

Pawtucket Data In Your Backyard

Findings from the 2010 Rhode Island KIDS COUNT Factbook



Presented by Stephanie Geller

Rhode Island KIDS COUNT

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Pawtucket, Rhode Island

Special Thanks

Special thanks to

**Pawtucket School Department
Child Opportunity Zone**

for hosting today's presentation.

2010 Rhode Island KIDS COUNT Factbook



The 2010 Factbook is the 16th annual publication. The 2010 Factbook contains 67 indicators of child well-being, including 5 new indicators on youth and education. Most indicators include city and town level information.

Family and Community



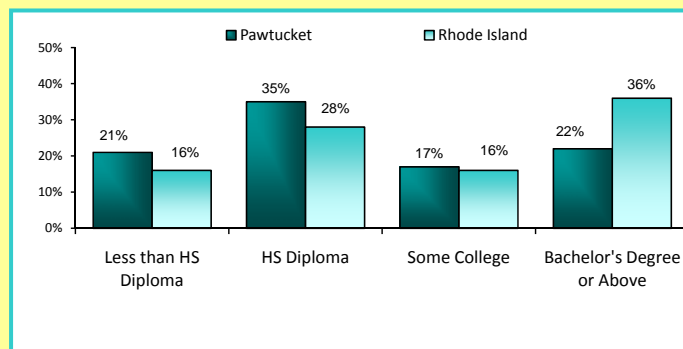
Pawtucket Child Population by Race & Ethnicity 2000

Population Under 18 Years of Age		
White, non-Hispanic	10,090	(55.6%)
Hispanic	3,820	(21%)
Black, non-Hispanic	1,776	(9.8%)
Asian	131	(0.7%)
Some other race	1,311	(7.2%)
2 or more races	1,023	(5.6%)
Total	18,151	

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

- ❖ According to the American Community Survey, between 2006 and 2008, Pawtucket's total child population was 17,129.

Mother's Education Level, 2004-2008



Source: Rhode Island Department of Health, Division of Family Health, Maternal and Child Health Database, 2004-2008.

- ❖ Research shows strong links between parental education levels and a child's school readiness, health, and the level of education the child is likely to achieve.
- ❖ In Pawtucket, 21% of new mothers had less than a high school diploma, higher than the state average of 16%. The proportion of mothers with a Bachelor's degree or higher was smaller in Pawtucket (22%) than in the state as a whole (36%).

Infants Born at Highest Risk

Mother:

- Under Age 20
- Unmarried
- Without High School Degree

Child:

- 9 times more likely to grow up in poverty
- More likely to suffer from abuse or neglect
- Less likely to be ready for school at kindergarten entry
- Less likely to perform well in school
- Less likely to complete high school

❖ In 2009, 578 (5%) Rhode Island babies were born with all three risk factors.

❖ In 2009, 72 (7%) Pawtucket babies were born with all three risk factors.

❖ High-quality, evidence based programs (e.g., the Nurse-Family Partnership and Early Head Start) can help mitigate the risks faced by these children.

Economic Well-Being



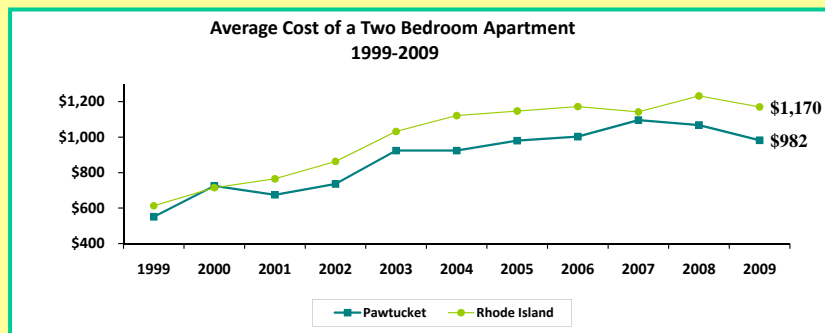
Child Poverty

- ❖ The **poverty threshold** in 2009 was \$17,285 for a family of three with two children and \$21,756 for a family of four with two children.
 - ❖ Between 2006 and 2008, 27.6% (4,688) of children in Pawtucket were living in poverty.
 - ❖ Between 2006 and 2008, 16.1% (36,970) of children in Rhode Island were living in poverty.

