

## Providence Data in Your Backyard

Findings From the 2010 Rhode Island Kids Count Factbook



Presented by Stephanie Geller  
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Providence, Rhode Island

## Special Thanks



Special thanks to  
Casey Family Services  
for hosting today's presentation.

## 2010 Rhode Island KIDS COUNT Factbook

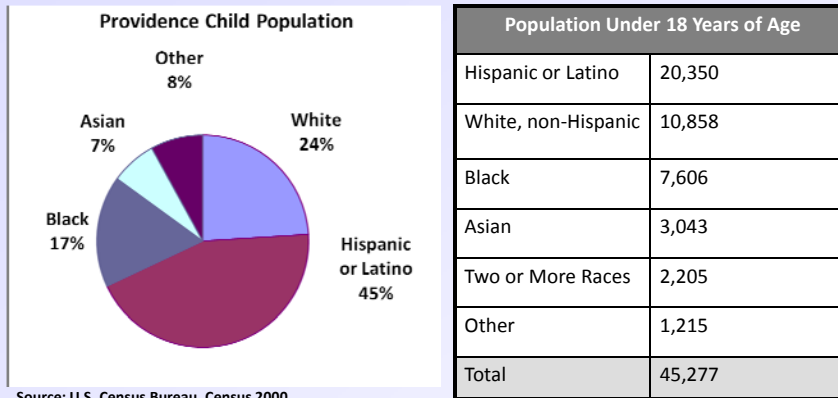


The 2010 Factbook is the 16<sup>th</sup> annual publication. The 2010 Factbook contains 67 indicators of child well-being, including 5 new indicators on youth and education. Most indicators include city and town level information.

## Family and Community

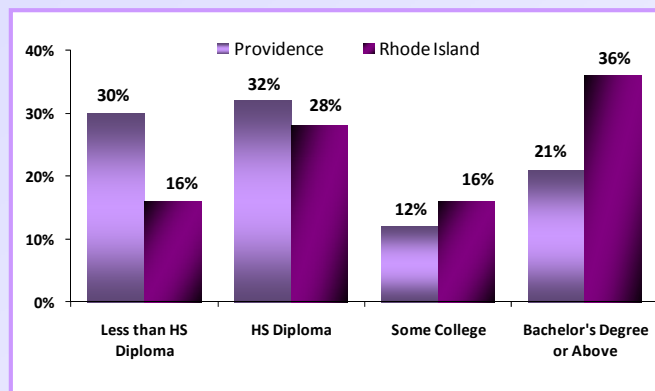


## Providence's Child Population, By Race & Ethnicity, 2000



❖ According to the American Community Survey, Providence's total child population between 2006 and 2008 was 41,478.

## 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 Providence, 30% of new mothers had less than a high school diploma, significantly higher than the state rate of 16%. The proportion of new mothers with a bachelor's degree or above is smaller in Providence (21%) than in the state as a whole (36%).

## Infants Born at Highest Risk

### Mother:

- Under Age 20
- Unmarried
- Without High School Degree



### Child:

- 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, 244 of whom were born to mothers living in Providence.

❖ 9% of all babies born in 2009 to mothers living in Providence were born at highest risk (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

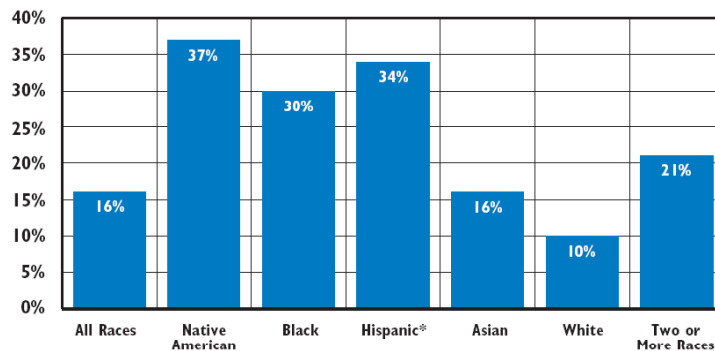


# Child Poverty

- ❖ The **poverty 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.
  - ❖ Between 2006 and 2008, 36.3% (14,861) of children in Providence were living in poverty.
  - ❖ Between 2006 and 2008, 16.1% (36,970) of children in Rhode Island were living in poverty.
  
