

Central Falls Data in Your Backyard

Findings from the 2009 Rhode Island KIDS COUNT Factbook



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Rhode Island KIDS COUNT
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Central Falls, Rhode Island

Special Thanks



Special Thanks to
the Central Falls School Department
and Central Falls High School
for hosting today's presentation.

2009 Rhode Island KIDS COUNT Factbook

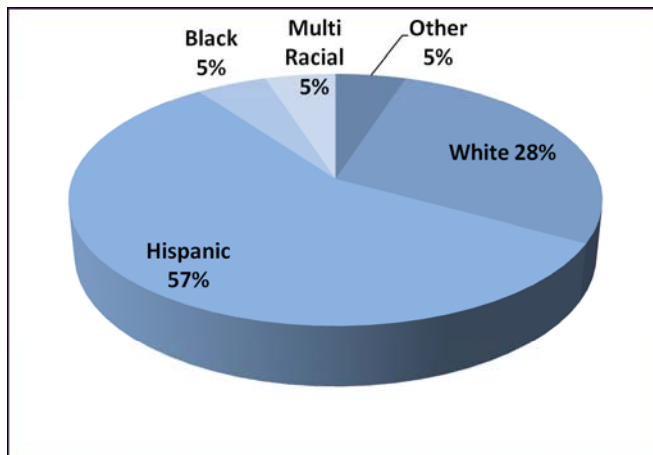


The 2009 Factbook is the 15th annual publication. The 2009 Factbook contains 63 indicators of child well-being, including the new indicator *Housing and Health*. Most indicators include city and town level information.

Family and Community

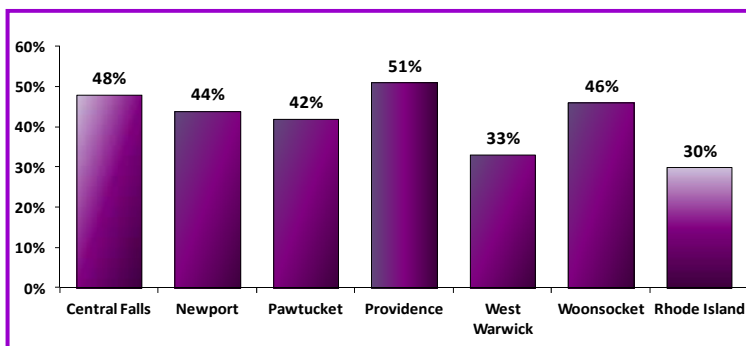


Central Falls Child Population, By Race & Ethnicity, 2000



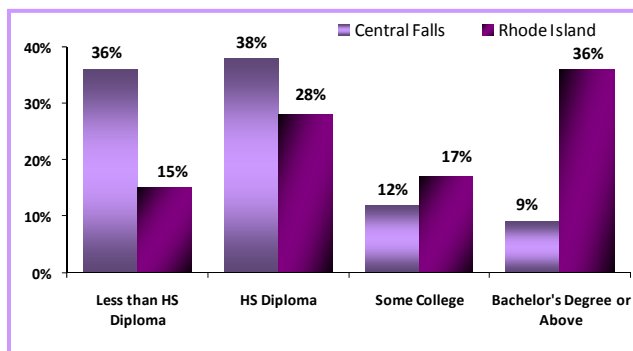
❖ There were 5,531 children under age 18 living in Central Falls in 2000, up from 4,810 in 1990.

Children in Single Parent Families



- ❖ In 2000, 2,370 (48%) children in Central Falls lived in single-parent families, representing the second highest percentage in the state.
- ❖ In 2007, 33% of Rhode Island children lived with a single parent, compared with 32% nationally. Rhode Island ranked 31st out of 50 states (where 1st is best) in the U.S. for the highest rate of children living in single-parent families.
- ❖ In 2007, 78% of all poor children in Rhode Island lived in a single-parent family.

Mother's Education Level, 2003-2007



Source: Rhode Island Department of Health, Division of Family Health, Maternal and Child Health Database, 2003-2007.

- ❖ Research shows strong links between parental education levels and a child's school readiness, health, and the level of education that the child is likely to achieve.
- ❖ In Central Falls, 36% of new mothers had less than a high school diploma, more than double the state rate of 15%. The proportion of new mothers with a bachelor's degree or above is smaller in Central Falls (9%) 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 2008, 37 (9%) Central Falls babies were born with all three risk factors.