- ❖ The **extreme poverty threshold** in 2009 was \$8,643 for a family of three with two children and \$10,878 for a family of four with two children.
 - ❖ Between 2006 and 2008, 1,669 Pawtucket children (10% of all children and 36% of poor children) were living in extreme poverty.
 - ❖ Between 2006 and 2008, 16,552 Rhode Island children (7.2% of all children and 45% of poor children) were living in extreme poverty.

- ❖ The Poverty Institute's **2008 Rhode Island Standard of Need** states that a single parent with two children who has an income of \$30,800 a year (175% of the federal poverty level) and subsidized child care and health care (Rite Care) would still be \$48 short of paying for basic needs each month.

Cost of Rent



Source: Rhode Island Housing Rent Survey, Annual Rent Surveys, 1999-2009.

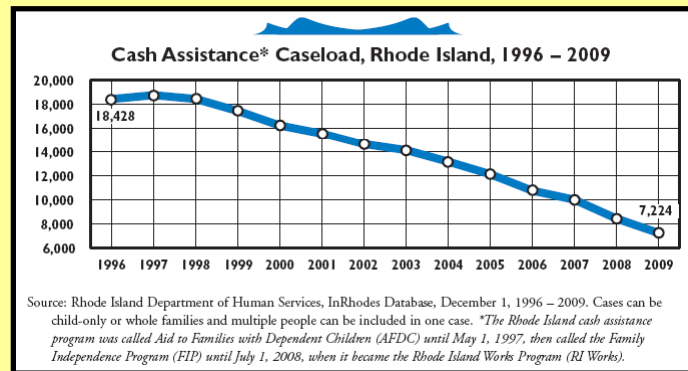
- ❖ Housing is considered affordable if it consumes 30% or less of a family's household income.
- ❖ To afford the average rent of \$1,170 in Rhode Island without a cost burden, a worker would need to earn \$22.50 per hour and work 40 hours a week 52 weeks a year. This is more than 3 times the state's minimum wage of \$7.40 per hour.
- ❖ In 2008, the average cost of rent in Pawtucket was **\$982**. A family of three living at the poverty level in Pawtucket would have to devote 64% of its household income to rent.

Homeless Children & Youth

- ❖ In 2009, 1,676 children under age 18 received emergency housing in a homeless shelter or a domestic violence shelter in RI.
 - Pawtucket was the last permanent residence for 153 of these children.

- ❖ During the 2008-2009 school year, Rhode Island public school personnel identified 1,099 children as homeless.
 - Pawtucket Public School personnel identified 41 children as homeless.

Families Receiving Cash Assistance



- ❖ Between 1996 and 2009, there was a 61% decline in the Rhode Island cash assistance caseload.
- ❖ In December 2009, 6% (1,081) of Pawtucket children were receiving cash assistance, down from 14% (2,496) in 2005.
- ❖ In December 2009, more than two-thirds (67%) of RI Works beneficiaries were children under the age of 18. More than half (54%) of children enrolled in RI Works were under the age of six.

Children Receiving Food Stamps/SNAP Benefits

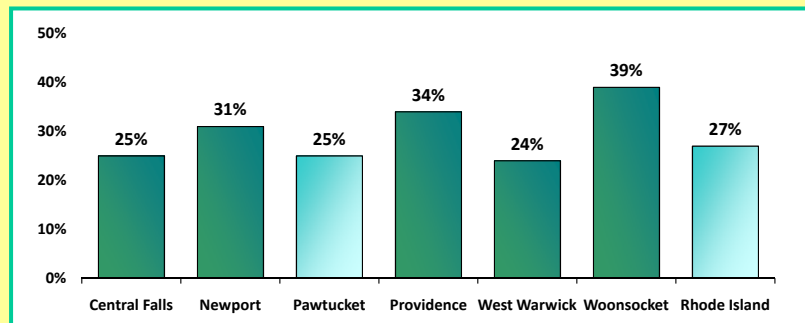
	# Participating 2005	# Participating 2009	% Change 2005-2009
Central Falls	2,038	2,917	43%
Newport	884	1,202	36%
Pawtucket	3,795	5,790	53%
Providence	16,767	20,771	24%
West Warwick	851	1,472	73%
Woonsocket	2,833	4,696	66%
Core Cities	27,168	36,848	36%
Rhode Island	35,168	53,632	53%

Source: Rhode Island Department of Human Services, 2005 and 2009.