- ❖ 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.
  - ❖ Between 2006 and 2008, 6,659 Providence children (16% of all children and 45% 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.

# Disparities in Poverty Rates

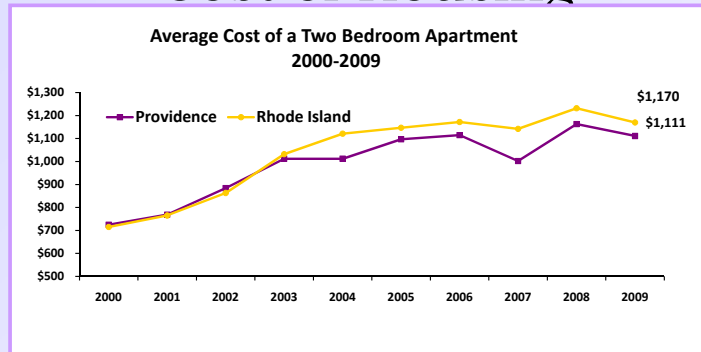
Children in Poverty, by Race and Ethnicity, Rhode Island, 2006-2008



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2006-2008. Tables B17001, B17020A, B17020B, B17020C, B17020D, B17020G and B17020I. \*Hispanic children may be included in any race category.

- ❖ While nearly half (48%) of all poor children in Rhode Island are White, minority children are much more likely to be living in poverty than their White peers.

## Cost of Housing



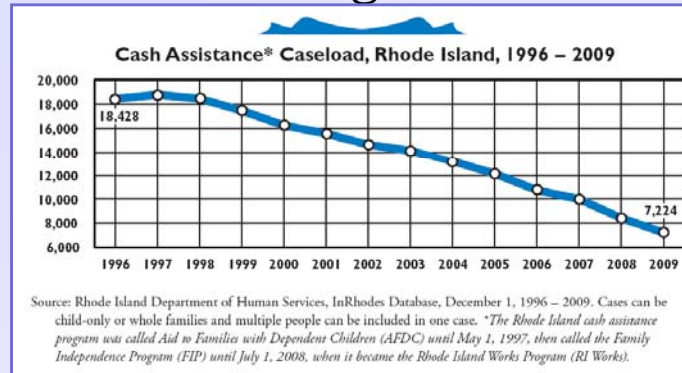
Source: Rhode Island Department of Housing and Urban Development Rent Survey, 2000-2009.

- ❖ 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 for 40 hours a week. This is more than 3 times the state's minimum wage of \$7.40 per hour.
- ❖ In 2009, the average cost of housing in Providence was **\$1,111**. A family of three living at the poverty level in Providence would have to devote 73% of their 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.
  - Providence was the last permanent residence for 1 in 3 (556) of these children.
- ❖ During the 2008-2009 school year, Rhode Island public school personnel identified 1,099 children as homeless.
  - Providence Public School personnel identified 238 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, 10% (4,725) of children in Providence were receiving cash assistance, down from 23% (10,315).
- ❖ 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.

## 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%
<b>Providence</b>	<b>16,767</b>	<b>20,771</b>	<b>24%</b>
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%

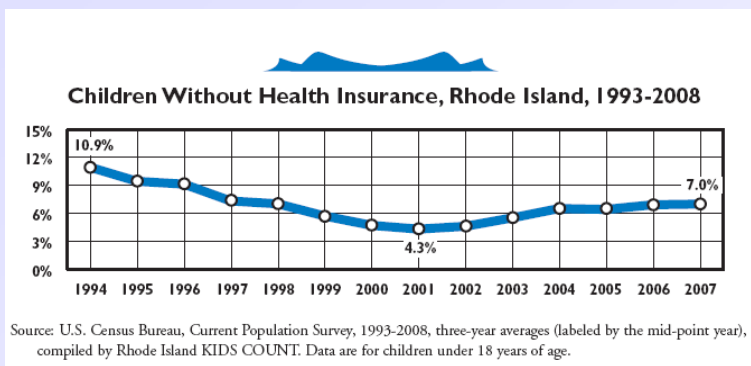
Source: Rhode Island Department of Human Services, 2000-2009.