Infants Born at Highest Risk, 2008

Core Cities and Rhode Island

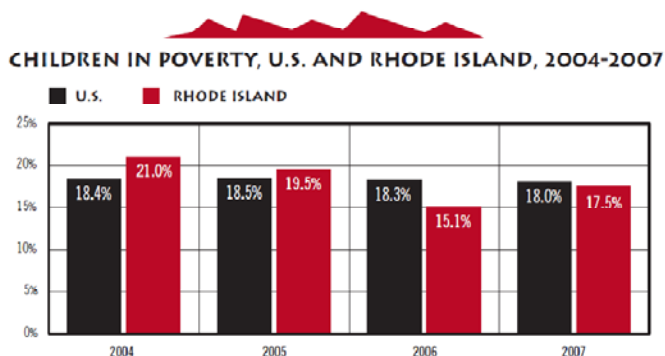
	# of Births	# Born at Highest Risk	%Born at Highest Risk
Central Falls	396	37	9%
Newport	269	8	3%
Pawtucket	1,021	75	7%
Providence	2,900	257	9%
West Warwick	376	20	5%
Woonsocket	624	50	8%
Core Cities	5,586	447	8%
Rhode Island	11,668	607	5%

Source: Rhode Island Department of Health, KIDSNET Database, 2008.

Economic Well-Being



Child Poverty in Rhode Island, 2004-2007

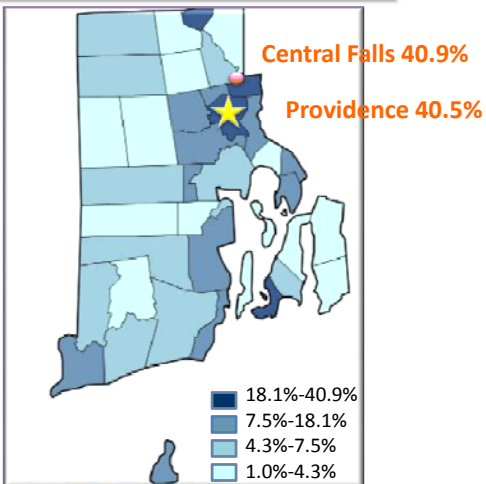


Source: U.S. Bureau of the Census, American Community Survey, 2004-2007.

- ❖ According to the 2008 ACS, 15.5% (34,816) of Rhode Island's children under age 18 with known poverty status lived below the federal poverty threshold.
- ❖ Of the 34,816 children living in poverty, 47.2% lived in extreme poverty. In total, an estimated 16,430 of all children in Rhode Island lived in extreme poverty.
- ❖ Young children and children of color are more likely to live in poverty than older children and White children.

Children in Poverty

Rhode Island Child Poverty Rates, 2000



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Census 2000.
 Map created using the KIDS COUNT Data Center (www.datacenter.kidscount.org)

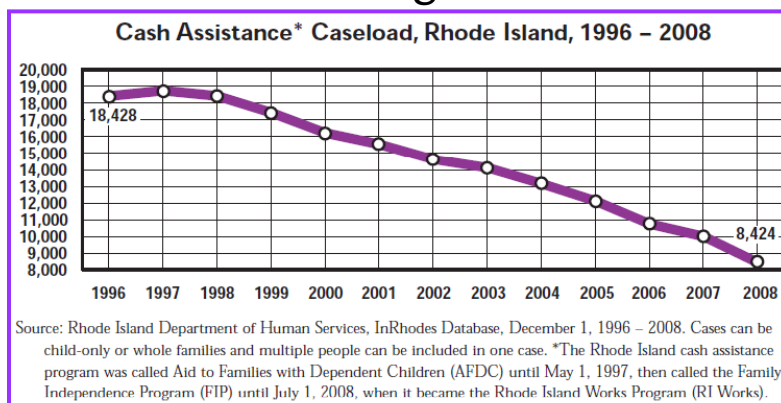
Children in Poverty, 2000

Children under Age 18 in Low-Income Families, 2000

	<50% FPL	<100%FPL	<200% FPL
Central Falls	1,146 (21.2%)	2,210 (40.9%)	3,875 (71.7%)
Newport	773 (14.9%)	1,267 (24.4%)	2,223 (42.8%)
Pawtucket	2,195 (12.2%)	4,542 (25.3%)	9,047 (50.4%)
Providence	8,846 (19.9%)	18,045 (40.5%)	29,796 (66.9%)
West Warwick	462 (7.0%)	1,186 (18.1%)	2,655 (40.5%)
Woonsocket	2,061 (18.8%)	3,494 (31.8%)	5,961 (54.3%)
Rhode Island	19,773 (8.1%)	41,162 (16.9%)	83,420 (34.2%)