- ❖ In October 2009, 5,790 Pawtucket children were receiving SNAP/food stamp benefits, a 53% increase in participation from 2005.
- ❖ Research shows that hunger and lack of regular access to sufficient food are linked to serious health, psychological, emotional and academic problems in children and can impede their healthy growth and development.

School Breakfast Program

% of Low-Income Children Participating in School Breakfast, 2009



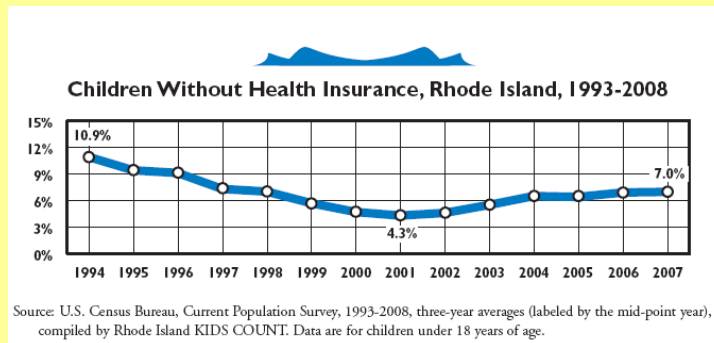
Source: Rhode Island Department of Elementary and Secondary Education, 2009

- ❖ Pawtucket has a Universal School Breakfast Program which offers free breakfast to all children regardless of income.
- ❖ In October 2009, an average of 1,657 (25%) low-income children in Pawtucket participated in the Universal School Breakfast Program each day out of 6,723 who were eligible for a free or reduced-price meals.
- ❖ Offering breakfast in the classroom at the start of the school day can increase participation.
- ❖ Students who eat breakfast have significantly higher math and reading scores, fewer absences, improved attentiveness and lower incidences of social and behavioral problems.

Health



Uninsured Children in Rhode Island



- ❖ In Rhode Island between 2006 and 2008, 7.0% of children under age 18 were uninsured, lower than the national rate of 10.8%. Rhode Island ranks 14th best in the country for lowest percentage of children uninsured.
- ❖ In Rhode Island, the percentage of uninsured children has increased in recent years, largely due to the decline in employer sponsored health insurance.

Infant Health Outcomes, 2004-2008

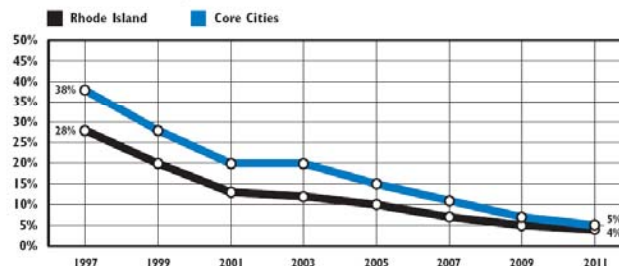
	Delayed Prenatal Care	Preterm Births	Low Birthweight Infants	Infant Mortality Rate/1000 Births
Central Falls	19.0%	12.0%	6.9%	8.4
Newport	11.5%	11.9%	8.0%	4.0
Pawtucket	16.4%	12.1%	8.5%	6.7
Providence	20.5%	13.8%	9.4%	9.3
West Warwick	14.5%	10.9%	7.0%	4.0
Woonsocket	15.9%	13.8%	10.0%	5.1
Core City Avg.	18.2%	13.1%	8.9%	7.6
Remainder of State	10.2%	10.9%	7.2%	4.9
Rhode Island	14.0%	11.9%	8.0%	6.2

❖ Early prenatal care is important to identify and treat health problems and influence health behaviors that can compromise fetal development, infant health and maternal health.

❖ In recent years, the percentage of Rhode Island mothers receiving delayed prenatal care has increased from 9.1% in 2000-2004 to 14.0% in 2004-2008. During that same time period, the percentage of Pawtucket mothers receiving delayed prenatal care rate increased from 12.5% to 16.4%.

Children with Elevated Blood Lead Levels

Children Entering Kindergarten With History of Elevated Blood Lead Level Screening, Rhode Island and Core Cities, 1997 – 2011



Source: Rhode Island Department of Health, Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention Program, Children entering kindergarten between 1997 and 2011.

