

Data in Your Backyard

2006 Rhode Island Kids Count Factbook

Central Falls and Pawtucket

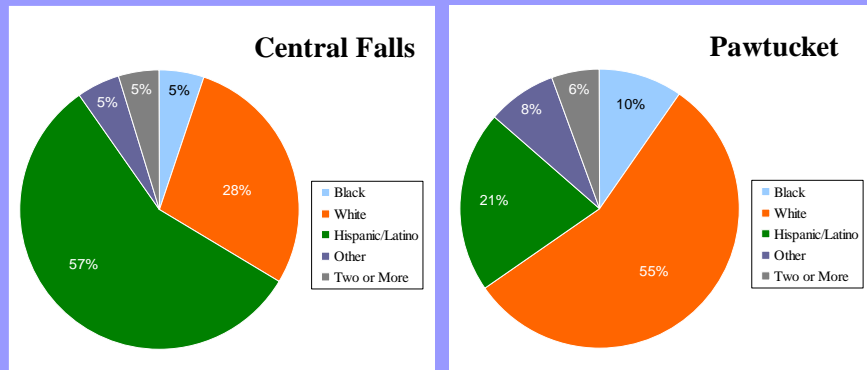


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June 15, 2006
Pawtucket, Rhode Island

Sponsored by Rhode Island KIDS COUNT &
The Pawtucket and Central Falls Coalition for Early Childhood and Family Support

Family and Community

Child Population by Race & Ethnicity: 2000



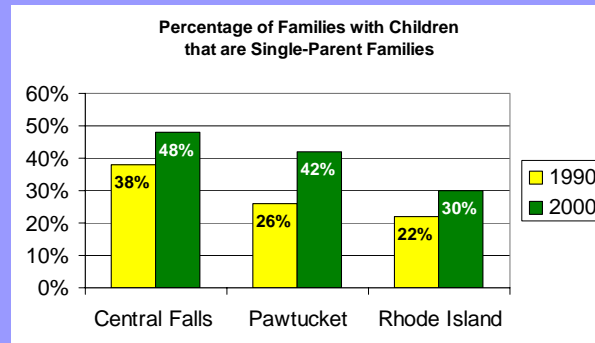
Total under 18 years of age = 5,531

Total under 18 years of age = 18,151

> The child populations in both Central Falls and Pawtucket have become substantially more diverse since 1990. According to the *American Community Survey, 2004*, there are 243,667 children under age 18 in Rhode Island, representing 23% of the state's population, down from 24% in 2000. The largest increase in the population ages birth to 19 between 2000 and 2004 was led by minority children.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Census 2000.

Single-Parent Families

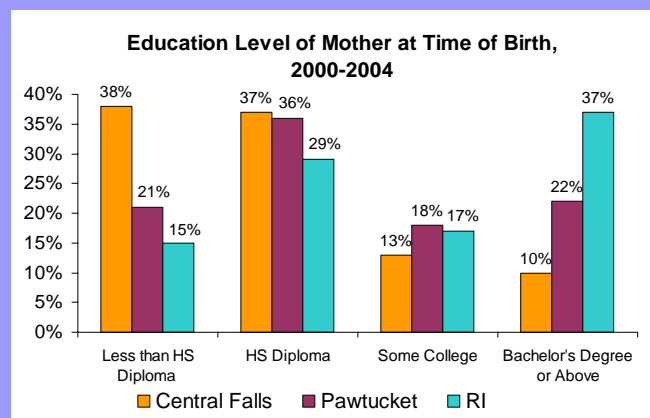


❖ In 2000 in Central Falls, 2,370 children (48%) lived in single-parent families. In Pawtucket in 2000, 6,988 (42%) lived in single parent families.

❖ In 2004 in Rhode Island, 34% of children lived in a single-parent family, compared to 27% in 2000, a 23% increase. Rhode Island ranked 48th out of 50 states (where 1st is best) in the U.S. for the highest rate of children living in single-parent families.

❖ In 2004, 86% of all poor children in Rhode Island lived in a single-parent family.

Mother's Education Level



Source: Rhode Island Department of Health, 2000-2004.

➤ In Central Falls 38% of new mothers had less than a high school diploma. In Pawtucket, 21% of new mothers had less than a high school diploma. Both are significantly higher than the state average of 15%.

➤ The proportion of new mothers with a Bachelor's degree or above is smaller in Central Falls (10%) and Pawtucket (22%) than in the state as a whole (37%).

Infants Born at Highest Risk

Infants Born with Identified Risk Factors, Rhode Island, 2004

	# OF BIRTHS	# BORN AT HIGHEST RISK*	# BORN AT RISK**
Central Falls	409	40	375
Newport	314	28	216
Pawtucket	1,115	71	916
Providence	2,938	268	2,543
West Warwick	387	18	253
Woonsocket	568	59	482
Core Cities	5,731	484	4,785
Remainder of State	6,595	150	3,572
Rhode Island	12,710	639	8,542

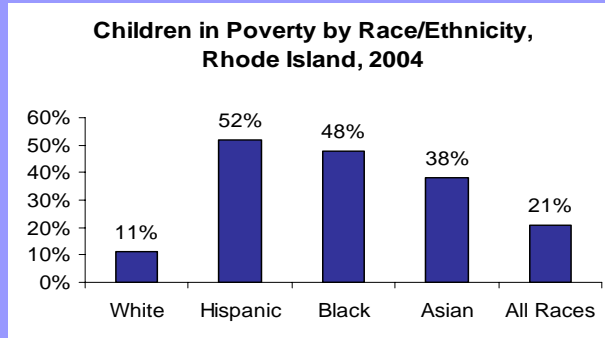
Source: Rhode Island Department of Health, KIDSNET database, 2004.

