

Central Falls Data in Your Backyard

Findings from the *2010 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.

2010 Rhode Island KIDS COUNT Factbook

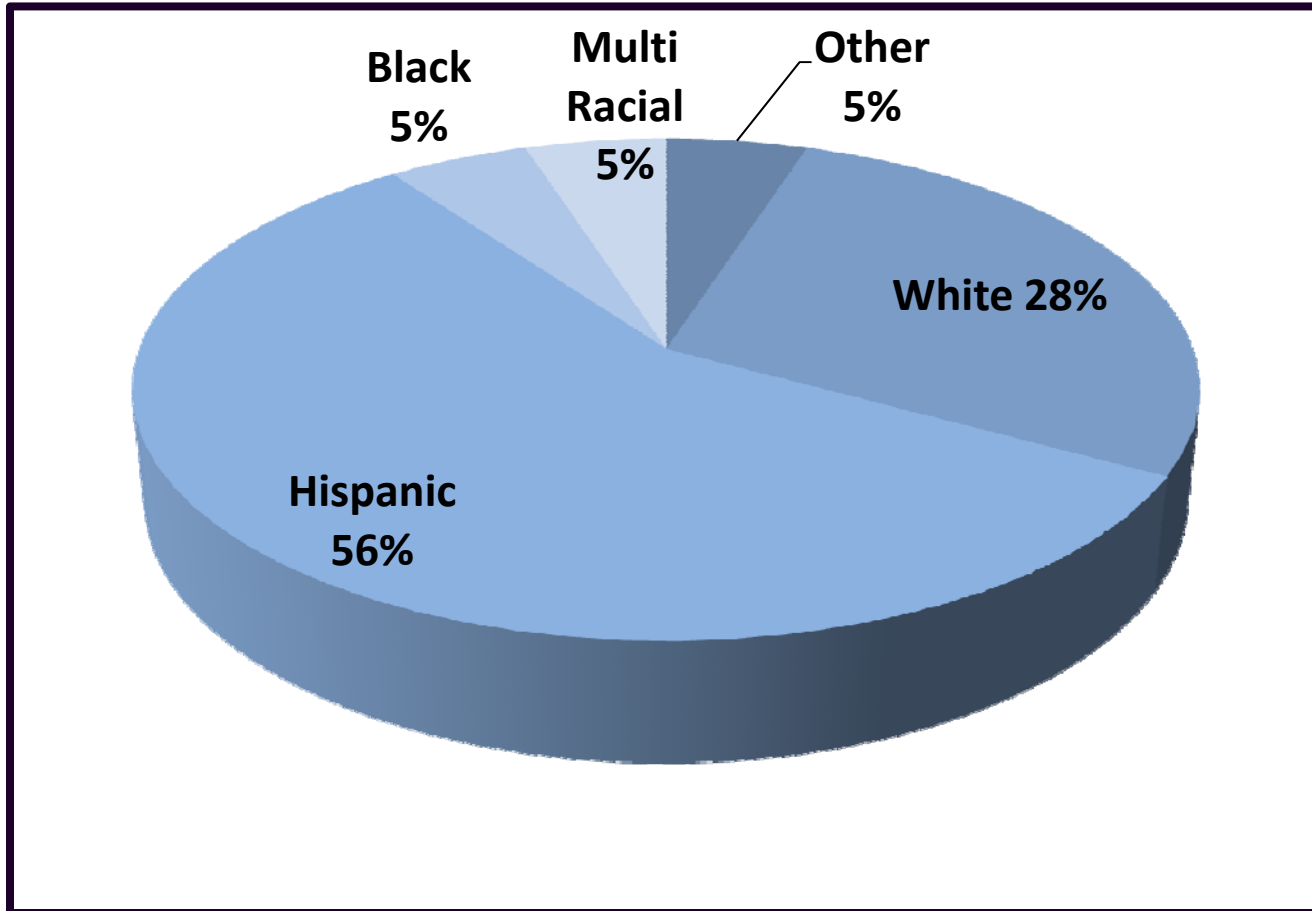


The 2010 Factbook is the 16th annual publication. The 2010 Factbook contains 67 indicators of child well-being, including 5 new indicators on youth and education. Most indicators include city and town level information.