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

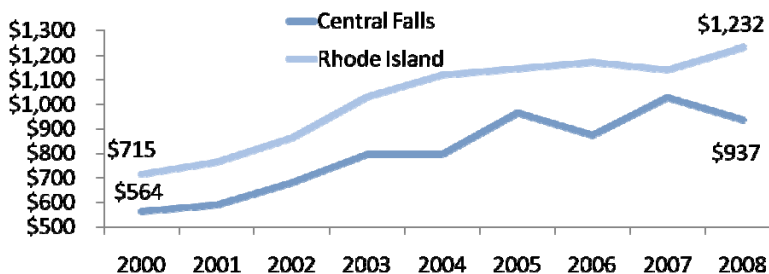
Families Receiving Cash Assistance



- ❖ In December 2008, 14% (758) of children in Central Falls were receiving cash assistance.
- ❖ Almost seven out of ten (69%) RI Works beneficiaries are children under the age of 18. Almost half (49%) of children enrolled in RI Works are under the age of six.
- ❖ Between 1996 and 2008, there was a 54% decline in the Rhode Island cash assistance caseload.

Cost of Rent

Average Cost of a Two Bedroom Apartment, 2000-2008

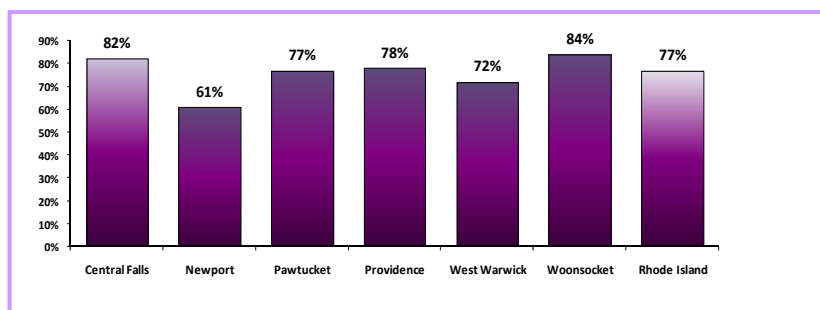


Source: Rhode Island Housing and Mortgage Finance Corporation, 2000 – 2008.

- Housing is considered affordable if it consumes 30% or less of a family's household income. A family of three living at the poverty level in Central Falls would have to devote 64% of their household income to the cost of rent (\$937).
- To afford the average rent in Rhode Island (\$1,232) without a cost burden, a worker would need to earn \$23.69 per hour for forty hours a week, this is almost three times the state's minimum wage in 2007 of \$7.40 per hour.

Children Receiving Food Stamps/SNAP Benefits

% of Income-Eligible Children under Age 18 Participating in the Food Stamp Program

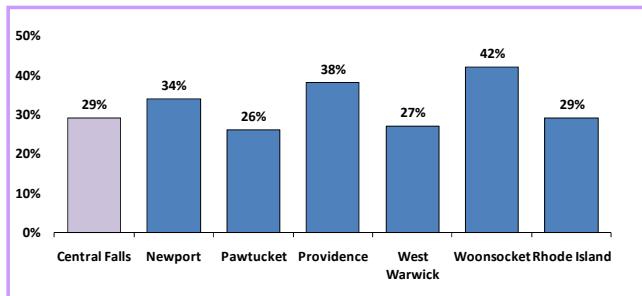


Source: Rhode Island Department of Human Services, 2008.

- ❖ In October 2008, 82% of income-eligible children in Central Falls participated in the Food Stamp/SNAP Program, compared to 77% statewide. This was the second highest participation rate in the state.
- ❖ The 2007 Central Falls participation rate was 81%, similar to the 2008 rate of 82%.
- ❖ 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 Eligible Low-Income Children Participating in School Breakfast, 2008



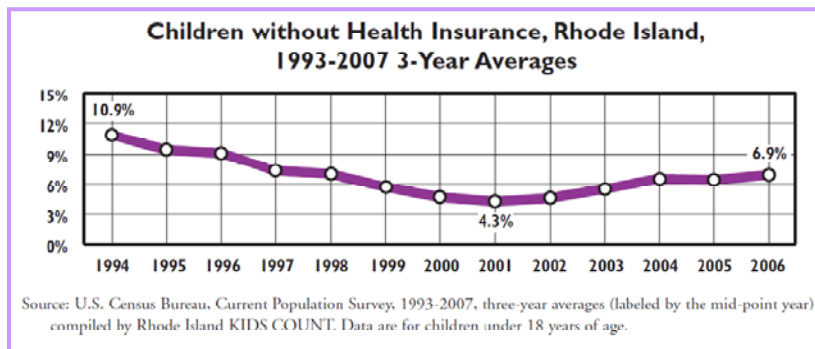
Source: Rhode Island Department of Elementary and Secondary Education, October 2007.