❖ There are three important social and economic risk factors present at birth that, when combined, strongly predict childhood poverty and poor education outcomes – having a mother who is younger than 20, unmarried and without a high school degree.

❖ In 2005, 5% of babies were born to Rhode Island women who were under age 20, single and had who were without a high school diploma. In Central Falls, 10% of babies were born at highest risk, tied for the highest in the state. In Pawtucket, 6% of babies were born at highest risk.

Economic Well-Being

Poverty by Race/Ethnicity



Source: U.S. Bureau of the Census, American Community Survey, 2004.

- The percentage of Rhode Island's children living in poverty increased from 16% in 2000 to 21% in 2004 and is the highest percentage of childhood poverty in New England.
- In 2000, 64% of Rhode Island's poor children were children of color, compared to Woonsocket where 61% of poor children are children of color (race/ethnicity other than White, non-Hispanic).

Children in Poverty

Children Under Age 18 Living Below the Federal Poverty Threshold:

City/Town	1990		2000	
	Count	Percentage	Count	Percentage
Central Falls	1,576	32.5%	2,210	40.9%
Pawtucket	2,525	15.5%	4,542	25.3%
Rhode Island	30,022	13.5%	41,162	16.9%

Children Under Age 18 Living in Extreme Poverty:

	<u>2000</u>
Central Falls:	1,146 (21.2%)
Pawtucket:	2,195 (12.2%)
Rhode Island:	19,773 (8.1%)

Young Children in Poverty

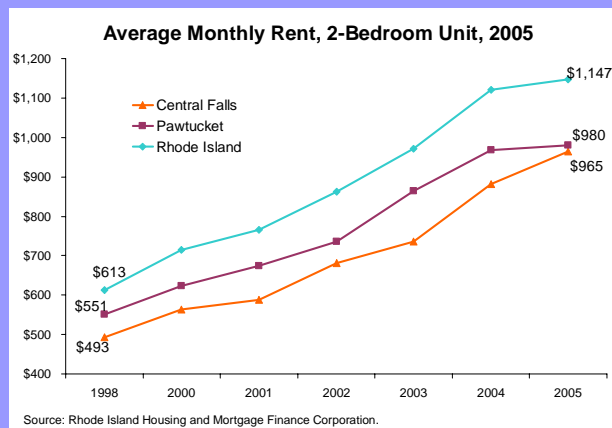
Children Under Age 6 Living Below the Federal Poverty Threshold:

City/Town	1990		2000	
	Count	Percentage	Count	Percentage
Central Falls	749	38.0%	740	42.7%
Pawtucket	1,096	17.3%	1,711	29.2%
Rhode Island	12,912	16.3%	14,548	19.2%

Children Under Age 6 Living in Extreme Poverty:

	2000	
Central Falls:	357	(20.6%)
Pawtucket:	824	(14.1%)
Rhode Island:	7,230	(9.5%)

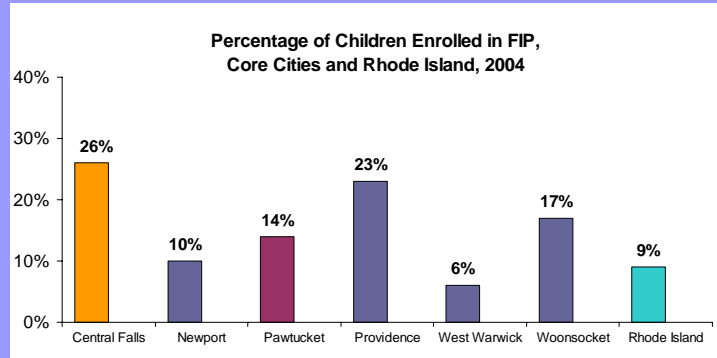
Cost of Rent



➤ A family of three living at the poverty level is able to afford rent of \$381 per month. Rent is considered affordable if it consumes 30% or less of a family's household income.

➤ To afford the average rent (\$1,147) in Rhode Island without a cost burden, a worker would need to earn \$22.06 per hour for forty hours a week, more than three and a half times the state's minimum wage in 2005 of \$6.75 per hour.

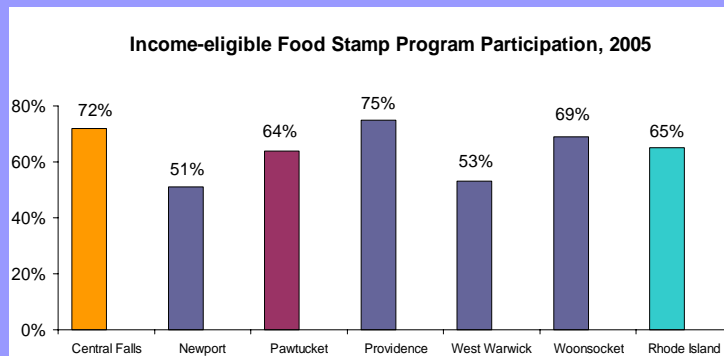
Family Independence Program (FIP)



Source: Rhode Island Department of Human Service, 2005.

- As of December 1, 2005, there were 728 families with 1,452 children enrolled in the FIP in Central Falls, 26% of all children in the city. In Pawtucket, 1,389 families with 2,496 children were enrolled in FIP, 14% of all children in Pawtucket.
- In December 2005, there were 9,059 adults and 21,891 children under the age of 18 enrolled in FIP, a 46% decline in cash assistance recipients from 1995.
- Nearly three-quarters (71%) of all FIP beneficiaries are children under the age of 18. More than two out of five (42%) children enrolled are under the age of six.

