

# Child Population

## DEFINITION

*Child population* is the total number of children under age 18 and the percentage change between 1990 and 2000 in the total number of children under age 18.

## SIGNIFICANCE

In 2006, the number of family households with children under age 18 in Rhode Island was 119,247, representing almost a third (29%) of all households.<sup>1</sup> According to the American Community Survey conducted by the Census Bureau, there were 1,067,610 Rhode Island residents in 2006. Children under age 18 made up 22% (237,447) of the Rhode Island population, which is slightly lower than the child population in 2000.<sup>2,3</sup> More than a quarter (26%) of Rhode Island children were under age 5, 26% were ages 5 to 9, 29% were ages 10 to 14, and 18% were ages 15 to 17.<sup>4</sup>

In 2006 in Rhode Island, 143,663 (61%) children under age 18 lived in a married-couple household, 70,712 (30%) children lived in a single-parent household, and 19,525 (8%) children lived with relatives, including married and single-parent grandparents or other relatives. A total of 2,470 (1%) children

lived with a foster family or other non-relative heads of household, and 1,077 (<1%) children lived in group quarters or other non-household situations, such as residential treatment programs.<sup>5</sup>

In Rhode Island between 2000 and 2006, the number of children under age 18 living in single-parent households increased 6%. The number of children living with a grandparent or other relative increased 10%, and the number of children living in a two-parent household decreased 8%.<sup>6,7</sup>

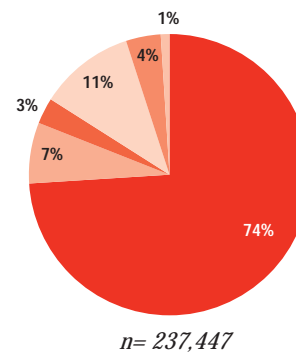
Rhode Island's children are diverse in race, ethnic background, language and country of origin. In 2006, there were 9,848 foreign-born children under age 18 living in Rhode Island, representing 4% of the child population.<sup>8</sup> In Rhode Island, 78% of children ages 5-17 speak only English, 14% of children speak Spanish, 6% speak other Indo-European languages and 2% speak Asian or other Pacific Island languages at home.<sup>9</sup>

Sexual identity is another important facet of diversity among youth. In 2007, 7.2% of Rhode Island high school students described themselves as lesbian, gay or bisexual.<sup>10</sup>

## Rhode Island's Children Under Age 18, 2006

### By Race/Ethnicity\*

74%	White
7%	Black
3%	Asian
11%	Some Other Race
4%	Two or More Races
1%	Race Unknown

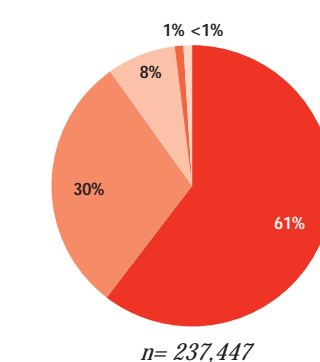


\*Hispanic children may be included in any race category of Rhode Island's 237,447 children. 42,141 (18%) of Rhode Island's children are Hispanic.

Source: U.S. Bureau of the Census, American Community Survey, 2006. B01001A, B01001B, B01001D, B01001F, B01001G and B01001I.

### By Family Structure

61%	Married Couple**
30%	Single Parent**
8%	Other Relatives
1%	Foster Family or Other Unrelated Household
<1%	Group Quarters or Other Non-Households



\*\*Includes children who are related to the head of household by birth or adoption.

Source: U.S. Bureau of the Census, American Community Survey, 2006. Tables B09002, B09005, and B09006.