- ❖ In October 2008, an average of 837 (29%) low-income children in Central Falls participated in the Universal School Breakfast Program each day out of 2,895 who were eligible for free or reduced-price breakfast.
- ❖ Students who eat breakfast have significantly higher math and reading scores, fewer absences, improved attentiveness and lower incidences of social and behavioral problems.
- ❖ Research shows that universal school breakfast programs where food is served in the classroom improves student participation.

Health



Children without Health Insurance, Rhode Island, 1993-2007



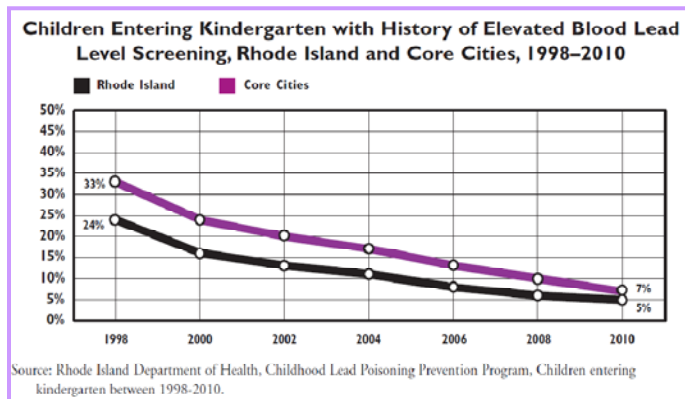
- ❖ In Rhode Island between 2006 and 2008, 7.0% of children under age 18 were uninsured, lower than the national rate of 10.8%. Rhode Island ranks 14th best in the country for lowest percentage of children uninsured.
- ❖ In Rhode Island, the percentage of uninsured children has increased in the last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

Infant Health Outcomes, 2003-2007

	Delayed Prenatal Care	Preterm Births	Low Birthweight Infants	Infant Mortality Rate/1000 Births
Central Falls	17.2%	11.6%	6.5%	8.4
Newport	11.9%	11.6%	7.4%	5.8
Pawtucket	14.7%	12.1%	8.8%	7.3
Providence	17.4%	13.9%	9.5%	8.9
West Warwick	12.5%	10.8%	7.5%	5.4
Woonsocket	15.4%	13.7%	9.9%	6.4
Remainder of State	8.8%	11.1%	7.4%	5.0
Core City Avg.	16.0%	13.0%	8.9%	7.9
Rhode Island	12.1%	12.0%	8.1%	6.3

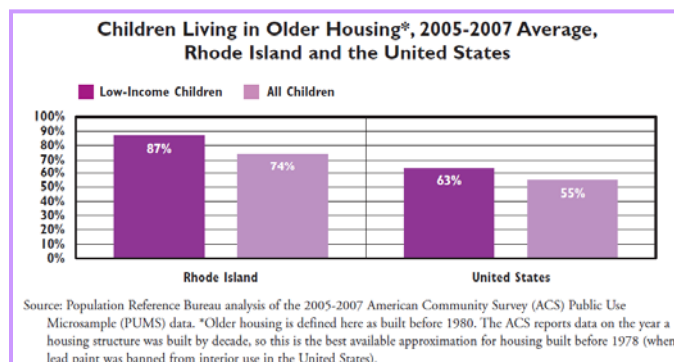
- ❖ Early prenatal care is important to identify and treat health problems and influence health behaviors that can compromise fetal development, infant health and maternal health.
- ❖ Infants born low birthweight are at higher risk for health and developmental problems than infants born at normal birthweight. Of the six core cities, Central Falls has the lowest rate of infants born with low birthweight.
- ❖ The Central Falls infant mortality rate is the third highest in the state at 8.4 per 1,000 births, almost double the 2002-2006 rate of 4.5 per 1,000 live births.