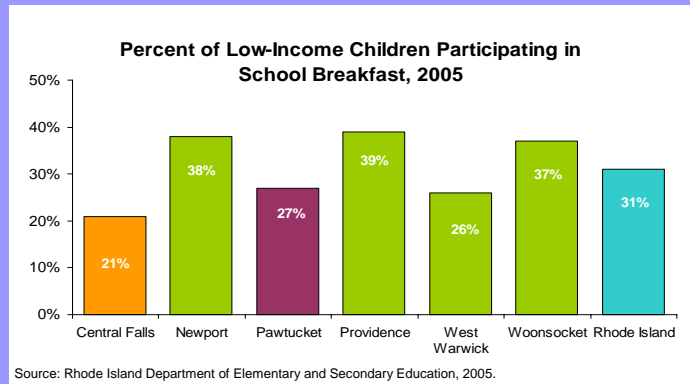
Children Receiving Food Stamps



Source: Rhode Island Department of Human Services, 2005

- In October 2005 in Central Falls, 2,038 out of 2,840 estimated eligible children under age 18 were participating in the Food Stamps Program. In Pawtucket, 3,795 out of 5,948 estimated eligible children were participating.
- Statewide, 35,168 out of the estimated 53,697 income-eligible children were participating in the Food Stamp Program.

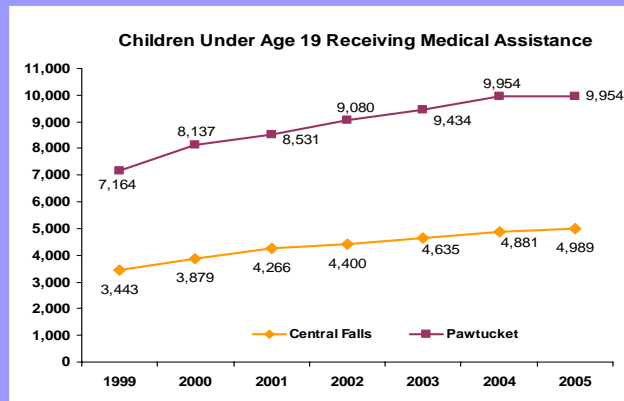
Children Participating in School Breakfast



- In the fall of 2005 in Central Falls, 616 low-income children on average participated in the school breakfast program each day out of 2,964 who were eligible for free- or reduced price breakfast. In Pawtucket, 1,548 low-income children on average participated in the school breakfast program each day out of 5,715 who were eligible for free- or reduced price breakfast.
- Central Falls and Pawtucket (as well as Cranston and Providence) offer universal breakfast. Participating low-income children comprise 17% of the total fall enrollment in Central Falls and 17% of total fall enrollment in Pawtucket.

Health

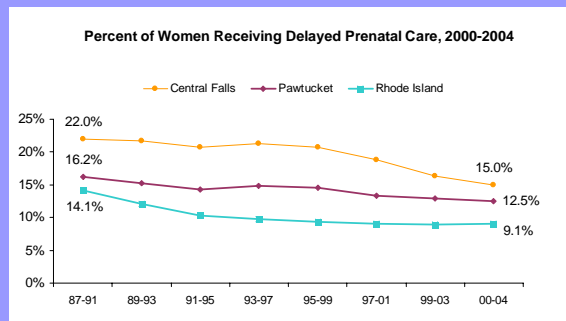
Children's Health Insurance



Source: Rhode Island Department of Human Services, 2005

- In 2005, 80% of all children under age 19 in Central Falls were receiving medical assistance, with 4,622 children enrolled in Rlte Care (FIP and non-FIP) and 327 children receiving medical assistance through SSI, Katie Becket, Adoption subsidies or foster care.
- In 2005 in Pawtucket, 49% of all children under age 19 were receiving medical assistance, with 9,141 children enrolled in Rlte Care (FIP and non-FIP) and 813 children receiving medical assistance through SSI, Katie Becket, Adoption subsidies or foster care.

Women Receiving Delayed Prenatal Care



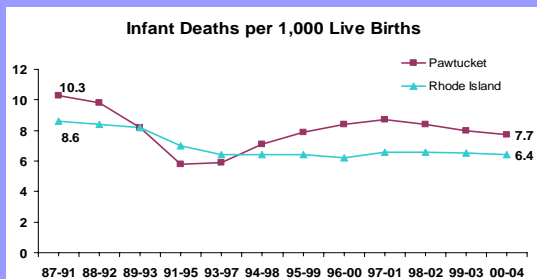
Source: Rhode Island Department of Health, 2005.

Core Cities 2000-2004

Central Falls	15.0%
Newport	13.4%
Pawtucket	12.5%
Providence	11.7%
West Warwick	7.7%
Woonsocket	15.7%
Rhode Island	9.1%

- Incidence of delayed prenatal care has declined by 32% in Central Falls and 22% in Pawtucket.
- Central Falls has the 3rd highest percentage of delayed prenatal care in the state. Pawtucket has the 5th highest rate.
- Between 2000 and 2004 in Rhode Island, women in the core cities (12.3%) and in Westerly (15.2%) were almost twice as likely to receive delayed prenatal care as women in the remainder of the state (6.5%).

