



**kids
count**

2000 U.S. CENSUS BRIEF

Rhode Island KIDS COUNT ♦ One Union Station ♦ Providence, RI 02903

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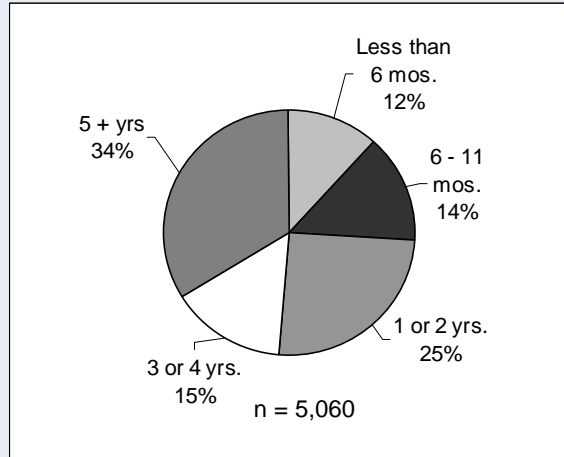
RHODE ISLAND GRANDPARENTS RESPONSIBLE FOR THEIR GRANDCHILDREN

Thousands of children in Rhode Island live in intergenerational households with their grandparents. Some of these households include both the child's parents and grandparents and in others, grandparents are the sole caretakers of their grandchildren. In 2000 in Rhode Island, there were 16,957 grandparents living in households with their grandchildren under the age of 18. This is 14% of all households with children in the state. The overwhelming majority of these grandparents, 71% (11,976) are heads of households and 28% (4,808) are the parents or parent-in-law of the householder. One percent (173) are other relatives or non-relatives of the head of the household. Because this was a new question added to the Census in 2000, there is not comparable data from the 1990 Census.

North Providence (25%) and North Smithfield (21%) had the highest rates of grandparents living in households with their grandchildren. The towns with the lowest rates of grandparents living with grandchildren were East Greenwich (4%), Barrington (7%), Little Compton

The U.S. Census Bureau defines "grandparents responsible for grandchildren" as grandparents who have assumed financial responsibility for food, shelter, clothing, day care, etc. of their grandchildren on a temporary or permanent live-in basis.

Figure 1: Rhode Island Grandparents Financially Responsible for Their Grandchildren, by Length of Time Responsible, 2000



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

(7%), Middletown (8%), North Kingstown (8%), and West Greenwich (8%).

Of the 16,957 grandparents residing in the same households with their grandchildren, 5,060 (30%) were financially responsible for their grandchildren. This is 4% of all households with children under age 18. Nearly all (94%) of the grandparents who were financially responsible for their grandchildren were heads of household. About one third (34%) of grandparents had been responsible for their grandchildren for more than 5 years and 25% had been responsible for their grandchildren from between one and two years.

Exeter and North Smithfield at 10% respectively, have the highest rate of grandparents who are financially responsible for their

grandchildren. This is more than double the state rate of 4%. In Rhode Island, there does not seem to be a correlation between areas of high child poverty and rates of households where grandparents are financially responsible for their grandchildren. The rate of households with grandparents financially responsible for grandchildren under age 18 is only slightly higher in the core cities (5%) than in the remainder of the state (4%).

There is wide variation in the types of intergenerational households and how they affect child outcomes. Nationally, grandchildren in grandparent maintained families are more likely to be poor than other children and those living in households headed by a single grandmother are most at risk for poverty.*

The U.S. Census Bureau conducts a census of the population every ten years. The most recent was completed in April 2000. This series of reports highlights information most relevant for community leaders, policy makers, advocates, and others concerned with the status of children and families in Rhode Island. Additional information on child well-being and Census 2000 can be found on the Rhode Island KIDS COUNT Web site at www.rikidscount.org and the Annie E. Casey Foundation KIDS COUNT Census Data Online Web site at www.aecf.org/kidscount/census.

*Source: U.S. Census Bureau, *Current Population Reports* (May 1999). "Coresident Grandparents and Grandchildren."

RI GRANDPARENTS LIVING IN HOUSEHOLDS WITH THEIR GRANDCHILDREN

CITY/TOWN	TOTAL FAMILY HOUSEHOLDS WITH CHILDREN UNDER AGE 18	GRANDPARENTS IN HOUSEHOLDS WITH THEIR GRANDCHILDREN UNDER AGE 18		GRANDPARENTS RESPONSIBLE FOR GRANDCHILDREN UNDER AGE 18*	
		NUMBER	% OF ALL HOUSEHOLDS WITH CHILDREN	NUMBER	% OF ALL HOUSEHOLDS WITH CHILDREN
Barrington	2,421	176	7%	59	2%
Bristol	2,345	373	16%	88	4%
Burrillville	2,037	175	9%	53	3%
Central Falls	2,607	313	12%	81	3%
Charlestown	899	126	14%	49	5%
Coventry	4,375	569	13%	89	2%
Cranston	8,873	1,283	14%	386	4%
Cumberland	4,049	614	15%	149	4%
East Greenwich	1,796	72	4%	27	2%
East Providence	5,562	839	15%	189	3%
Exeter	792	135	17%	79	10%
Foster	553	79	14%	0	0%
Glocester	1,351	115	9%	20	1%
Hopkinton	1,043	124	12%	29	3%
Jamestown	667	66	10%	0	0%
Johnston	3,113	491	16%	165	5%
Lincoln	2,691	333	12%	71	3%
Little Compton	409	29	7%	0	0%
Middletown	2,300	178	8%	54	2%
Narragansett	1,506	206	14%	69	5%
New Shoreham	101	7	7%	2	2%
Newport	2,643	309	12%	137	5%
North Kingstown	3,630	305	8%	92	3%
North Providence	3,214	796	25%	195	6%
North Smithfield	1,226	258	21%	118	10%
Pawtucket	9,179	1,264	14%	317	3%
Portsmouth	2,225	211	9%	70	3%
Providence	20,174	3,322	16%	1,219	6%
Richmond	1,019	117	11%	44	4%
Scituate	1,367	172	13%	29	2%
Smithfield	2,133	349	16%	69	3%
South Kingstown	3,155	320	10%	95	3%
Tiverton	1,797	290	16%	109	6%
Warren	1,290	204	16%	75	6%
Warwick	9,731	1,389	14%	376	4%
West Greenwich	746	56	8%	0	0%
West Warwick	3,496	344	10%	71	2%
Westerly	2,790	268	10%	120	4%
Woonsocket	5,532	680	12%	265	5%
Core Cities	43,631	6,232	14%	2,090	5%
Remainder of State	81,236	10,725	13%	2,970	4%
Rhode Island	124,867	16,957	14%	5,060	4%

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

*Note: The U.S. Census Bureau defines grandparents responsible for grandchildren as grandparents who have assumed financial responsibility for food, shelter, clothing, day care, etc. of their grandchildren on a temporary or permanent live-in basis.

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