Family and Community

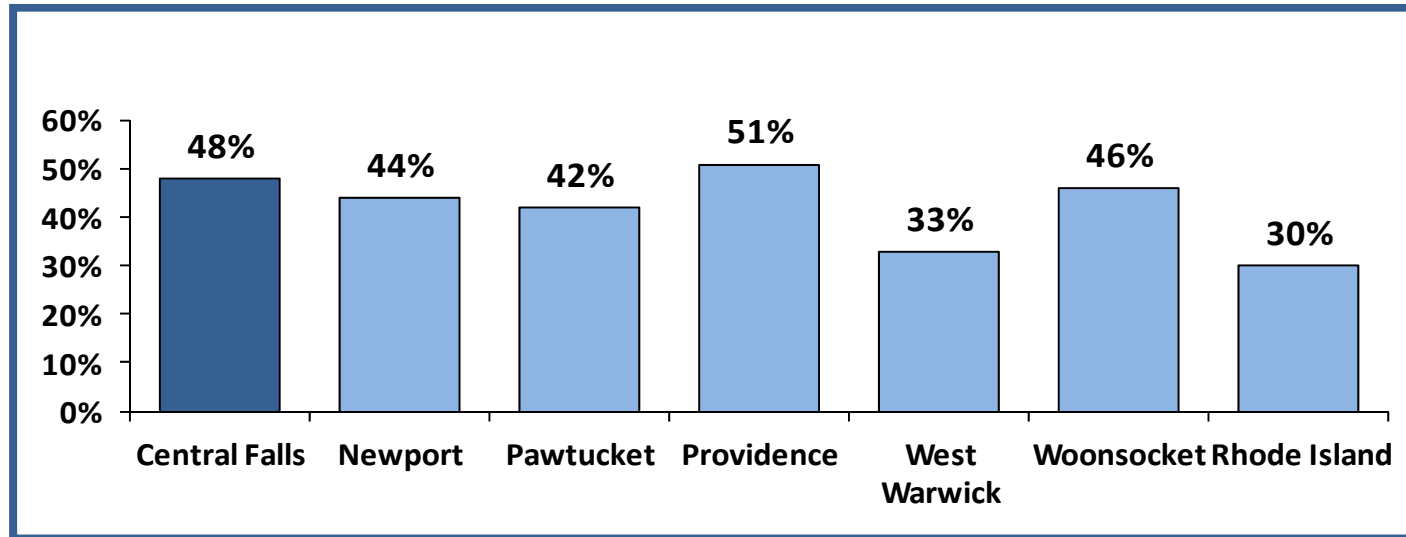


Central Falls Child Population, By Race & Ethnicity, 2000



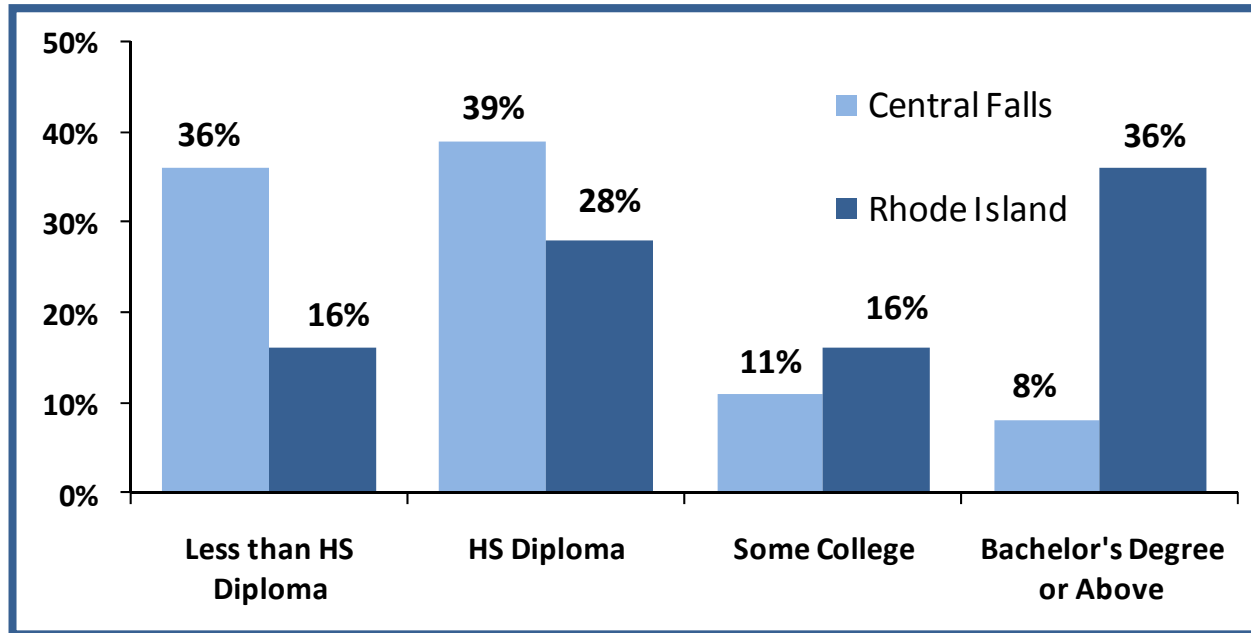
There were 5,531 children under age 18 living in Central Falls in 2000, up from 4,810 in 1990.

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 2008, 34% of Rhode Island children lived with a single parent, compared with 32% nationally. Rhode Island ranked 36th out of 50 states (where 1st is best) in the U.S. for the highest rate of children living in single-parent families.
- ❖ Between 2006 and 2008, 80% of all poor children in Rhode Island lived in a single-parent family.

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 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 16%. The proportion of new mothers with a bachelor's degree or above is much smaller in Central Falls (8%) 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, 34 (10%) Central Falls 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 in Rhode Island

- ❖ The poverty level in 2009 was \$17,285 for a family of three with two children and \$21,756 for a family of four with two children.
- ❖ The extreme poverty level in 2009 was \$8,643 for a family of three with two children and \$10,878 for a family of four with two children.
- ❖ The Poverty Institute's *2010 Rhode Island Standard of Need* states that a single parent with two children who has an income of \$32,043 a year (175% of the federal poverty level) would be \$1,184 short of paying for basic needs each month without subsidized child care and health care (Rlte Care).