- ❖ In October 2009, 16,767 Providence children were receiving SNAP benefits, a 24% 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.

# 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 coverage.

❖ As of December 2009, 30,694 children living in Providence received Medical Assistance. Of these children, 27,193 were enrolled in Rite Care. An additional 3,501 children received medical assistance through SSI, the adoption subsidy, foster care or the Katie Beckett provision.

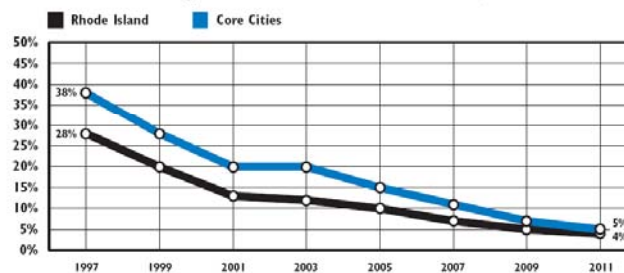
## Infant Health Outcomes, 2004-2008

	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
<b>Providence</b>	<b>20.5%</b>	<b>13.8%</b>	<b>9.4%</b>	<b>9.3</b>
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 Providence delayed prenatal care rate is the highest in the state, at 20.5%.
- ❖ The Providence infant mortality rate (9.3 per 1,000 births) is the 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 2,937 Providence children who will enter kindergarten in the fall of 2011 who were screened for elevated blood lead levels:
  - ❖ 175 (6.0%) screened positive (finger prick test)
  - ❖ 151 (5.1%) were confirmed positive for elevated blood lead levels  $\geq 10$ mcg/dL with a secondary blood test (the 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

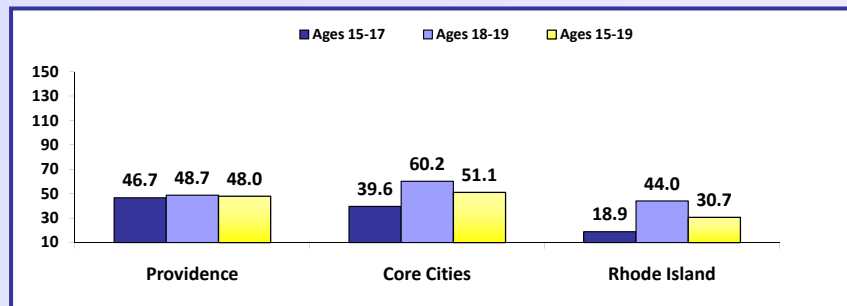
Source: Rhode Island Department of Health, Hospital Discharge Database, 2004-2008.

❖ 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, children in the core cities were hospitalized for asthma at more than twice the rate of children living in the remainder of the state.
- ❖ Between 2004-2008, Providence children had the highest hospitalization rate for asthma in the state at 3.0 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 teen girls, 2004-2008



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

- ❖ The teen birth rate per 1,000 teen girls ages 15 to 17 is substantially higher in Providence (46.7) than the state as a whole (18.9).
- ❖ The teen birth rate for teens ages 18-19 is slightly higher in Providence (48.7) compared to the state (44.0).
- ❖ In Providence between 2004 and 2008, 492 births were repeat teen births, making up 22% of the 2,231 total teen births in Providence during that period.

# 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 11% of Providence 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, 343 youth from Providence passed through the Training School, out of a total of 894 youth passed who passed through to the Training School in 2009.

- ❖ Of the 343 youth from Providence who passed through the Training School in 2009, 97 were detained only and did not receive a sentence to the training school or a community-based placement.

