Data Presentation to Rhode Island Children’s Cabinet

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Sources for all data in this presentation can be found in the 2015 Rhode Island Kids Count Factbook.
Who are Rhode Island’s Children?

- There are **223,956** children under age 18 in Rhode Island.

- Children make up **21%** of Rhode Island’s population.

- Family Structure:
  - 56% Married-Couple
  - 33% Single-Parent
  - 9% Other relatives (6% of all RI children live with a grandparent)
  - 2% Foster family or other non-relative household

- **37%** of children were living with an unmarried parent in 2013, an increase from 27% of children in 2000.
The Diversity of Rhode Island’s Children

- In 2010 (Census), **72%** of Rhode Island children were White, **8%** were Black, **3%** were Asian, less than **1%** were Native American, **9%** identified as Some other race, and **7%** identified as Two or more races.

- **21%** of RI children identified as Hispanic in 2010. Hispanic children are also included in the race calculations above.

- Young children in RI are more racially and ethnically diverse than any other age group. **58%** of children under age five in Rhode Island are identified as White and non-Hispanic (compared with 71% of adults ages 25 to 44 and 91% of adults age 65 or over).

- Between 2011 and 2013, **23%** of Rhode Island children between the ages of 5 and 17 spoke a language other than English at home.

- **26%** of children in Rhode Island live in immigrant families (either they are foreign born and/or they have at least one parent who is foreign born).
Median Family Income

- Rhode Island median family income for families with children under age 18
  $67,904 for all families
  $96,919 for two-parent families
  $37,600 for male-headed, single-parent families
  $26,155 for female-headed, single-parent families

- According to the Economic Progress Institute’s 2014 Rhode Island Standard of Need it costs a single-parent family with two young children $51,492 a year to pay basic living expenses, including housing, food, clothing, health care, child care and transportation. This family would need an annual income of $59,083 to meet this budget without government subsidies.

- A worker would have to earn $22.54 an hour and work 40 hours a week year-round to be able to afford the average rent ($1,172/mo) in Rhode Island without a cost burden (more than 30%). This hourly wage is nearly three times the state’s 2014 minimum wage of $8.00 per hour.
Parental Education Levels

- 39% of all infants were born to mothers with a high school diploma or less
- 39% of all infants were born to fathers with a high school diploma or less

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2011-2013. Table S1702.
Secure Parental Employment

Between 2011 and 2013, 9% of all Rhode Island families with children had no parent in the labor force.

Between 2011 and 2013, 15% of Rhode Island families living in poverty had at least one adult with full-time, year-round employment.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2011-2013. Table B23008.
Rhode Island’s Poor Children

- In 2014, the federal poverty threshold was $19,073 (for a family of three with two children).
- 21% of Rhode Island’s children under age 18 live below the federal poverty threshold.
- 9% of all children in Rhode Island lived in extreme poverty ($9,537 for a family of three with two children).
- Children under age 6 in are at higher risk of living in poverty than any other age group.
- There are poor children in every Rhode Island community, but 64% of all poor children in Rhode Island live in the four core cities of Central Falls, Pawtucket, Providence, and Woonsocket.
- Hispanic single-parent families in Rhode Island are nearly twice as likely as White single-parent families to live in poverty.
Children in Families Receiving Cash Assistance

- The goal of the RI Works program is to help very low-income families meet their basic needs by providing cash assistance and work supports, including employment services, SNAP benefits, health insurance, and subsidized child care.

- Between 1996 and 2014, the Rhode Island cash assistance caseload decreased by 71%.
Nutrition Programs

**WIC**
- In September 2014, there were **25,398** infants (23%), children ages one to four (54%), pregnant women (10%), and postpartum women (13%) participating in the WIC program.
- WIC is a federally-funded preventive programs that provides participants with nutritious food, nutrition education, and access to health care and social services.

**SNAP (Food Stamps)**
- Of the **166,759** Rhode Islanders enrolled in SNAP in October 2014, 104,568 (63%) were adults and **62,191 (37%) were children**.
- SNAP helps low-income individuals and families obtain better nutrition through monthly benefits they can use to purchase food at retail stores and some farmers’ markets. Average monthly benefit is $367 for a family of three.

**School Breakfast**
- In October 2014, there were an estimated **25,773** low-income children participating in the School Breakfast program in Rhode Island.
- Universal School Breakfast Programs, which provide free breakfast to all children regardless of income, increase school breakfast participation. During the 2014-2015 school year, all schools in five districts in Rhode Island, selected schools in two other districts, ten charter schools, and **UCAP** offered universal school breakfast.
Health
Children’s Health Insurance

- In 2013, 5.4% of Rhode Island’s children under age 18 were uninsured, compared to 7.1% of children in the U.S. Just over half (56%) of children in Rhode Island are covered by private health insurance, most of which is obtained through their parents’ employers, 5.4% were uninsured, and the remainder were covered through RIte Care.