Children in Poverty, 2000

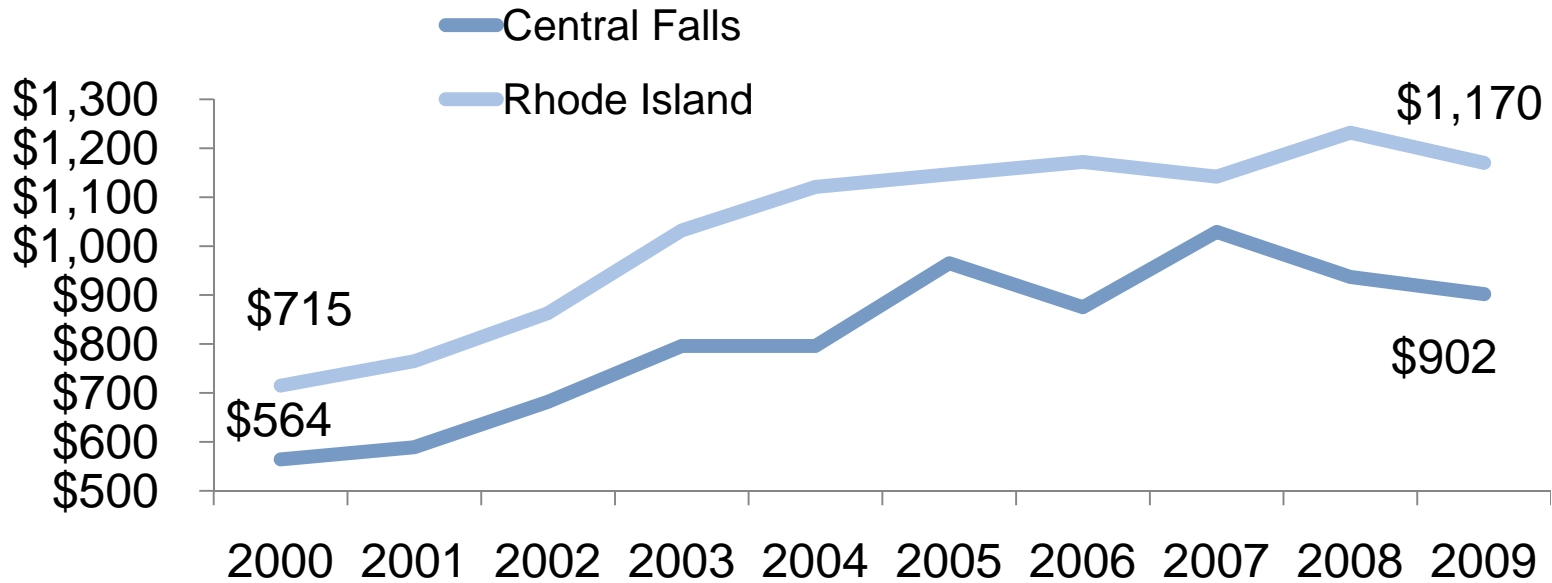
Children under Age 18 in Low-Income Families, 2000

	<50% FPL	<100%FPL	<200% FPL
Central Falls	1,146 (21.2%)	2,210 (40.9%)	3,875 (71.8%)
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. Census Bureau, 2000.

Cost of Housing

Average Cost of a Two Bedroom Apartment, 2000-2009



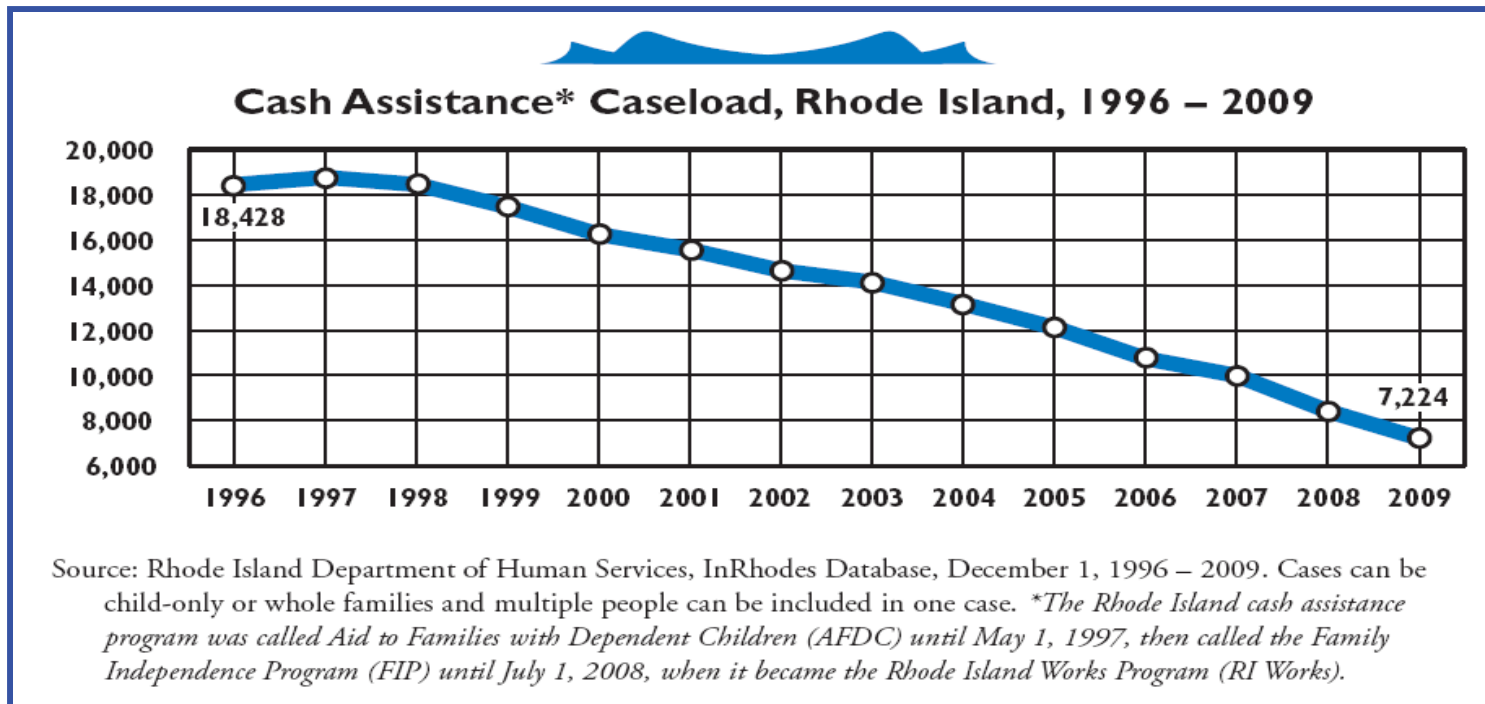
Source: Rhode Island Housing and Mortgage Finance Corporation, 2000 – 2009.