- ❖ Despite declines in lead poisoning rates, kindergarten children living in Rhode Island's core cities are more likely to have a history of elevated blood lead levels (5.1%) than children in the remainder of the state (2.2%).
- ❖ Of the 1,056 Pawtucket children who will enter kindergarten in the fall of 2011 who were screened for elevated blood lead levels:
 - ❖ 47 (4.5%) screened positive (finger prick test)
 - ❖ 35 (3.3%) were confirmed positive for elevated blood lead levels ≥ 10 mcg/dL with a secondary blood test

Children with Asthma

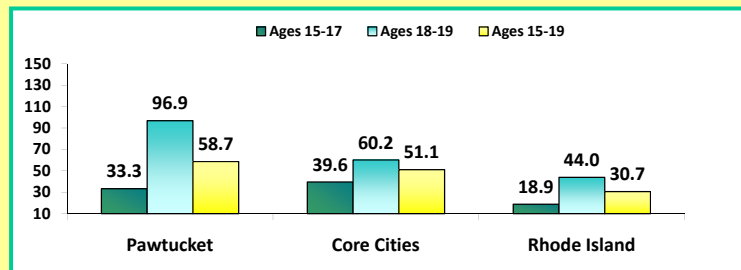
City/Town	Number of Children Hospitalized	Rate per 1,000 Children
Central Falls	74	2.7
Newport	43	1.7
Pawtucket	235	2.6
Providence	678	3.0
West Warwick	58	1.7
Woonsocket	105	1.9
Rhode Island	2,268	1.8

Source: Rhode Island Department of Health, Hospital Discharge Database, 2004-2008.

- ❖ Asthma is the most common chronic condition, the third-ranked cause of hospitalization for children under age 15 and a leading cause of school absences among children in the U.S.
- ❖ Between 2004-2008, children in the core cities were hospitalized for asthma at more than twice the rate of children living in the remainder of the state.
- ❖ The average length of a hospitalization stay for a child with asthma in Rhode Island is two days, with an average charge of \$7,840.

Births to Teens

Births Rate per 1,000 girls ages 15-19



Source: Rhode Island Department of Health, 2004-2008

- ❖ Pawtucket's teen birth rate for younger teens ages 15 to 17 is the 3rd highest in the state at 33.3 births per 1,000 girls ages 15-17.
- ❖ Pawtucket's teen birth rate for older teens ages 18 to 19 is also the 3rd highest in the state at 96.9 births per 1,000 girls ages 18-19.
- ❖ Between 2004 and 2008 in Rhode Island, almost one in five teen births (18%) were to teens who were already mothers (repeat birth).

Safety



Youth Violence

**Self-Reported Violent Behavior and Victimization,
Rhode Island High School Students, 2009**

	FEMALES	MALES	TOTAL
Been bullied on school property during the past 12 months	17%	15%	16%
Carried a gun, knife, or club at least once in the past 30 days	5%	16%	10%
Did not go to school on one or more of the past 30 days because they felt unsafe at school or on their way to/from school	8%	7%	7%
Were in a physical fight at least once in the past 12 months	19%	31%	25%
Were hit, slapped or physically hurt on purpose by their boyfriend or girlfriend during the past 12 months	11%	11%	11%
Ever physically forced to have sexual intercourse when they did not want to	9%	5%	7%

Source: 2009 Rhode Island Youth Risk Behavior Survey, Rhode Island Department of Health, Office of Health Statistics.

- ❖ During the 2007-2008 school year, 12% of Rhode Island public high school students and 9% of Pawtucket public high school students reported ever experiencing violence at school.
- ❖ Lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender youth, youth with disabilities and youth with low grades (Ds and Fs) in Rhode Island are more likely than their peers to report being threatened or injured at school and to miss school because they felt unsafe.

Disconnected Youth

- Youth who have weak connections to families, positive social networks, and communities that can provide emotional and material support and guidance are at great risk as they transition to adulthood.
- Four key populations at risk:
 1. Youth in foster care
 2. Youth at the Rhode Island Training School
 3. Teen parents
 4. High school dropouts

Juveniles Referred to Family Court and at the RI Training School

- ❖ In 2009, 4,825 youth were referred to Family Court for 7,829 wayward and delinquent offenses, 73% of which were committed by males and 27% by females.