Children with Elevated Blood Lead Levels



- ❖ Despite declines in lead poisoning rates, kindergarten children living in Rhode Island's core cities are more likely to have a history of confirmed elevated blood lead levels (5.2%) than children in the remainder of the state (1.3%).
- ❖ Of the 436 Central Falls children who will enter kindergarten in the fall of 2010 who were screened for elevated blood lead levels, 30 (6.9%) screened positive initially and 26 (6.0%) were confirmed positive for lead levels ≥ 10 mcg/dL.

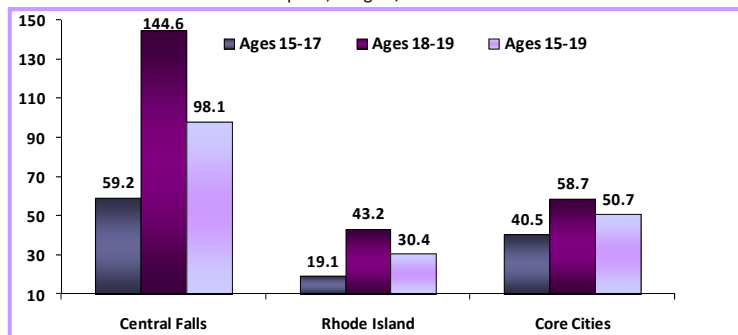
Housing and Health



- ❖ In both Rhode Island and the nation as a whole, children in low-income families are more likely to live in older housing than children in general. Between 2005 and 2007, 87% of low-income children in Rhode Island lived in older housing, the highest percentage in any state.
- ❖ Low-income families are more likely to lack the resources required to maintain, repair or improve their homes in ways that reduce residential health hazards such as lead paint, unsafe stairs, leaks, and cracks that may allow moisture or rodents to enter the home.
- ❖ Asthma rates are another indicator of housing quality. Between 2003 and 2007, Central Falls had the second highest rate of childhood asthma hospitalizations in Rhode Island at 6.1 per 1,000 children under age 18.

Births to Teens

Births per 1,000 girls, 2003-2007



Source: Rhode Island Department of Health, 2003-2007.

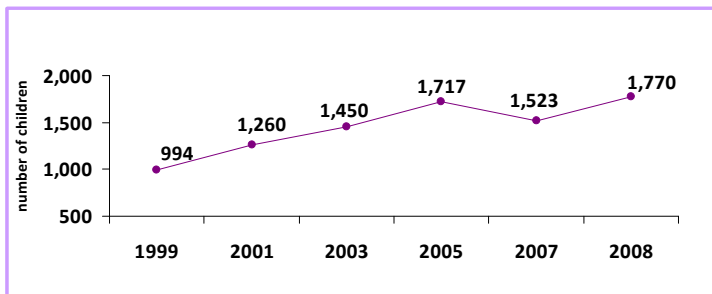
- ❖ The teen birth rate per 1,000 teen girls is higher in Central Falls than in any other community in the state for all age groups.
- ❖ Although the teen birth rate in Central Falls has decreased for younger teens age 15-17 (from 65.1 between 1999 and 2003 to 59.2 between 2003 and 2007) it is still more than triple the state rate (19.1 per 1,000 teen girls).
- ❖ Between 2003 and 2007 in Rhode Island, almost one in five teen births (18%) were to teens who were already mothers (repeat births).

Safety



Homeless Children & Youth

Children and Youth Living in Shelters, RI, 1998-2007



Source: Rhode Island Emergency Shelter Information Project, Annual Reports 1999-2007.

- ❖ In 2008, 1,770 children and youth under age 18 received emergency housing in a homeless shelter or a domestic violence shelter in RI. Of these, 264 were youth ages 13-17 who entered the RI emergency shelter system accompanied by an adult.
- ❖ Sixty-three of these children and youth lived in families whose last permanent residence was in Central Falls, making up 3.6% of children and youth in RI shelters in 2008.
- ❖ In Rhode Island, between July 1, 2007 and June 30, 2008, 953 families sought emergency shelter, a 21% increase from the previous year. More than one in six (18%) of these children had experienced homelessness before.