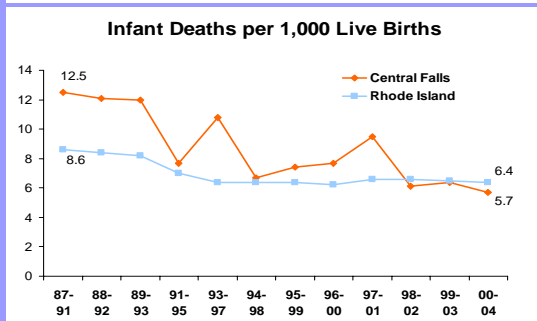
Infant Mortality



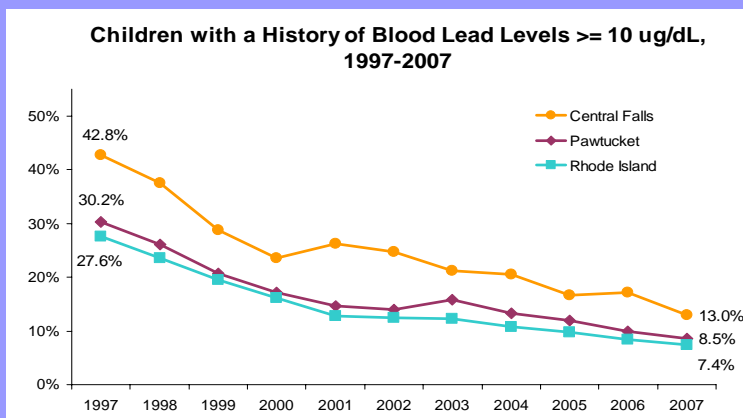
➤ In Pawtucket, 7.7 infants per 1,000 births resulted in a mortality.

➤ In Central Falls there were 5.7 infant deaths per 1,000 live births. The infant mortality rate in Central Falls is currently lower than the state average.

➤ Over the past decade, Rhode Island's infant mortality rate declined for White, Black and Hispanic infants, but increased for Asian infants. The Black infant mortality rate, 11.7 deaths per 1,000 births, is more than twice the rate for White infants (5.8) and higher than that of any other racial or ethnic group.



Children with Lead Poisoning

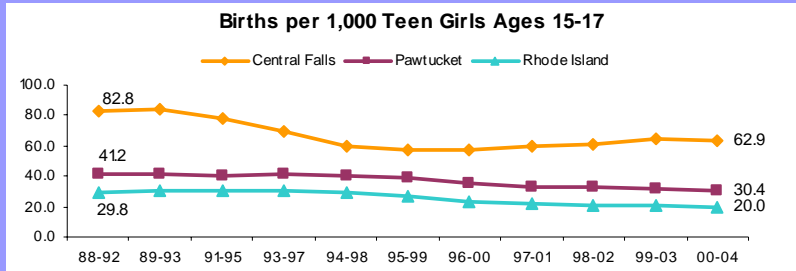


Source: The Rhode Island Department of Health, 1996 – 2006

➤ Since 1997, Central Falls and Pawtucket has seen declines in the percentage of children entering kindergarten with elevated blood lead levels.

➤ Despite declines in lead poisoning rates statewide, kindergarten children living in core cities are more than two times as likely to have a history of elevated blood lead levels (11%) as those in the remainder of the state (5%).

Births to Teens



Source: Rhode Island Department of Health, 1988 – 2004.

- Although both teen birth rates dropped substantially over the decade, Central Falls and Pawtucket still have the first and fourth highest teen birth rates in the state, respectively.
- Between 2000-2004 Central Falls had 118 births to teens aged 15-17, for a rate of 62.9 births per 1,000 teen girls. In Pawtucket there were 207 births to teens during that same time period, for a rate of 30.4 births per 1,000 teen girls ages 15 to 17.
- Over the past decade, teen birth rates for Rhode Island girls ages 15 to 17 declined in all geographic areas. Despite the decreases, teen girls in the core cities give birth at more than five times the rate of girls of the same age in the remainder of the state.

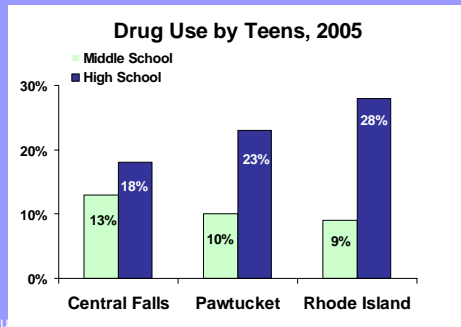
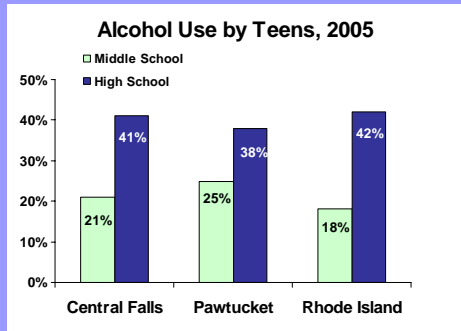
Overweight Children and Youth

**Perceptions of Weight and Weight Loss Behaviors
Among High School Students, Rhode Island, 2005**

	ALL	MALE	FEMALE
Students who were overweight	13%	17%	9%
Students who described themselves as overweight	33%	29%	37%
Students who were trying to lose weight	45%	32%	59%
<i>To Lose or Keep from Gaining Weight:</i>			
Students who ate less food, fewer calories, or low-fat foods	39%	28%	50%
Students who went without eating for 24 hours or more	12%	8%	16%
Students who took diet pills, powders, or liquids	6%	6%	5%
Students who vomited or took laxatives	5%	4%	6%

Source: Rhode Island Department of Health, Center for Health Information and Communication, Rhode Island Youth Risk Behavior Survey, 2005. *During the past 30 days. Estimates of overweight may be low as they are based on self-reported height and weight.

- A 2003 study showed 16% of Rhode Island children ages 6-17 were overweight and 15% were at risk for being overweight.
- The rate of obesity in Rhode Island high school students increased from 9% in 2001 to 13% in 2005, a statistically significant increase.
- Although 13% of Rhode Island high school students were overweight in 2005, 33% considered themselves overweight and many attempted to lose weight by changing their eating and exercise habits.