Types of Juvenile Wayward/Delinquent Offenses Referred to Family Court, 2009	
24% - Property Crimes	5% - Traffic Offenses
19% - Status Offenses	5% - Violent Crimes
19% - Disorderly Conduct	3% - Weapons Offenses
10% - Simple Assault	6% - Other
9% - Alcohol and Drug Offenses	

- ❖ In 2009, 96 youth from Pawtucket passed through the Training School, out of a total of 894 youth who passed through the Training School in 2009.

- ❖ Of the 96 youth from Pawtucket who passed through the Training School in 2009, 28 were detained only and did not receive a sentence to the Training School or a community-based placement.

Child Abuse & Neglect

*Victims of Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 children,
Pawtucket, Core Cities, Remainder of State and Rhode Island*



Source: Rhode Island Department of Children, Youth and Families, 1997-2008.

- ❖ In 2009, there were 320 victims of child abuse and neglect in Pawtucket, a rate of 17.6 per 1,000 children.
- ❖ Child abuse and neglect victim rates in the core cities ranged from a low of 14.1 victims per 1,000 children in Providence to a high of 26.6 in Woonsocket.
- ❖ In 2009, the vast majority (78%) of child abuse and neglect investigations were for neglect.

Education



Children Enrolled in Early Head Start, 2009

- ❖ In 2009, an estimated 1,020 children in Pawtucket were income-eligible for enrollment in the Early Head Start program, but there were no Early Head Start programs serving Pawtucket families.
- ❖ Statewide, Early Head Start was serving 4% of the estimated 9,365 eligible children under age 3 in Rhode Island.
- ❖ In 2010, federal stimulus funds expanded Early Head Start services, allowing 134 more children to receive services in a number of communities, including Pawtucket.

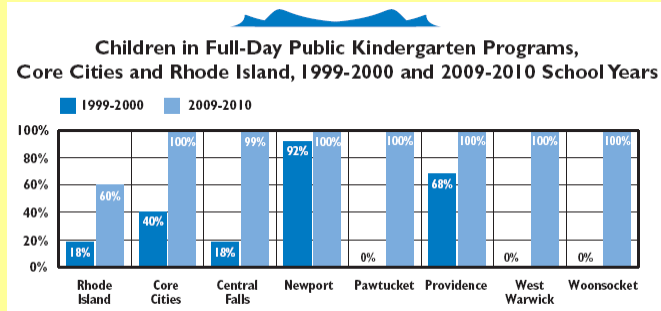
Children Enrolled in Head Start, 2009

- ❖ In 2009, 184 (24%) of eligible children in Pawtucket were enrolled in Head Start out of an estimated 779 children estimated to be income eligible.
- ❖ Statewide, Head Start was serving 40% of the estimated 6,200 eligible children ages 3-4 in Rhode Island.

Public School Enrollment and Demographics

- On October 1, 2009, there were 8,838 students enrolled in Pawtucket public schools in grades pre-K through 12.
 - 4,218 students were in grades K-5
 - 2,109 were in grades 6-8
 - 2,450 were in grades 9-12
 - 61 were enrolled in preschool special education classrooms
- ❖ 42% of Pawtucket public school students were non-Hispanic White, 29% were Hispanic, 25% were Black, 2% were Asian and 1% were Native American.
- ❖ 75% of Pawtucket public school students were low-income (students who qualified for the free or reduced-price lunch program).
- ❖ An additional 21,007 students in Rhode Island attended private and parochial schools and 1,135 students were home schooled in 2009-2010.

Children in Full-Day Kindergarten



Source: Rhode Island Department of Elementary and Secondary Education, 1999-2000 & 2008-2009.

- ❖ As of the 2009-2010 school year, 16 school districts offered universal access to full-day kindergarten classrooms, including Pawtucket, which offered all kindergarten children access to full-day kindergarten for the first time. Another 6 school districts operated at least 1 full-day kindergarten classroom.
- ❖ Nationally, children in full-day kindergarten classes make greater academic gains in both reading and mathematics compared to those in half-day classes, even after adjusting for differences associated with race/ethnicity, poverty status, achievement level at kindergarten entry, gender, and class size.