- ❖ To afford the average rent in Rhode Island of \$1,170 without a cost burden, a worker would need to earn \$22.50 per hour and work 40 hours a week year-round. This is more than 3 times the state's minimum wage of \$7.40 per hour.
- ❖ In 2009, the average cost of housing in Central Falls was **\$902**. A family of three living at the poverty level in Central Falls would have to devote 59% of its household income to the cost of rent. Housing is considered to be affordable if it consumes 30% or less of a family's household income.

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.
 - Central Falls was the last permanent residence for 81 of these children.
- ❖ During the 2008-2009 school year, Rhode Island public school personnel identified 1,099 children as homeless.
 - Central Falls Public School personnel identified 29 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, 11% (615) of children in Central Falls were receiving cash assistance, down from 20% (1,104) in December 2007.
- ❖ More than two-thirds (67%) of RI Works beneficiaries are children under age 18. More than half (54%) of children enrolled in RI Works are under age 6.
- ❖ In SFY 2010, the state budget included no general revenue spending for cash assistance.

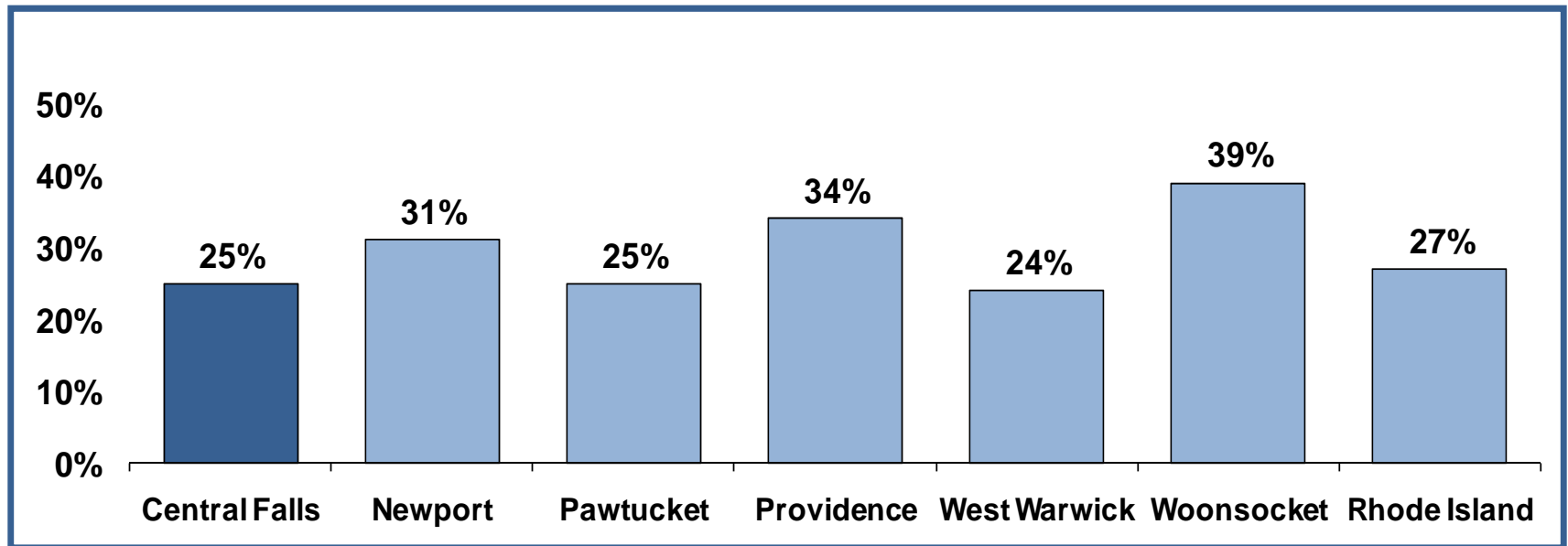
Children Receiving SNAP Benefits

	# 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%

- ❖ In October 2009, 2,917 Central Falls children were receiving SNAP benefits, a 43% 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 Eligible Low-Income Children Participating in School Breakfast, 2009



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

- ❖ In October 2009, an average of 654 (25%) low-income children in Central Falls participated in the Universal School Breakfast Program each day out of 2,600 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 improve student participation.