◆ According to the 2006 American Community Survey, 66% of children in Rhode Island lived in owner-occupied housing units and 34% lived in rental units.<sup>11</sup>

◆ Of children ages 3 to 17 enrolled in school in Rhode Island in 2006, 83% were enrolled in public schools and 17% were enrolled in private schools.<sup>12</sup>

◆ In 2006, 8% of Rhode Island children had at least one specified disability, including either a long-lasting physical condition or difficulty completing educational or daily life tasks.<sup>13</sup>

Table 1. Child Population, Rhode Island, 1990 and 2000

CITY/TOWN	1990 TOTAL POPULATION UNDER AGE 18	2000 TOTAL POPULATION UNDER AGE 18	CHANGE IN POPULATION UNDER AGE 18	% CHANGE IN POPULATION UNDER AGE 18
Barrington	3,912	4,745	833	21%
Bristol	4,380	4,399	19	0%
Burrillville	4,479	4,043	-436	-10%
Central Falls	4,810	5,531	721	15%
Charlestown	1,575	1,712	137	9%
Coventry	7,626	8,389	763	10%
Cranston	14,673	17,098	2,425	17%
Cumberland	6,427	7,690	1,263	20%
East Greenwich	2,913	3,564	651	22%
East Providence	10,657	10,546	-111	-1%
Exeter	1,521	1,589	68	5%
Foster	1,185	1,105	-80	-7%
Glocester	2,526	2,664	138	6%
Hopkinton	1,839	2,011	172	9%
Jamestown	1,123	1,238	115	10%
Johnston	5,332	5,906	574	11%
Lincoln	3,890	5,157	1,267	33%
Little Compton	750	780	30	4%
Middletown	4,676	4,328	-348	-7%
Narragansett	2,869	2,833	-36	-1%
New Shoreham	163	185	22	14%
Newport	5,756	5,199	-557	-10%
North Kingstown	6,076	6,848	772	13%
North Providence	5,655	5,936	281	5%
North Smithfield	2,332	2,379	47	2%
Pawtucket	16,719	18,151	1,432	9%
Portsmouth	4,175	4,329	154	4%
Providence	37,972	45,277	7,305	19%
Richmond	1,565	2,014	449	29%
Scituate	2,426	2,635	209	9%
Smithfield	3,898	4,019	121	3%
South Kingstown	4,770	6,284	1,514	32%
Tiverton	3,166	3,367	201	6%
Warren	2,452	2,454	2	0%
Warwick	18,322	18,780	458	3%
West Greenwich	915	1,444	529	58%
West Warwick	6,560	6,632	72	1%
Westerly	4,988	5,406	418	8%
Woonsocket	10,617	11,155	538	5%
<i>Core Cities</i>	<i>82,434</i>	<i>91,945</i>	<i>9,511</i>	<i>12%</i>
<i>Remainder of State</i>	<i>143,256</i>	<i>155,877</i>	<i>12,621</i>	<i>9%</i>
<i>Rhode Island</i>	<i>225,690</i>	<i>247,822</i>	<i>22,132</i>	<i>10%</i>

## Source of Data for Table/Methodology

U.S. Census Bureau, 1990 Census of the Population and Census 2000, Summary File 1.

Core cities are Central Falls, Newport, Pawtucket, Providence, West Warwick and Woonsocket.

## References

<sup>1</sup> U.S. Bureau of the Census, American Community Survey, 2006. Selected Social Characteristics: 2006.

<sup>2,4</sup> U.S. Bureau of the Census, American Community Survey, 2006. Table B01001.

<sup>3</sup> U.S. Bureau of the Census, American Community Survey, 2000. Table P004.

<sup>5,6</sup> U.S. Bureau of the Census, American Community Survey, 2006. Tables B09002, B09005 & B09006.

<sup>7</sup> U.S. Bureau of the Census, American Community Survey, 2000. Table P013.

<sup>8</sup> U.S. Bureau of the Census, American Community Survey, 2006. Table B05003.

<sup>9</sup> U.S. Bureau of the Census, American Community Survey, 2006. Table B16007.

<sup>10</sup> Rhode Island Department of Health, *Youth Risk Behavior Survey*, 2007.

<sup>11,12,13</sup> U.S. Bureau of the Census, American Community Survey 2006, Rhode Island Children Characteristics. Table S0901.