## Children of Incarcerated Parents, 2009

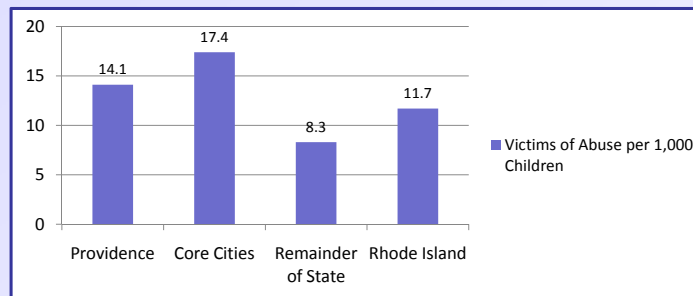
	# of Parents	# of Children Reported	Rate per 1,000 Children
Central Falls	48	99	17.9
Newport	26	55	10.6
Pawtucket	100	205	11.3
<b>Providence</b>	<b>463</b>	<b>1,081</b>	<b>23.9</b>
West Warwick	48	88	13.3
Woonsocket	84	200	17.9
<b>Rhode Island</b>	<b>1,154</b>	<b>2,518</b>	<b>10.2</b>

Source: Rhode Island Department of Corrections, September 30, 2009.

- ❖ On September 30, 2009, 1,154 incarcerated parents in Rhode Island reported having 2,518 children. In Rhode Island, the rate of children reported by a parent serving a sentence at the Rhode Island Department of Corrections as of September 30, 2009 was 10.2 per 1,000 children under age 18.
- ❖ In 2009, 463 adults incarcerated in Rhode Island whose last known residence was Providence reported having 1,081 children, a rate of 23.9 per 1,000 children, which is the highest in the state.

## Child Abuse & Neglect

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



- ❖ In 2009 in Providence, there were 640 victims of child abuse and neglect, a rate of 14.1 per 1,000 children. This is lower than the core city rate of 17.4 victims per 1,000 children but significantly higher than the state rate of 11.7 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.

## Education



### **Children Enrolled in Early Head Start, 2009**

- ❖ According to Census 2000, an estimated 3,819 Providence children under age three were income-eligible for enrollment in the Early Head Start program. *In 2009, 55 (1%) of these children 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.

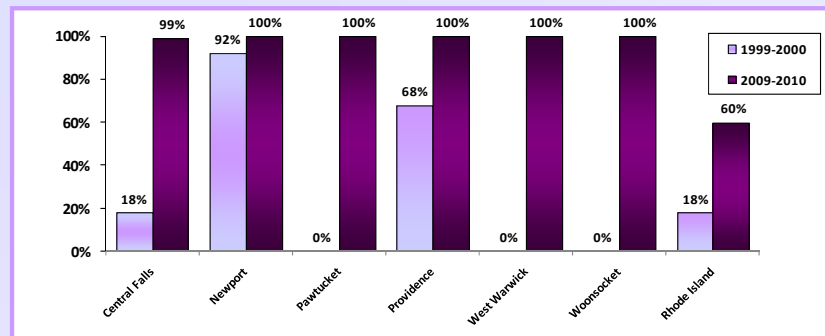
### **Children Enrolled in Head Start, 2009**

- ❖ According to Census 2000, an estimated 2,370 Providence children ages three to four were eligible for enrollment in the Head Start preschool program. *In 2009, 797 (34%) of these 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 23,847 students enrolled in Providence public schools in grades pre-K through 12.
  - 10,871 students were in grades K-5
  - 5,064 were in grades 6-8
  - 7,601 were in grades 9-12
  - 311 were enrolled in preschool special education classrooms
- ❖ 12% of Providence public school students were non-Hispanic White, 60% were Hispanic, 22% were Black, 6% were Asian and 1% were Native American.
- ❖ 85% of Providence 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 & 2009-2010.

- ❖ In Rhode Island in 2009-2010, 60% of children who attended kindergarten were in full-day programs. Nationally in 2008, 72% of public-school kindergarten students were enrolled in full-day programs.
- ❖ As of the 2009-2010 school year, 16 school districts, including Providence, offered universal access to full-day kindergarten classrooms. Another six 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 100% in 2009-2010.