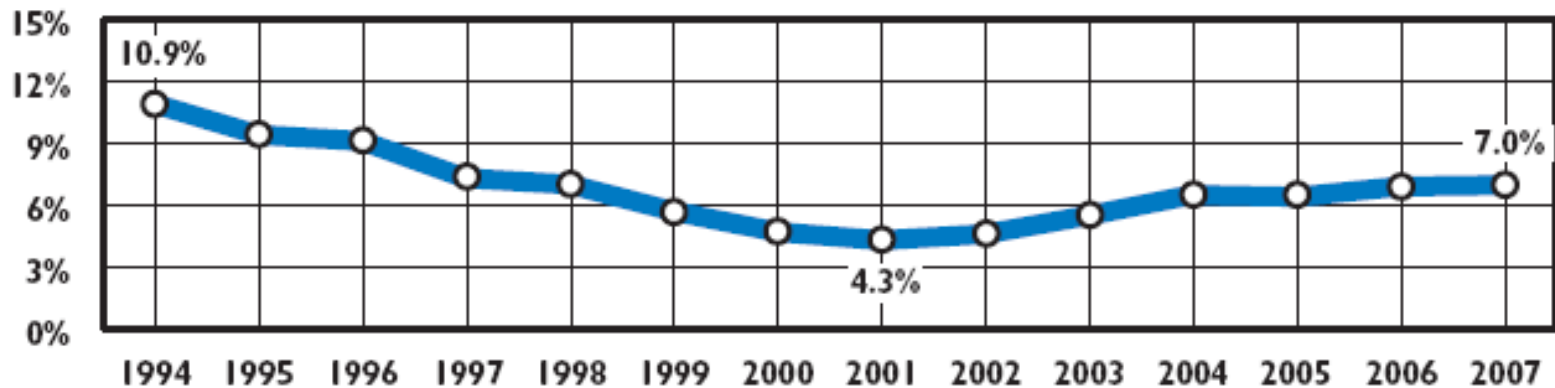
Health



Uninsured Children in Rhode Island



Children Without Health Insurance, Rhode Island, 1993-2008



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Current Population Survey, 1993-2008, three-year averages (labeled by the mid-point year), compiled by Rhode Island KIDS COUNT. Data are for children under 18 years of age.

- ❖ Census data released earlier this fall showed that between 2007 and 2009, 7.7% of Rhode Island children under age 18 were uninsured, lower than the national rate of 10.3%. Rhode Island ranks 19th 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 coverage.

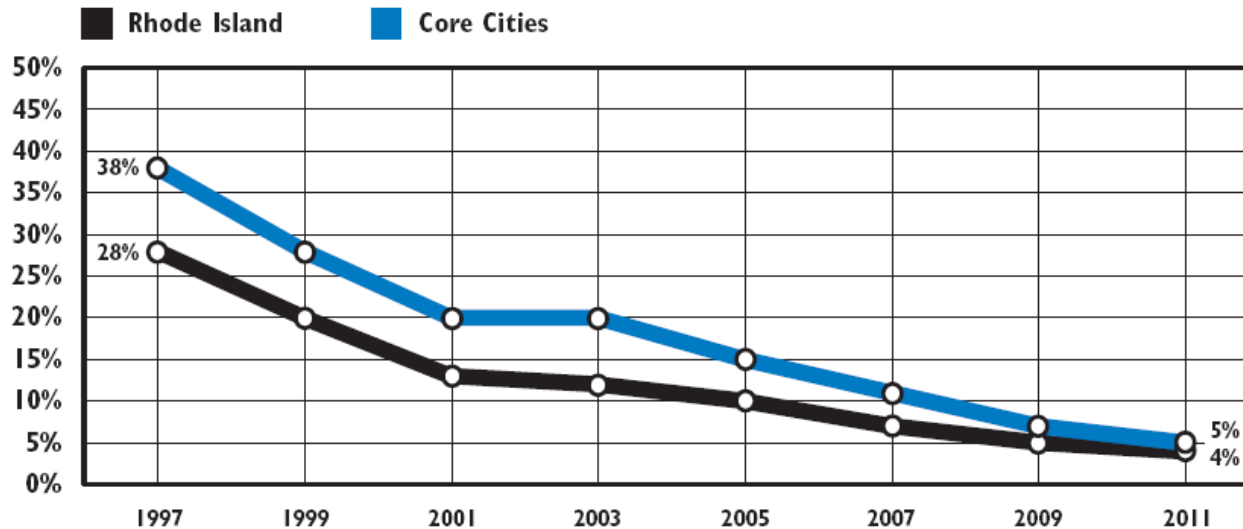
Infant Health Outcomes, 2004-2008

	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
Remainder of State	10.2%	10.9%	7.2%	4.9
Core Cities	18.2%	13.1%	8.9%	7.6
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.
- ❖ The Central Falls delayed prenatal care rate is the second highest in the state, at 19.0%.
- ❖ The Central Falls infant mortality rate (8.4 per 1,000 births) is the second highest in Rhode Island.