Source:

Alcohol and Drug Use by Adolescents

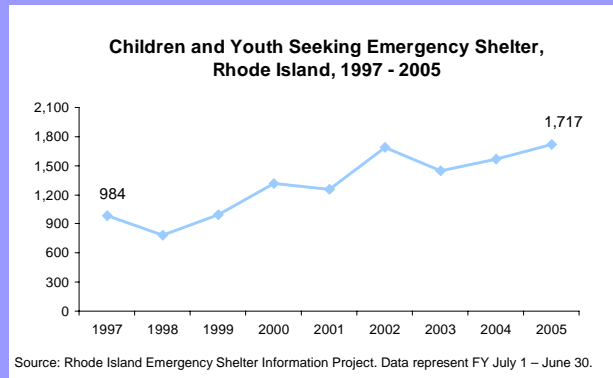
➤ In Central Falls, 21% of middle school students and 41% of high school students reported using alcohol in the past 30 days. In Pawtucket, 25% of middle schools students and 38% of high school students reported using alcohol in the past 30 days.

➤ In Central Falls, 13% of middle school students and 18% of high school students reported using drugs in the past 30 days. In Pawtucket, 10% of middle schools students and 23% of high school students reported using drugs in the past 30 days.

➤ Students in the core cities reported lower rates of alcohol and cigarette use than students statewide in both middle school and high school.

Safety

Homeless Children and Homeless Youth



- Nearly half (45%) of the 1,717 children receiving shelter in Rhode Island between July 1, 2004 and June 30, 2005, were age 5 or under and 38% were ages 6 to 12.
- In Rhode Island, 1,416 children under age 13 received emergency housing in a homeless shelter or domestic violence shelter in 2005. This is the second highest number of young children receiving emergency shelter since 1997.
- Between July 1, 2004 and June 30, 2005, 301 youth entered the Rhode Island Emergency Shelter system accompanied by a parent or another adult, an increase of 370% since 1998.

Juveniles in Family Court and the Training School

- In 2005, in Rhode Island, there were 5,188 juveniles referred to Family Court for 8,747 wayward and delinquent offenses.

In 2005, juveniles from Central Falls committed 295 offenses (down from 361 in 2003), accounting for 3% of offenses, and juveniles from Pawtucket committed 790 offenses (down from 916 in 2003), accounting for 9% of offenses.

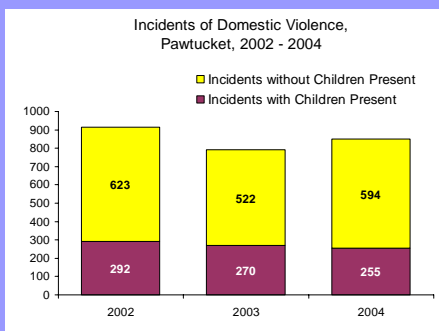
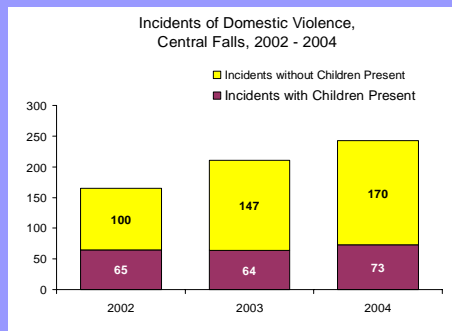
- In 2005, 1,029 juveniles spent time at the Rhode Island Training School.

Of those with a reported address, 42 were from Central Falls and 106 were from Pawtucket.

Children of Incarcerated Parents

- In the U.S., one in forty children has a parent in prison.
- In Rhode Island in 2005, 1,828 adults at the ACI reported having 3,901 children.
 - ❖ 38 of these parents with 74 children reported their last residence as Central Falls.
 - ❖ 102 of these parents with 220 children reported their last residence as Pawtucket.
- In 2005, the rate of children with incarcerated parents per 1,000 children was 13.4 for Central Falls, 12.1 for Pawtucket, and 12.5 for Rhode Island.

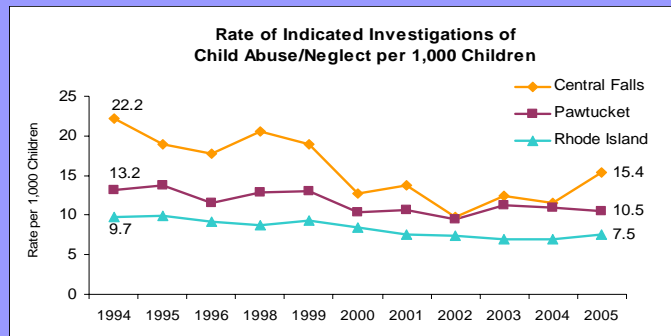
Children Witnessing Domestic Violence



Source: Rhode Island Supreme Court, Domestic Violence Training and Monitoring Unit, 2002-2004.

- In 2004, there were 243 reports of domestic violence in Central Falls. Of these, 43 (30%) occurred while a child was present.
- In 2003, there were 849 reports of domestic violence in Pawtucket. Of these, 255 (30%) occurred while a child was present.