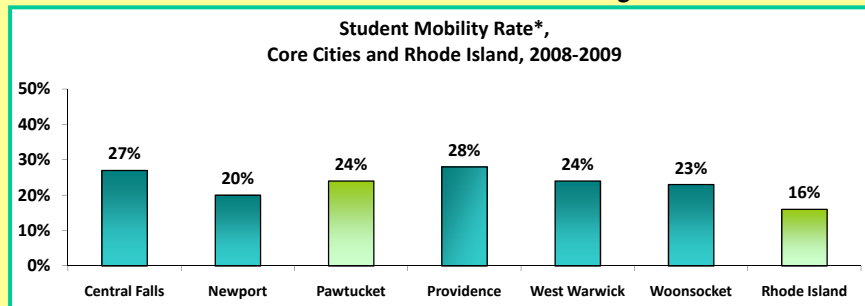
English Language Learners (ELL)

	Total Number of ELL Students (Pre-K - 12)	Total % of District
Central Falls	642	21%
Newport	54	3%
Pawtucket	948	11%
Providence	3,417	15%
West Warwick	48	1%
Woonsocket	266	4%
Core Cities	5,375	12%
Rhode Island	7,152	5%

Source: Rhode Island Department of Elementary and Secondary Education, 2008-2009

- ❖ During the 2008-2009 school year, 948 (11%) of Pawtucket's 8,539 students were English Language Learners.
- ❖ Nationally and in Rhode Island, the achievement gap between students who are English Language Learners and all students widens between elementary and middle school. In October 2009 in Rhode Island, 16% of eighth-grade ELL students scored at or above proficiency in reading, compared to 70% of all Rhode Island eighth-graders.

Student Mobility



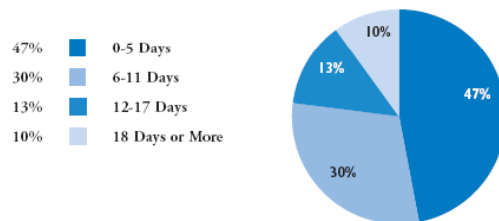
Source: Rhode Island Department of Elementary and Secondary Education, 2008-2009

- ❖ Children who move perform worse on standardized tests than children who have not experienced mobility. The more frequent the number of moves, the worse the performance.
- ❖ In Rhode Island, students who change schools mid-year are absent more often, suspended more often and perform worse in reading and math than their peers who do not change schools.
- ❖ 1 in 4 students in Pawtucket (24%) changes schools mid-year, a higher percentage than in any other community except Providence and Central Falls.

*The mobility rate is the total children enrolled and exited during a year over the total year's enrollment.

Chronic Early Absence

**School Attendance in Rhode Island by Number of School Days Missed,
Kindergarten Through Third Grade, 2008-2009 School Year**

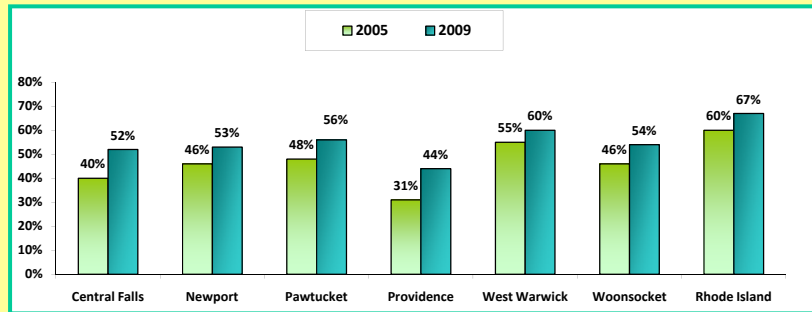


Source: Rhode Island Department of Elementary and Secondary Education, 2008-2009 school year.

- ❖ *Chronic early absence* is the percentage of children in kindergarten through third grade (K-3) who have missed at least 10% of the school year (i.e., 18 days or more), including excused and unexcused absences.
- ❖ During the 2008-2009 school year, 13% of Pawtucket children (433 children) in grades K-3 were chronically absent (i.e. absent 18 days or more), above the state rate of 10%.

Fourth-Grade Reading Skills

% At or Above the Proficiency Level
Core Cities and Rhode Island, 2005 & 2009



Source: Rhode Island Department of Elementary and Secondary Education, 2005 & 2008, NECAP.

- ❖ The percentage of Pawtucket 4th graders who were proficient in reading increased from 48% to 56% between 2005 and 2009; however, the 2009 rate represented a slight drop from the 2008 rate of 58%.
- ❖ Pawtucket's 4th grade reading proficiency level is below the state rate of 67% but higher than the core city average of 50%.