Juveniles Referred to Family Court and Youth at the Training School

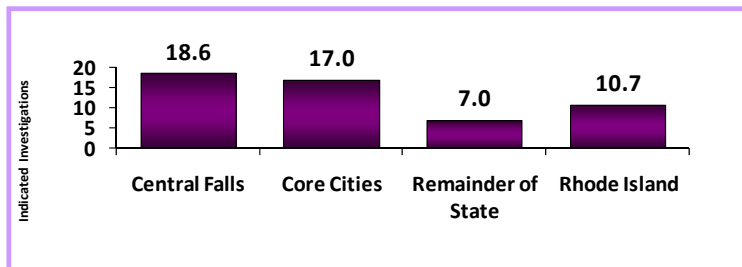
- v Of the wayward and delinquent offenses referred to Family Court in Rhode Island during 2008, 74% were committed by males and 26% by females.
- v 50% of offenses were committed by youth between the ages of 16-17, 35% by youth ages 14 and 15, 14% by youth ages 13 or younger, and 1% by youth over age 17.
- v In 2008, 8,790 wayward or delinquent offenses were referred to Family Court.
- ❖ In 2008, 48 youth from Central Falls passed through the Training School. In Rhode Island, a total of 1,037 youth passed through the Training School in 2008.

Types of Juvenile Wayward/Delinquent Offenses Referred to Family Court, 2008

28% - Property Crimes	5% - Traffic Offenses
17% - Status Offenses	4% - Violent Crimes
19% - Disorderly Conduct	3% - Weapons Offenses
10% - Simple Assault	5% - Other
8% - Alcohol and Drug Offenses	

Child Abuse & Neglect

Victims of Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 children,
Providence, Core Cities, Remainder of State and Rhode Island, 2008



❖ In 2008 in Central Falls, there were 103 children who were victims of child abuse and neglect, a rate of 18.6 per 1,000 children. This is higher than the core city combined rate of 17.0 victims per 1,000 children and significantly higher than the state rate of 10.7 child abuse and neglect victims per 1,000 children.

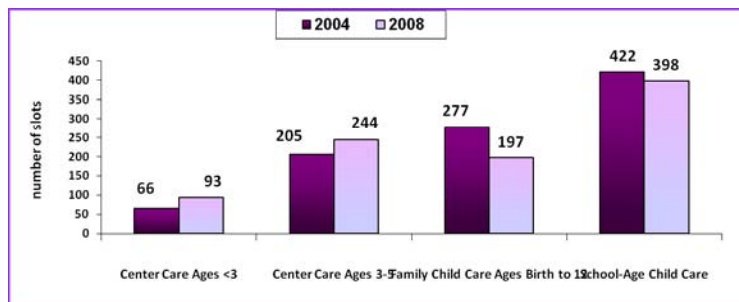
❖ In 2008 in Rhode Island, 79% of child abuse and neglect victims were victims of neglect, 10% physical abuse, 4% sexual abuse, and less than 7% other forms of neglect/abuse.

Education



Early Care & Education

Child Care Slots for Children in Central Falls



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

- ❖ Child care enables parents to work and, when it is high-quality, supports child development and school readiness.
- ❖ In 2008 in Central Falls, there were 534 slots for children under age six in licensed child care centers and certified family child care homes.
- ❖ In 2008 there were 398 licensed school-age child care slots in Central Falls for six to twelve year olds, down from 422 in 2004.
- ❖ Nationally in 2007, 62% of children under age 6 had all parents in the workforce, compared with 70% in Rhode Island.

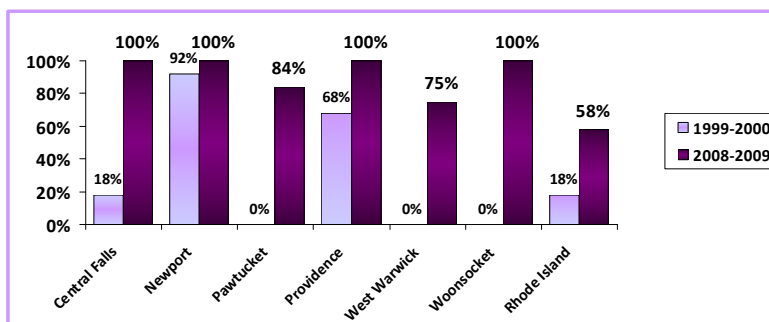
Children Enrolled in Early Head Start, 2008

- ❖ According to Census 2000, an estimated 526 children in Central Falls under age three were income-eligible for enrollment in the Early Head Start program. *In 2008, of these children, 50 (9%) were enrolled in Early Head Start.*
- ❖ In 2008, Early Head Start served 4% of the estimated 9,365 eligible children under age three in Rhode Island.