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 378 Central Falls children who will enter kindergarten in the fall of 2011 who were screened for elevated blood lead levels:
 - ❖ 20 (5.3%) screened positive (finger prick test)
 - ❖ 18 (4.8%) were confirmed positive for elevated blood lead levels ≥ 10 mcg/dL with a secondary blood test (the second highest rate in RI)

Children With Asthma

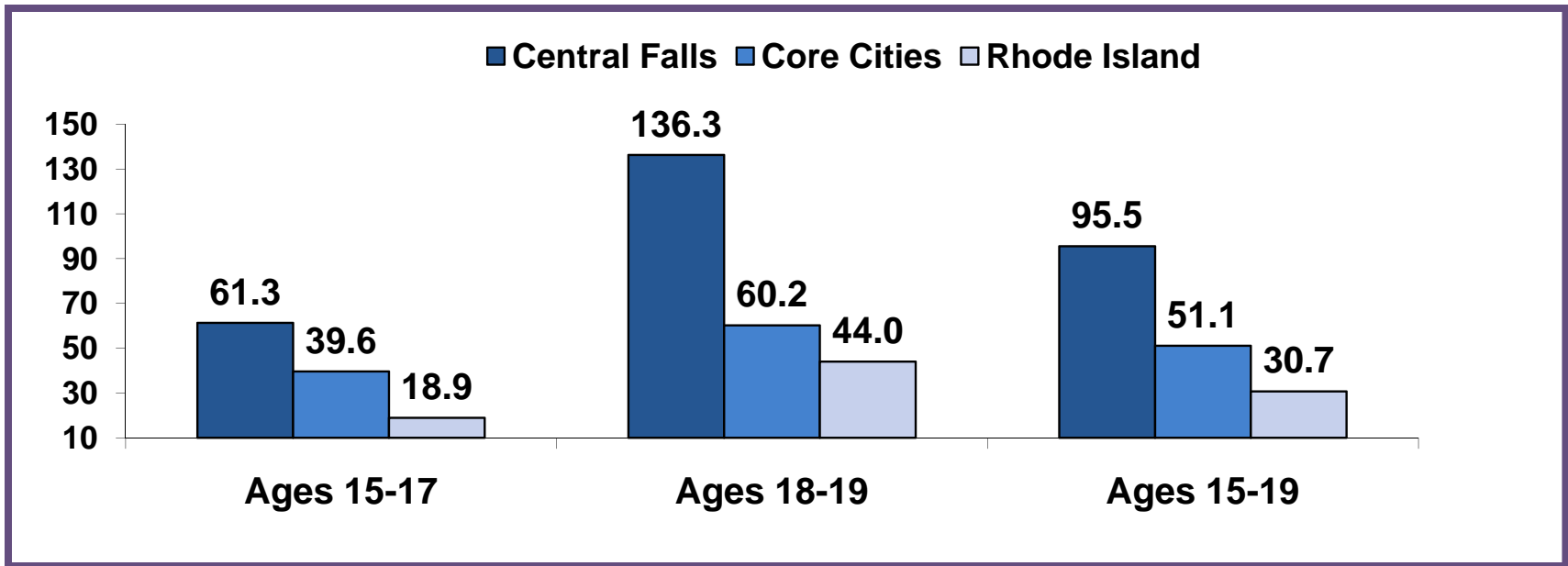
City/Town	Number of Children Hospitalized	Rate per 1,000 Children
Central Falls	74	2.7
Newport	43	1.7
Pawtucket	235	2.6
Providence	678	3.0
West Warwick	58	1.7
Woonsocket	105	1.9
Rhode Island	2,268	1.8

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, the asthma hospitalization rate for Black children was almost 4 times the rate for non-Hispanic White children. Hispanic children were hospitalized for asthma almost 2 ½ times as often as White children.
- ❖ Between 2004-2008, 74 children from Central Falls were hospitalized with a primary diagnosis of asthma, a rate of 2.7 children hospitalized per 1,000 children.
- ❖ 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 per 1,000 girls, 2004-2008



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

- ❖ **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.**
- ❖ The teen birth rate in Central Falls for younger teens age 15-17 (61.3 per 1,000 teen girls) is more than triple the state rate (18.9 per 1,000 teen girls).
- ❖ Between 2004 and 2008 in Rhode Island, almost one in five teen births (18%) were to teens who were already mothers (repeat births).

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, compared with 5% of Central Falls public high school students, reported ever experiencing violence at school.
- ❖ In Rhode Island, lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender youth, youth with disabilities and youth with low grades (Ds and Fs) 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 and who lack 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. Youth who drop out of high school

Juveniles Referred to Family Court and Youth at the 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	

- ❖ 51% of juvenile offenses in Rhode Island were committed by youth between the ages of 16-17, 34% by youth ages 14 and 15, 14% by youth ages 13 or younger, and 1% by youth over age 17.
- ❖ In 2009, 18 youth from Central Falls passed through the Training School, down from 48 in 2008. In Rhode Island, a total of 894 youth passed through the Training School in 2009.

Child Abuse & Neglect

Victims of Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 children,
Central Falls, Core Cities, Remainder of State and Rhode Island, 2009



❖ In 2009 in Central Falls, there were 107 children who were victims of child abuse and neglect, a rate of 19.3 per 1,000 children. This is higher than the core city combined rate of 17.4 victims per 1,000 children and significantly higher than the state rate of 11.7 child abuse and neglect victims per 1,000 children.