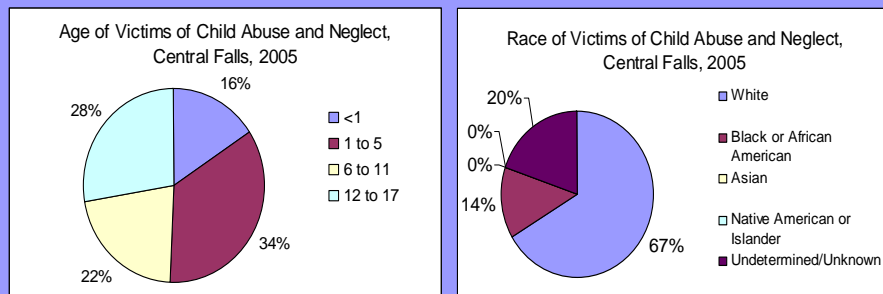
Child Abuse and Neglect



Source: Rhode Island Department of Children, Youth and Families

- Over the past decade Central Falls and Pawtucket have both experienced drops since 1994 in child abuse rates. However, both are still well above the state average.
- In 2005 in Rhode Island, there were 2,260 indicated investigations of child abuse and neglect involving 3,125 children, for a rate of 7.5 per 1,000 children.
- Fifty-seven percent of indicated investigations of child abuse and neglect in 2005 occurred in the six core cities, even though only 39% of the states' population under 21 lives in those communities.

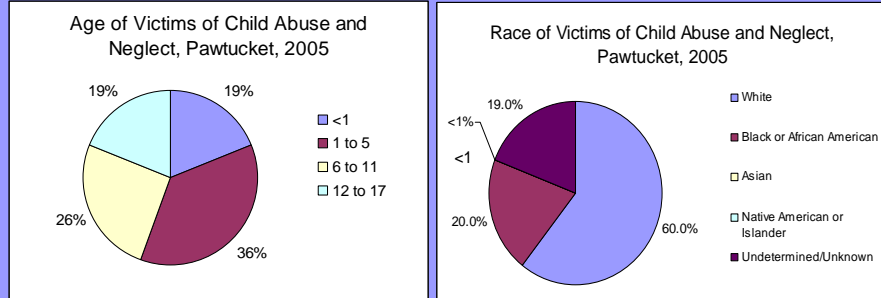
Central Falls Child Abuse and Neglect



Source: Department of Children, Youth and Families, 2005

- In 2005 there were 273 incidents of child abuse and neglect in Central Falls, involving 148 victims.
- Nearly two in five (39%) of neglect cases involved lack of supervision with or without a caretaker. Over two in five of abuse cases (42%) involved excessive or inappropriate discipline, over one third (34%) resulted in a physical injury and 9% were sexual abuse.

Pawtucket Child Abuse and Neglect



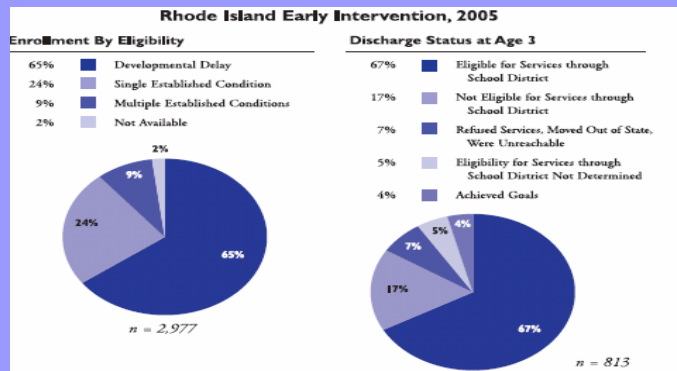
Source: Department of Children, Youth and Families, 2005

➤ In 2005 there were 506 incidents of child abuse and neglect in Pawtucket, involving 304 victims.

➤ Over one-third (36%) of neglect cases involved lack of supervision with or without a caretaker. Over one-third of abuse cases (36%) involved excessive or inappropriate discipline, over one third (35%) resulted in a physical injury and 14% were sexual abuse.

Education

Early Intervention

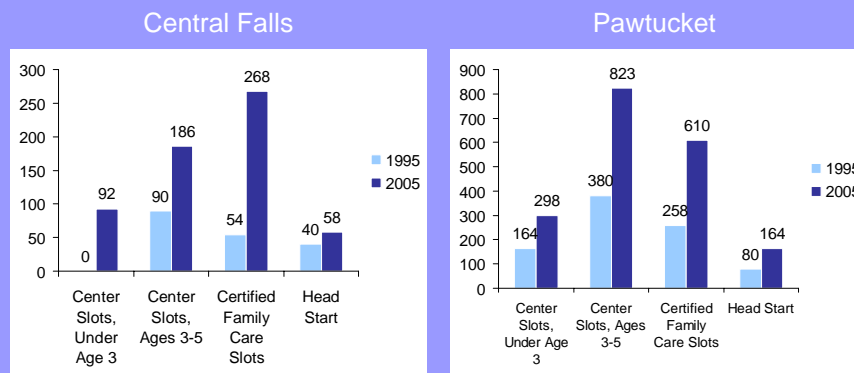


Source: Rhode Island Department of Human Services.

➤ During 2005 in Rhode Island, 2,977 children received Early Intervention services. This is 8% of the 37,775 Rhode Island Children under age 3. Central Falls had 87 children receiving services, 9% of children under age 3. Pawtucket had 227 children receiving services, 8% of children under age 3.

➤ Changes to Federal legislation require states to refer children involved in a substantiated case of child abuse or neglect to Early Intervention for an eligibility assessment. In 2005, the Rhode Island Department of Children, Youth and Families referred 91 out of 672 children under age 3 with a substantiated case to Early Intervention for an assessment.