Children Enrolled in Head Start, 2008

- ❖ According to Census 2000, an estimated 342 children in Central Falls were eligible for enrollment in the Head Start preschool program. *In 2008, 137 (40%) Central Falls children were enrolled in Head Start.*
- ❖ In 2008, Head Start served 40% of the estimated 6,200 eligible children ages three to four in Rhode Island.

Children in Full-Day Kindergarten



Source: Rhode Island Department of Elementary and Secondary Education, 1999-2000 & 2007-2008.

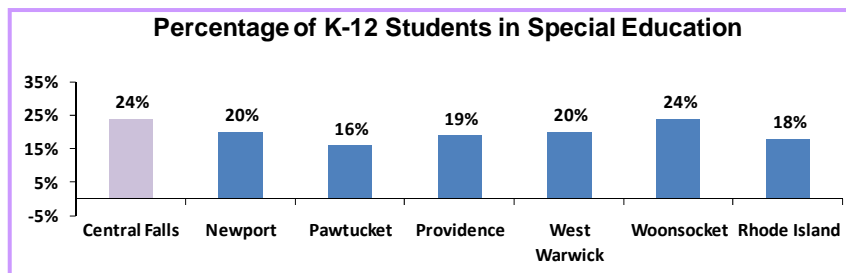
- ❖ As of the 2008-2009 school year, 13 school districts in RI offered universal access to full-day kindergarten classrooms, including Central Falls. Another eight school districts operated at least one full-day kindergarten classroom.
- ❖ The percentage of children participating in full-day kindergarten in Central Falls has more than quintupled, from 18% in 1999-2000 to 100% in 2008-2009.
- ❖ Full-day kindergarten programs can be especially beneficial to poor and minority children and can contribute significantly to closing academic achievement gaps.

English Language Learners

	Total Number of ELL Students (Grades Pre-K-12)	Total % of District
Central Falls	728	22%
Newport	62	3%
Pawtucket	871	10%
Providence	3,615	15%
West Warwick	86	2%
Woonsocket	275	4%
Core Cities	5,637	12%
Rhode Island	7,427	5%

- ❖ During the 2007-2008 school year, 728 (22%) of Central Falls' 3,338 students were English Language Learners, representing the highest percentage of ELL students in any RI district. In the 2003-2004 school year, 28% of Central Falls students were ELLs.
- ❖ 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 2008 in Rhode Island, 8% of eighth-grade ELL students scored at or above proficiency in math, compared to 53% of all Rhode Island eighth-graders.

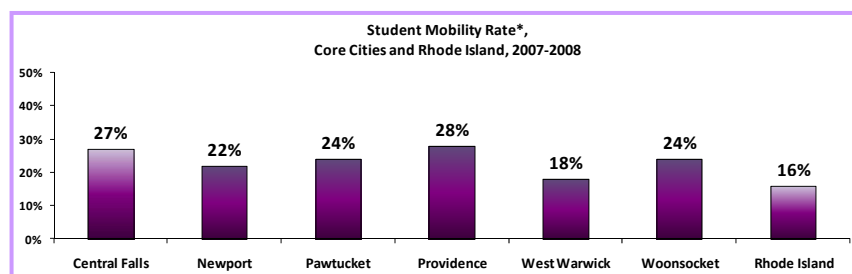
Children in Special Education



Source: Rhode Island Department of Elementary and Secondary Education, 2007-2008.

- ❖ In the 2006-2007 school year (the most recent year national data were tabulated), Rhode Island had the highest percentage (20%) of public school students with IEPs in the U.S., compared with 13% in the U.S. overall.
- ❖ In the 2007-2008 school year, 24% of Central Falls students were enrolled in special education, higher than the state rate of 18%.
- ❖ There were an additional 2,866 preschool-age students receiving special education services in RI in 2007-2008.

Student Mobility



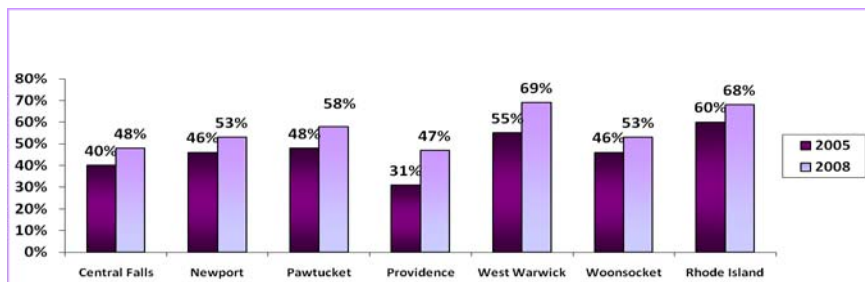
Source: Rhode Island Department of Elementary and Secondary Education, 2007-2008.