❖ In 2009 in Rhode Island, 78% of child abuse and neglect victims were victims of neglect, 13% physical abuse, 4% sexual abuse, and 5% other forms of neglect/abuse.

Education



Children Enrolled in Early Head Start, 2009

- ❖ According to Census 2000, an estimated 527 children in Central Falls under age three were income-eligible for enrollment in the Early Head Start program. *In 2009, of these children, 48 (9%) were enrolled in Early Head Start.*
- ❖ In 2009, Early Head Start served 4% of the estimated 9,365 eligible children under age three in Rhode Island.

Children Enrolled in Head Start, 2009

- ❖ According to Census 2000, an estimated 342 children in Central Falls were eligible for enrollment in the Head Start preschool program. *In 2009, 98 (29%) Central Falls children were enrolled in Head Start.*
- ❖ In 2009, Head Start served 40% of the estimated 6,200 eligible children ages three to four in Rhode Island.

Public School Enrollment and Demographics

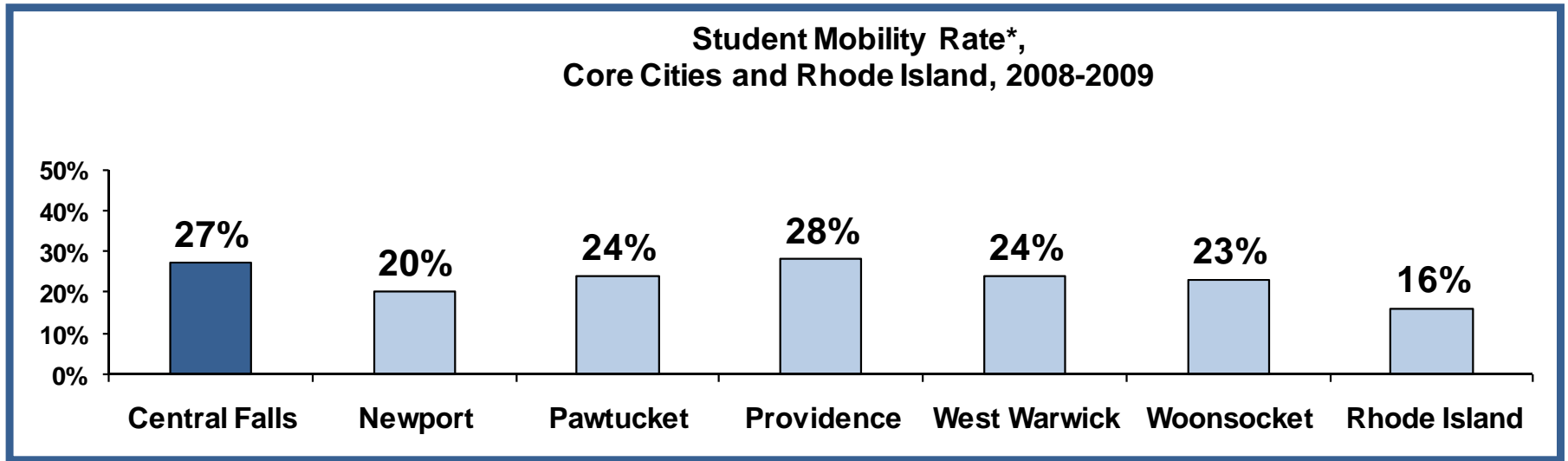
- On October 1, 2009, there were 2,862 students enrolled in Central Falls public schools in grades pre-K through 12.
 - 1,312 students were in grades K-5
 - 668 were in grades 6-8
 - 808 were in grades 9-12
 - 74 children were enrolled in preschool special education classrooms in public schools
- ❖ 12% of Central Falls public school students were non-Hispanic White, 72% were Hispanic, 15% were Black, and less than 2% were Asian or Native American.
- ❖ **76% of Central Falls public school students were low-income (students who qualified for the free or reduced-price lunch program).**
- ❖ **99% of kindergarteners in the Central Falls School District were enrolled in full-day classrooms in 2009-2010** [Note: Two students at Robertson Elementary School were reported as attending half-day kindergarten classes]
- ❖ An additional 21,007 students in Rhode Island attended private and parochial schools and 1,135 students were home schooled in 2009-2010.

English Language Learners

	Total Number of ELL Students (Grades 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%

- ❖ During the 2008-2009 school year, 642 (21%) of the 3,100 students in Central Falls were English Language Learners, the highest percentage in the state.
- ❖ 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



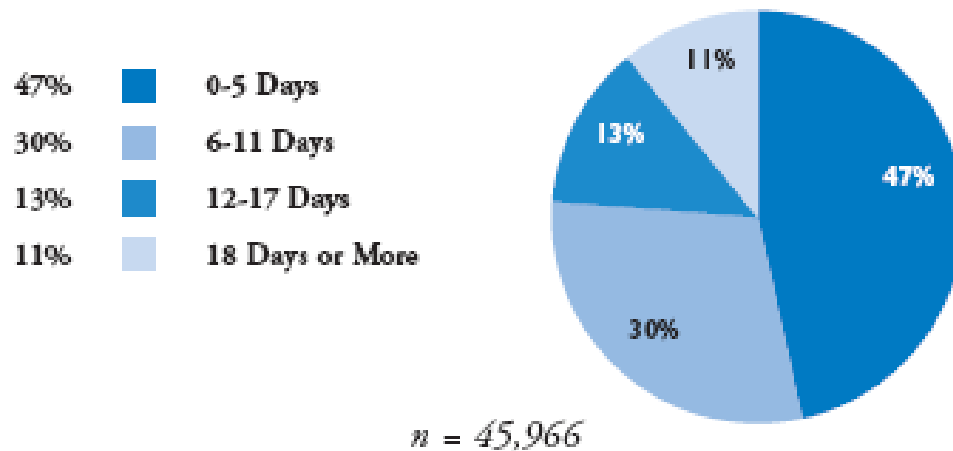
Source: Rhode Island Department of Elementary and Secondary Education, 2008-2009.