Math Skills

- Rhode Island was one of only four states in which the performance of both 4th and 8th graders improved between 2007 and 2009 on the national math proficiency tests (NAEP).

4th and 8th Grade Math Proficiency Rates, 2005 & 2009

	4 th Grade 2005	4 th Grade 2009	8 th Grade 2005	8 th Grade 2009
Pawtucket	42%	51%	37%	41%
Core Cities	32%	43%	27%	34%
Remainder of State	63%	72%	57%	64%
Rhode Island	52%	62%	47%	54%

Source: Rhode Island Department of Elementary and Secondary Education, *New England Common Assessment Program (NECAP)*, October 2005 & October 2009.

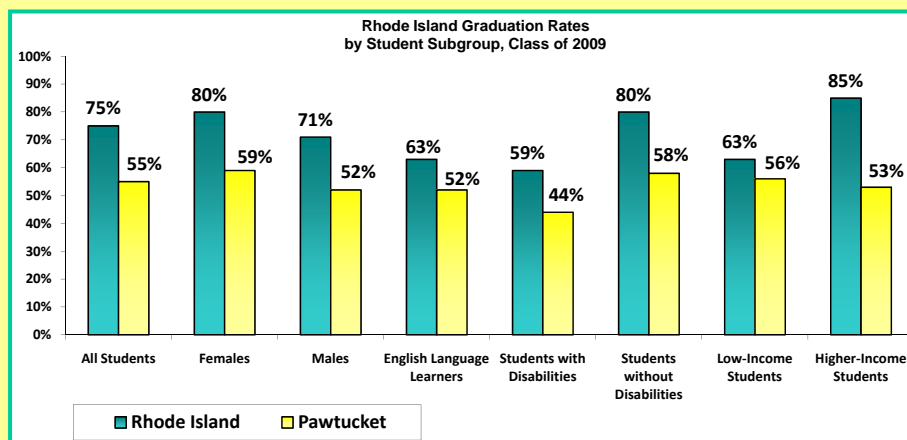
High School Graduation and Dropout Rates Class of 2009

	Graduation Rate	Dropout Rate	GED Rate	Retention Rate
Central Falls	47%	33%	7%	13%
Newport	75%	11%	4%	10%
Pawtucket	55%	21%	15%	9%
Providence	66%	22%	3%	8%
West Warwick	69%	20%	3%	8%
Woonsocket	62%	24%	5%	10%
Rhode Island	75%	14%	5%	6%

Source: Rhode Island Department of Elementary and Secondary Education, 2008-2009 School Year.

- ❖ This chart shows the percentage of students who matriculated as freshmen in 2005-2006 who graduated in 4 years, dropped out, completed their GED and were retained in school. These percentages are based on actual student counts using the unique student identifier system.
- ❖ In Pawtucket in 2009, 55% of students graduated from high school on-time, compared to 75% for the state as a whole. Pawtucket's 2009 graduation rate was lower than any other community except Central Falls.

High School Graduation Rates



Source: Rhode Island Department of Elementary and Secondary Education, 2008-2009 School Year.

College Preparation and Access

- **Just over one-half (55%) of Rhode Island seniors who graduated from high school in 2006 went directly on to a two or four-year college the next fall, compared with 62% nationally. Rhode Island ranks 43rd in the U.S. on this measure.**
- While some colleges do not require the SATs for admission, students limit their choice of colleges when they do not take **the SAT exams**. In 2008:
 - **In Rhode Island:** 74% of high school seniors reported planning to attend college, yet only 51% had taken the SATs
 - **In Pawtucket:** 73% of high school seniors reported planning to attend college, yet only 41% had taken the SATs
- Students who participate in **upper-level honors and Advanced Placement (AP) courses** are more likely to attend selective colleges and are better prepared to succeed in college than students who do not.
 - During the 2007-2008 school year, 15% of public school seniors in Rhode Island took at least one AP exam, compared with the national rate of 25%.



Stephanie Geller
Policy Analyst
Rhode Island KIDS COUNT
One Union Station
Providence, RI 02903
sgeller@rikidscount.org
(401) 351-9400 voice
(401) 351-1758 fax
www.rikidscount.org