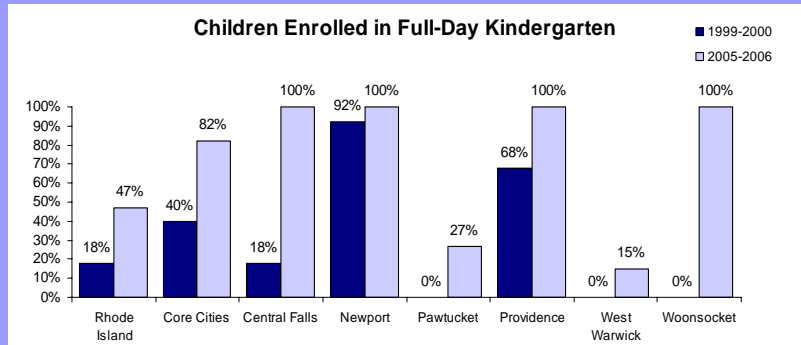
Licensed Child Care Capacity



Source: *Options for Working Parents, 1995 and 2004*

- In 2005 in Central Falls, there were 546 slots for children under age 6 in licensed child care centers and certified family child care homes, an 279% increase from 144 slots in 1995.
- In Pawtucket, there were 1,731 slots for children under age 6 in licensed child care centers and certified family child care homes, an 116% increase from 802 slots in 1995.
- In Central Falls in 2005, 22% of eligible children were enrolled in Head Start, compared to 26% of eligible children in Pawtucket. Both are below the state level of 52%.

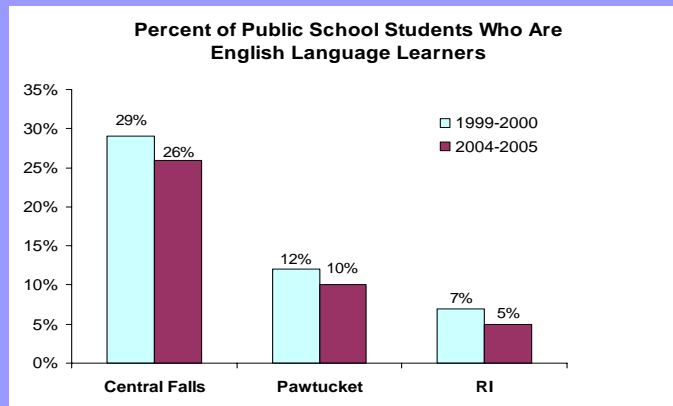
Full Day Kindergarten



Source: Rhode Island Department of Elementary and Secondary Education, 1999-2000 and 2004-2005.

- In Rhode Island in 2005-2006, 47% of children who attended kindergarten were in a full day program.
- As of the 2005-2006 school year, 12 school districts offered universal access to full-day kindergarten programs, including Woonsocket, and another 9 school districts operated at least one full-day kindergarten classroom.
- The percentage of children participating in full-day kindergarten in the core cities has doubled, from 40% in 1999-2000 to 82% in 2005-2006.

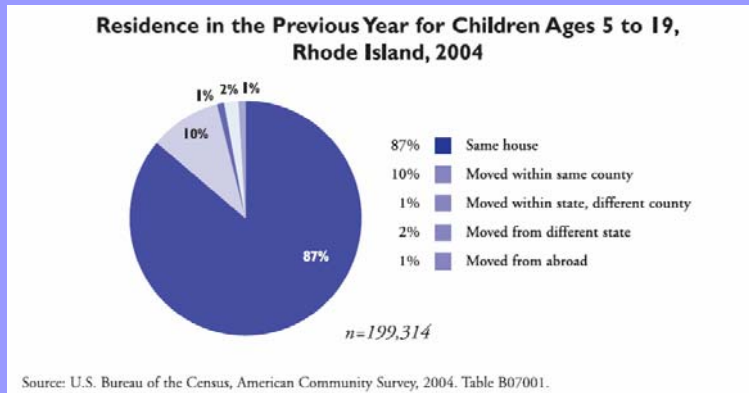
English Language Learners



Source: Rhode Island Department of Elementary and Secondary Education, 2005

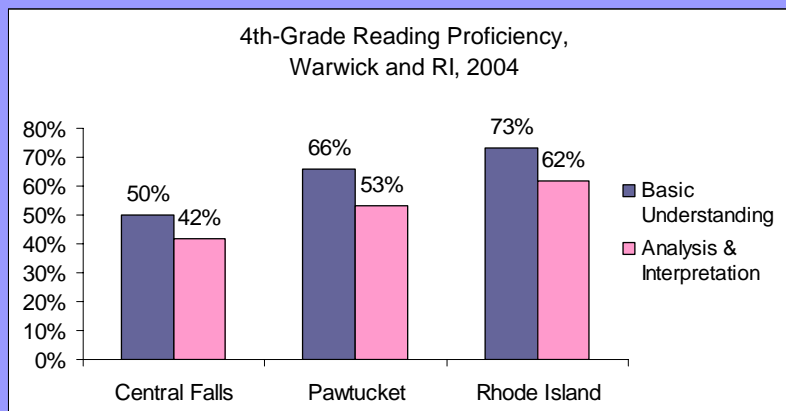
- Central Falls has 942 children in ELL programs and the largest percentage of ELL students in the state. Pawtucket has 917 children in ELL programs and the 3rd highest percentage of ELL students in the state.

Student Mobility



- In 2004 in Rhode Island, 14% of children between the ages of 5 to 19 changed residency at least once during the previous year, the majority moving within the same county. Individuals living below the federal poverty threshold were more likely to change residency in Rhode Island in 2004.
- Students who move are absent more often than students who do not move and perform worse on standardized tests. In the 2004-2005 school year, the school mobility rate was 24% in Central Falls and 23% in Pawtucket, compared to 16% for the state as a whole.