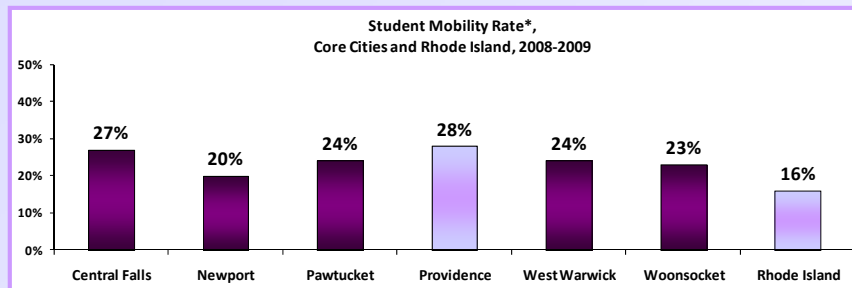
## English Language Learners

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

❖ During the 2008-2009 school year, 3,417 (15%) of Providence's 23,140 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.

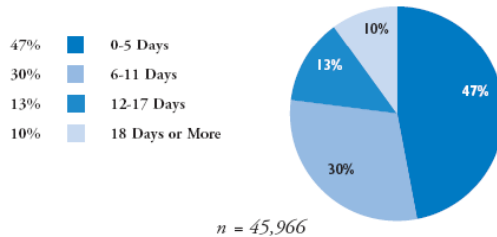
❖ In Rhode Island, students who change schools mid-year are absent more often, suspended more often and perform worse in reading and math than their peers who do not change schools.

❖ The mobility rate in Providence (28%) is the highest of any district in 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

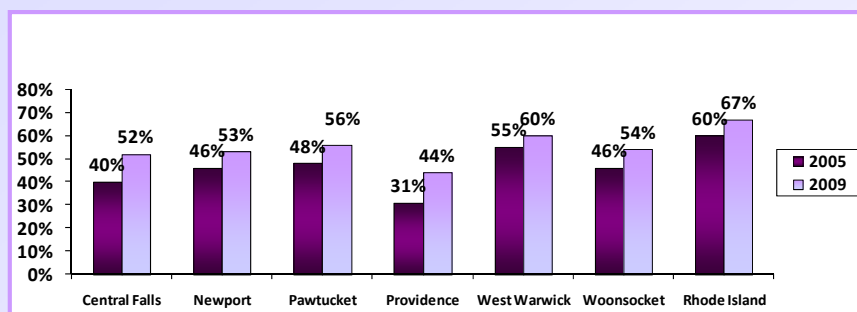


Source: Rhode Island Department of Elementary and Secondary Education, 2008-2009 school year.

- ❖ *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, 21% of Providence children (1,865 children) in grades K-3 were chronically absent (i.e. absent 18 days or more), more than twice the state rate of 10%.

# Fourth Grade Reading Skills

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



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

- ❖ Between 2008 and 2009, the percentage of fourth grade students in Providence public schools who were proficient in reading fell from 47% to 44%.
- ❖ Providence still has the lowest 4<sup>th</sup> grade reading proficiency level in the state.

## Math Skills

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

### 4<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Math Proficiency Rates, 2005 & 2009

	4 <sup>th</sup> Grade 2005	4 <sup>th</sup> Grade 2009	8 <sup>th</sup> Grade 2005	8 <sup>th</sup> Grade 2009
<b>Providence</b>	<b>25%</b>	<b>35%</b>	<b>20%</b>	<b>28%</b>
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	% Received GED	% Still in School
Central Falls	47%	33%	7%	13%
Newport	75%	11%	4%	10%
Pawtucket	55%	21%	15%	9%
<b>Providence</b>	<b>66%</b>	<b>22%</b>	<b>3%</b>	<b>8%</b>
West Warwick	69%	20%	3%	8%
Woonsocket	62%	24%	5%	10%
<b>Rhode Island</b>	<b>75%</b>	<b>14%</b>	<b>5%</b>	<b>6%</b>

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 Providence in 2009, 66% of students graduated from high school on-time, compared to 63% 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 63% nationally. Rhode Island ranks 43<sup>rd</sup> 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 Providence:** 77% of high school seniors reported planning to attend college, yet only 58% 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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