- ❖ 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 move are absent more often than students who do not move. Rhode Island students who did not change schools had a 92% attendance rate, compared with 75% for those who changed schools between one and three times during the 2006-2007 academic year.
- ❖ The mobility rate in Central Falls (27%) is the second highest in the state behind Providence.

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

Fourth Grade Reading Skills

Fourth-Grade Reading Proficiency
% At or Above the Proficiency Level
Core Cities and Rhode Island, 2005 & 2008



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

- ❖ Between 2005 and 2008, the percentage of fourth grade students in Central Falls public schools who were proficient in reading increased from 40% to 48% .
- ❖ Despite these significant improvements, Central Falls has the second lowest 4th grade reading proficiency level in the state, after Providence.
- ❖ The Central Falls 4th grade math proficiency rate rose from 28% to 39% for 4th graders and from 16% to 27% for 8th graders between 2005 and 2008.

School Suspensions, 2008

School District	# of Students Enrolled	Out-of-School Suspension	In-School Suspension	Alternative Program Placement	Total Disciplinary Actions	Actions per 100 Students
Central Falls	3,338	905	635	0	1,540	46
Core Cities	47,962	13,199	8,896	1,741	23,836	50
Remainder of State	92,946	11,179	5,705	1,879	18,763	20
Rhode Island	144,534	24,837	14,660	3,621	43,118	30

Source: RI Department of Elementary and Secondary Education, 2007-2008.

- ❖ Suspended students are more likely than other students to have poor academic performance, become disengaged from school and to drop out.
- ❖ In 2007-2008 in Central Falls, there were 417 out-of-school suspensions for attendance-related infractions, 406 of which were at the high school.

High School Graduation and Dropout Rates* Class of 2008

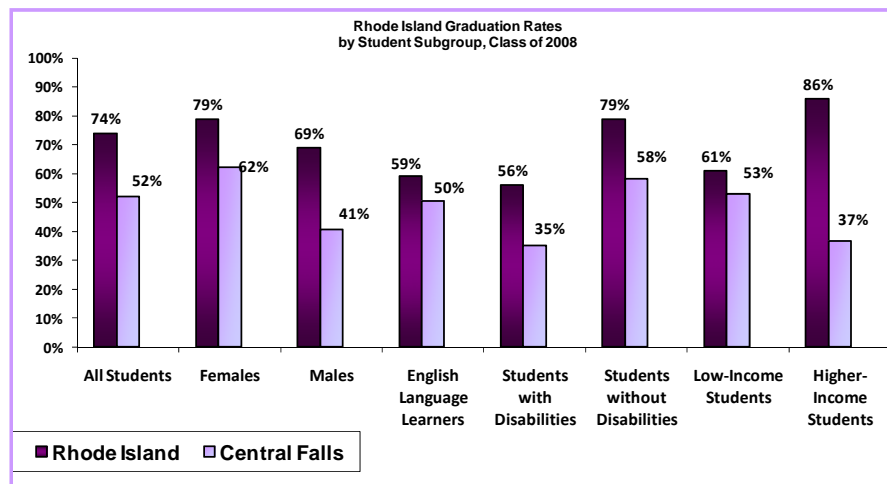
	Graduation Rate	Dropout Rate	% Received GED	% Still in School
Central Falls	52%	29%	2%	16%
Newport	66%	22%	3%	9%
Pawtucket	57%	26%	6%	11%
Providence	63%	26%	2%	9%
West Warwick	68%	19%	4%	10%
Woonsocket	60%	28%	3%	9%
Rhode Island	74%	16%	3%	7%

Source: Rhode Island Department of Elementary and Secondary Education, Class of 2008.

- ❖ This chart shows the percentage of students who matriculated as freshmen in 2004-2005 who graduated, dropped out, or completed their GED within four years or who were still in high school the following year. These percentages are based on actual student counts using the unique student identifier system.
- ❖ In Central Falls in 2008, 52% of students graduated from high school on-time, compared to 74% for the state as a whole.

*Percentages may not sum to 100% due to rounding.

High School Graduation Rates



Source: Rhode Island Department of Elementary and Secondary Education, Class of 2008.



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