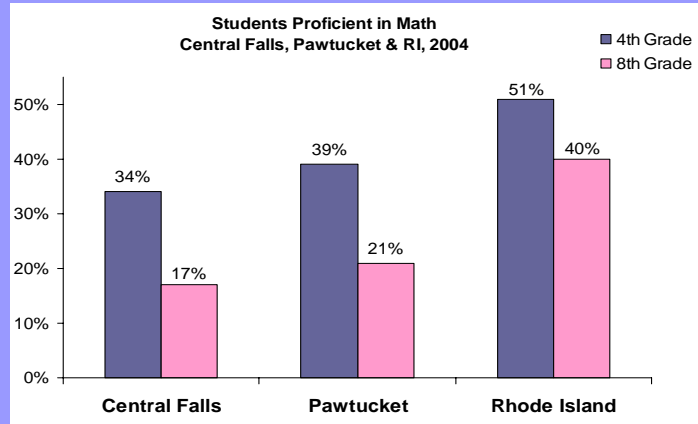
Fourth Grade Reading Skills



Source: Rhode Island Department of Elementary and Secondary Education, 2004

- In 2004, children in Central Falls and Pawtucket continued to achieve proficiency on fourth grade reading tests at lower levels than their peers in the rest of the state.

Math Skills



Source: Rhode Island Department of Elementary and Secondary Education, 2004.

- In 2004, 34% of Central Falls 4th graders score at or above proficiency in math, compared to 51% for the state. By 8th grade the number of students proficient in math drops to 17% for Central Falls and to 40% for the rest of the state.
- In Pawtucket, 39% of 4th graders score at or above proficiency in math. By 8th grade the number of students proficient in math drops to 21%.

2006 NECAP District Results

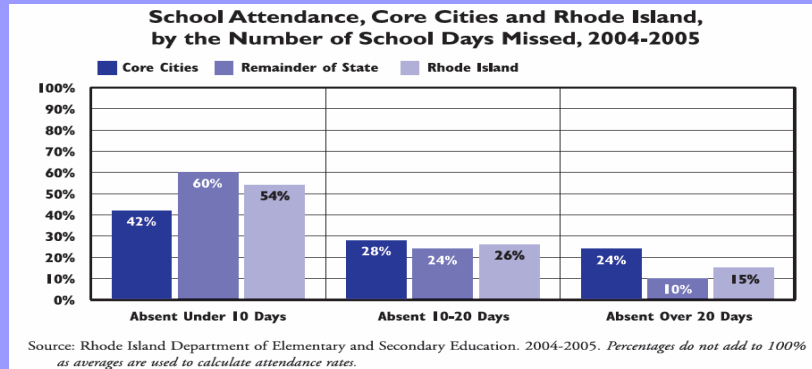
2006 NECAP District Summary Results
Proficiency Across All Grades (3-8), Core Cities

	Reading	Mathematics	Writing
Central Falls	34%	21%	27%
Newport	46%	40%	41%
Pawtucket	45%	38%	48%
Providence	30%	24%	29%
West Warwick	56%	43%	53%
Woonsocket	39%	32%	26%
Rhode Island	59%	50%	51%

Source: Rhode Island Department of Elementary and Secondary Education

- NECAP is the New England Common Assessment Program. There are four levels of proficiency: Proficient with Distinction, Proficient, Partially Proficient and Substantially Below Proficient.

School Attendance



- ❖ Nearly one out of four (24%) students in the core cities missed over 20 days of school, compared to one out of ten (10%) students in the remainder of Rhode Island and nearly one out of seven (15%) students statewide.
- ❖ With 15,149 high school students in the core cities, improving the core cities' attendance rate from 85% to 92% would mean that 1,090 more students would be attending high school in the core cities each day of the school year. The attendance rate in Central Falls' high school was 87% and in Pawtucket's two high schools the attendance rate was 88%, compared to 90% for the state in 2004-2005.

High Schools in Need of Improvement

Central Falls High School Classification 2005

In Need of Improvement/Insufficient Progress 1

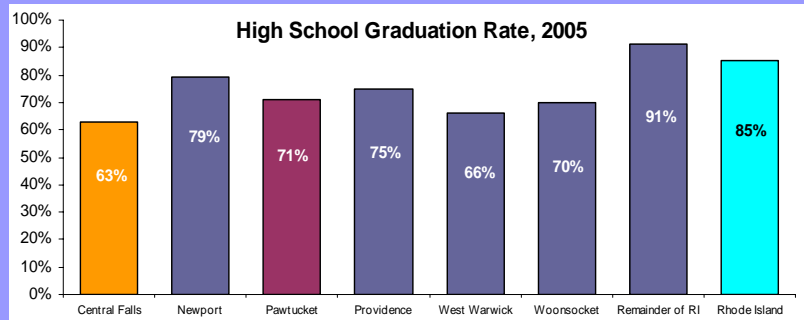
Pawtucket High School Classifications 2005

In Need of Improvement/Insufficient Progress 2

* School classifications are based on guidelines that meet the provisions of the No Child Left Behind Act of 2001.

- In 2005 a total of 27 high schools (47%) across Rhode Island were classified as high performing.
- In 2005 there were 13 high schools (23%) classified as moderately performing.
- In 2005, 17 Rhode Island high schools (30%) were classified as in need of improvement. Fifteen of the high schools were operated by core city school districts and the remainder were operated by the state.

High School Graduation Rates



Source: Rhode Island Department of Elementary and Secondary Education, 2004

➤ In 2005 in Rhode Island, 85% of all students graduated, including 88% of White students, 81% of Asian Pacific Islander students, 79% of Black students, 74% of Hispanic students and 72% of Native American students.

➤ In the core cities in 2005, 72% of students graduated from high school, compared to 85% for the state as a whole.

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