- RIte Care enrollment rose to a new high of 130,639 in December 2014 (up from 117,963 in December 2013). Approximately 79% of the estimated 10,286 uninsured children in Rhode Island were eligible for RIte Care based on family income between 2011-2013 (“eligible but not enrolled”).

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2012 and 2013, Table CP03. Data are for children under 18 years of age and are not comparable to previous Factbooks*. 

*Notes:**

- Data are not comparable to previous Factbooks.
- Data are for children under 18 years of age.
- Private health insurance is most obtained through parents’ employers.
Childhood Immunizations

- Rhode Island’s rate (82%) of children ages 19 months to 35 months that were fully immunized was higher than the U.S. rate of 70%.

- Rhode Island ranked best in the U.S. on this measure in 2013.
In 2013, there were 2,737 hospitalizations of children under age 18 with a primary diagnosis of a mental disorder in Rhode Island (a 53% increase since 2003).
Outcomes for Pregnant Women and Infants

Women Receiving Delayed Prenatal Care
- 12.8% of pregnant women in Rhode Island received delayed prenatal care (improving)

Preterm Births
- 10.7% of births in Rhode Island were preterm (improving)

Low Birthweight
- 7.6% of Rhode Island infants are born with low birthweight (improving)

Infant Mortality
- Rhode Island’s infant mortality rate is 6.6 per 1,000 births (improving)

NOTE: On all of these indicators, minority women, women in the four core cities, women with lower education levels, and women without insurance fared worse than white women, women in the remainder of the state, women with higher education, and those with insurance.

Teen Births
- The Rhode Island teen birth rate declined 30% between 2005-2009 and 2009-2013, from 30.1 births per 1,000 teen girls to 21.0, as did the four core cities. Birth rates for U.S. teens and RI teens were the lowest ever recorded in 2013.
Evidence-Based Home Visiting

- Home visiting programs are designed to reach young children and their families at home, providing parenting education to foster healthy, safe, and stimulating environments for young children.

- Children in at-risk families who participate in high-quality home visiting programs have improved language, cognitive, and social-emotional development and are less likely to experience child abuse and neglect. Families who participate are more likely to provide an enriching home environment, use appropriate discipline strategies, and become more economically secure through education and employment. Some home visiting programs can also improve maternal and child health, reducing long-term health care costs.

- As of October 2014, 500 families enrolled in one of the three MIECHV-funded evidence-based home visiting programs in Rhode Island, up from 288 in 2013. 88% of the families lived in one of the four core cities.
Housing and Health

- Rhode Island has 2nd highest percentage of low-income children (82%) and the #1 highest percentage of all children (73%) living in older housing in the U.S.

Children with Asthma

Between the 2009-2010 and 2012-2013 school years in Rhode Island, **37% (6,744) of children with asthma were chronically absent** in at least one of the school years. Chronic absenteeism is defined as missing 10% or more days of school.

*Source: Rhode Island Department of Health, Hospital Discharge Database, 2009-2013; U.S. Census Bureau, Census 2010. Rates are for primary diagnosis of asthma. **Hispanic children can be of any race.*
Children Receiving Special Education Services

Percentage of Children Receiving Special Education Services by Grade Span, Rhode Island, June 2014

Between 2011 and 2013, **72% of Rhode Island children under age six had all parents in the workforce**, higher than the U.S. rate of 65%.
As of the 2014-2015 school year, there are 17 State Pre-K classrooms in Rhode Island with a total of 306 children enrolled.

32% of children enrolled in State Pre-K speak a language other than English at home and 11% have a developmental delay or disability.
Public School Enrollment and Demographics

- On October 1, 2014, there were 141,959 students enrolled in Rhode Island public schools in grades preschool through 12, a decrease of 9% from October 1, 2004.

- An additional 19,809 students in Rhode Island attended private and parochial schools and 1,527 students were home schooled in 2014-2015.

- In the 2013-2014 school year, 15% of Rhode Island public school students were receiving special education services and 7% were receiving English as a second language (ESL) or bilingual education services.
Children in Full-Day Kindergarten

In Rhode Island in the 2014-2015 school year, 81% of children who attended public kindergarten were in a full-day program (100% in the core cities).

In the 2014-2015 school year, 28 of the 35 elementary school districts and all of the public charter elementary schools in Rhode Island offer universal access to full-day kindergarten.

Source: Rhode Island Department of Education, kindergarten enrollment October 1, 2000-October 1, 2014.
English Language Learners

- In the 2013-2014 school year, ELL students were 7% of all RI total students (10,233).
- 88% of ELL students were enrolled in free or reduced-price lunch programs and 76% lived in the four core cities.
- 49% of all ELL students in Rhode Island were in preschool to Grade 3.

High School Graduation Rate

The Rhode Island four-year graduation rate for the Class of 2014 was 81%, up from 70% for the Class of 2007.
58% of Rhode Island students who graduated from high school in the Class of 2012 enrolled in college immediately.

Gaps: 47% of higher-income students immediately enrolled in a four-year college, compared to 19% of low-income students.