- ❖ According to an analysis by the Providence Plan, students in Rhode Island 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.
- ❖ The mobility rate in Central Falls (27%) is the second highest the state.

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

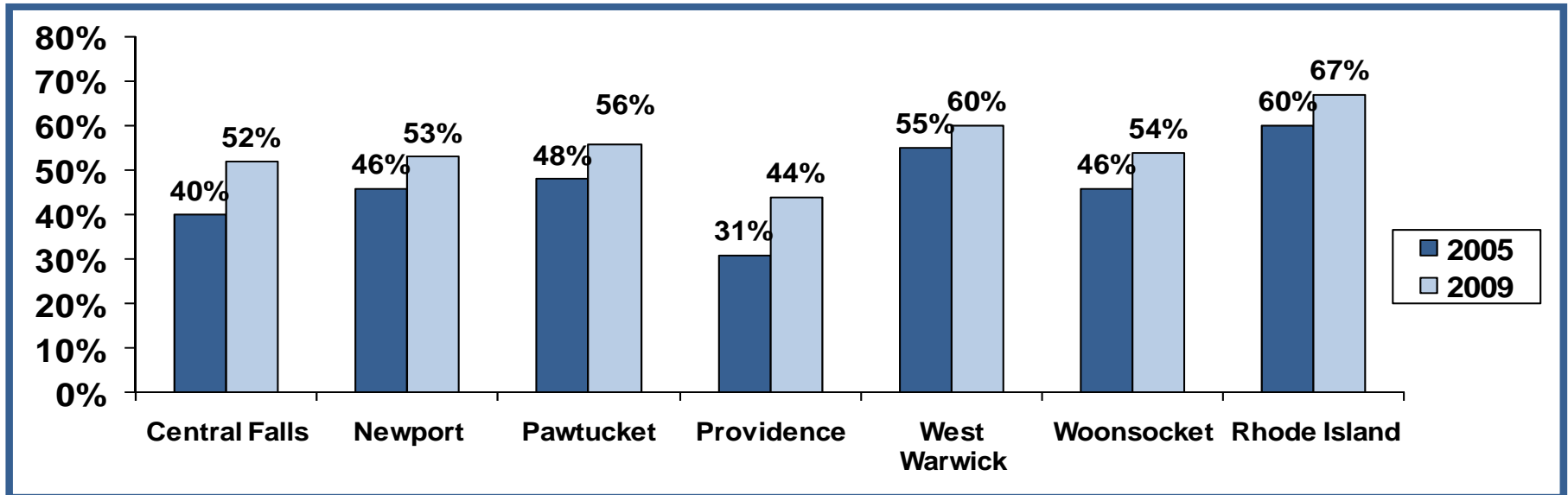


Source: Rhode Island Department of Elementary and Secondary Education, 2008-2009 school year.

- ❖ *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, 17% of Central Falls children (205 children) in grades K-3 were chronically absent (i.e. absent 18 days or more), significantly higher than the state rate of 11%.

Fourth-Grade Reading Skills

Fourth-Grade Reading Proficiency
% At or Above the Proficiency Level on the NECAP
Core Cities and Rhode Island, 2005 & 2009



Source: Rhode Island Department of Elementary and Secondary Education, NECAP, 2005 & 2009.

❖ Between 2005 and 2009, the percentage of fourth grade students in Central Falls public schools who were proficient in reading increased from 40% to 52%. Despite these significant improvements, Central Falls has the second lowest 4th grade reading proficiency level in the state, after Providence.

❖ Between 2005 and 2009, the percentage of eighth grade students in Central Falls public school who were proficient in reading also increased from 27% to 43%, but Central Falls still has the lowest 8th grade reading proficiency level in the state.

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
Central Falls	28%	41%	16%	28%
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.

Suspensions

- ❖ During the 2008-2009 school year, Central Falls had a suspension rate of 3 disciplinary actions per 100 students, down from 46 the year before.
- ❖ Disciplinary actions may include out-of-school suspensions, in-school suspensions, and alternative program placements.
- ❖ In Rhode Island, low-income students, minority students, and students with disabilities are all more likely to be suspended than other students.
- ❖ Suspension usually does not deter students from various infractions of school rules and may actually reinforce negative behavior. Suspended students are more likely than their peers to experience academic failure and juvenile justice system involvement and to drop out of school.

High School Graduation and Dropout Rates*

Class of 2009

	Graduation Rate	Dropout Rate	% Received GED	% Still in School
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, Class of 2009.

- ❖ 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 Central Falls in 2009, 47% of students graduated from high school in four years, compared to 52% in 2008.

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

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 Central Falls: 77% 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%.



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