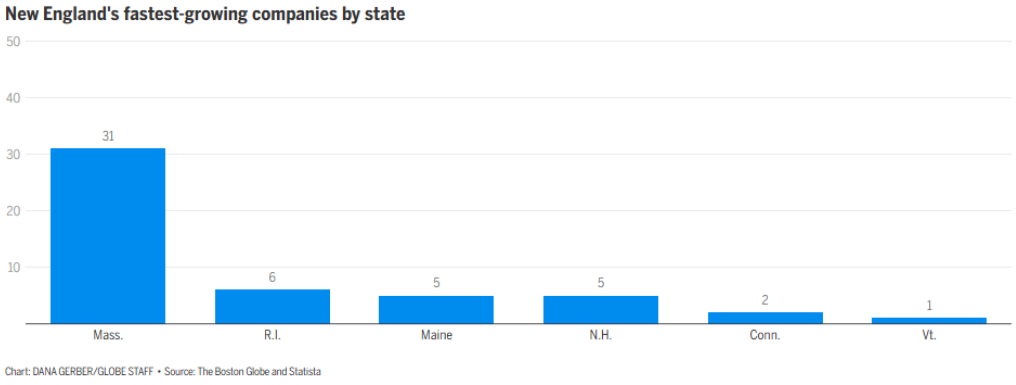
Preserve Brands of Norwell, which makes artisan papers from the textile waste of India’s garment industry, had to navigate trade disruptions through the pandemic and beyond. But founder and CEO Susan Hickey kept looking for — and finding — new markets, such as packaging for luxury goods.

“You shift when you need to,” she says. “It’s a matter of building multiple strategies in the background and being ready to pivot.”

Having different lines of business can help companies make those adjustments. Commonwealth Land Trust is a nonprofit developer that builds affordable housing, manages properties, and provides support services to formerly homeless residents living in its housing developments. This approach gives the Boston company access to diverse funding streams to manage changing business conditions and government policies.

Commonwealth, with more than 400 units in Greater Boston, grew revenues 80 percent between 2021 and 2024.

“The environment is challenging but we try to stay focused on the long term,” says Iva Comey, the CEO. “We just continue to deliver what is needed.”



And meeting needs is fundamental to breakaway growth as the top three companies on the list show. Tenovi is tackling the pressing needs of health care — trying to lower costs and improve quality — with technology that makes it easier for patients to use home-monitoring devices and doctors to intervene before conditions turn serious.

HighByte, founded in 2018, is helping companies make sense of the avalanche of data generated by factories, oil and gas sites, and other industrial operations across the globe. Salient, meanwhile, aims to improve long-term forecasting for businesses and other clients as climate change drives more volatile weather.

Salient is built on research from the Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution, which discovered that changes in the saltiness and temperature of the ocean could predict the likelihood of precipitation on land months in advance. The company has incorporated other variables and artificial intelligence into its forecasting model and shown that it can help utilities prepare for major storms, energy markets meet spikes in demand, and skiers plan vacations.

“The technology is coming together at the right time,” says CEO Matt Stein.



Salient has incorporated other variables and artificial intelligence into its forecasting model and shown that it can help skiers plan vacations. JOHN TLUMACKI/GLOBE STAFF

Indeed, being at the right place at the right time — luck, if you will — has launched many a company into the stratosphere, says Peter Cohan, associate professor of management practice at Babson College, but luck alone is never enough.

While running a company has been compared to running a marathon, Cohan says, even that analogy underestimates what success requires.

“You have to keep running,” he says, “You can never stop. You have to keep innovating. You need to keep reinventing.”

Methodology

New England’s Fastest-Growing Companies list — ranked by compound annual growth rate — is a partnership between *The Boston Globe* and Statista, based on data from company applications.

Application phase: The project was advertised online and in print, allowing all eligible companies to apply for the ranking from October 2025 to January 2026. Additionally, more than 2,000 companies in New England identified as potential candidates were invited to participate in the ranking via email. Participating companies submitted basic information and revenue figures for the years 2021 and 2024, verifying the revenues through a form signed by the CFO, CEO, or a member of the company’s Executive Committee.

Eligibility requirements: Criteria for consideration in the ranking were minimum revenue of $100,000 in 2021 and $1.5 million in 2024, independence, headquarters located in New England, and organic growth (not through acquisitions). Companies that met all criteria and achieved the highest compound annual growth rates between 2021 and 2024 were recognized as the fastest-growing companies.

Calculation of growth rates: The calculation of growth rates is based on the revenue figures submitted and certified by the companies. The compound annual growth rate (CAGR) was calculated as follows: ((revenue2024 / revenue2021)^(1/3)) - 1 = CAGR

Evaluation and quality assurance: All data reported by the companies was processed and checked by Statista. Missing data (such as employee numbers) were researched in detail. The minimum compound annual growth rate required to be included in the ranking this year was 8.4 percent.