

Warwick Data in Your Backyard

Findings From the 2009 Rhode Island KIDS COUNT Factbook



Presented by Stephanie Geller
Rhode Island KIDS COUNT
October 27, 2009
Warwick, Rhode Island

Special Thanks



The Warwick Coalition to Prevent Child Abuse
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.

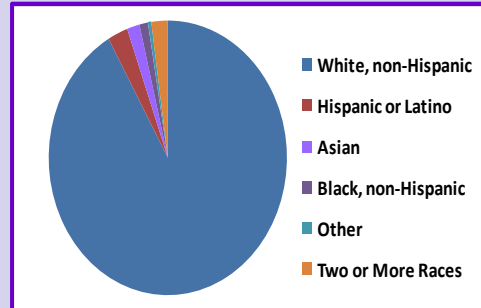
Family and Community



Warwick Child Population By Race & Ethnicity, 2000

White, non-Hispanic	17,220 (92%)
Hispanic or Latino.....	516 (3%)
Asian.....	322 (2%)
Black, non-Hispanic.....	217 (1%)
Other.....	86 (<1%)
Two or More Races.....	419 (2%)

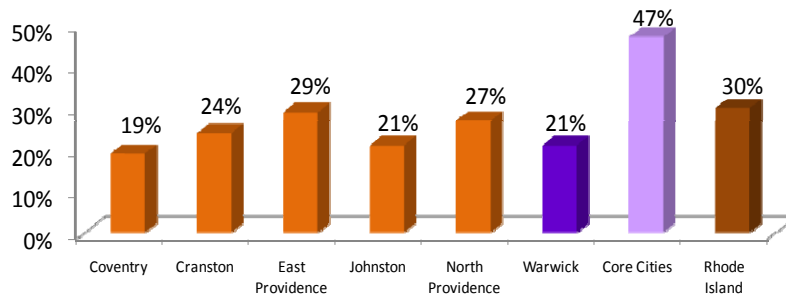
Total: 18,780



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

❖ According to the 2000 Census, there are 18,780 children under age 18 in Warwick.

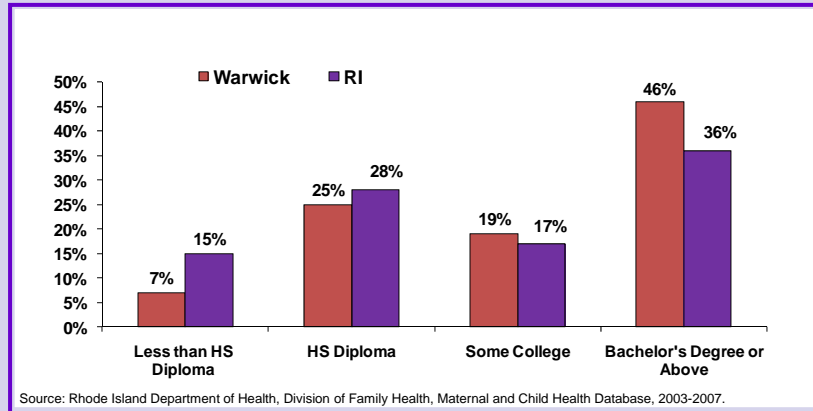
Children in Single-Parent Families



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2000.

- ❖ In 2000, 3,705 (21%) children in Warwick lived in single-parent families, significantly lower than the state rate of 30%.
- ❖ In 2007, 78% of all children living in poverty in Rhode Island lived in a single-parent family. Children in single-parent families were 7 times more likely to live in poverty than children in married-couple families.

Mother's Education Level



❖ 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.

❖ Between 2003 and 2007, 7% of new mothers in Warwick had less than a high school diploma, compared to 15% of new mothers in the state as a whole. The proportion of mothers with a Bachelor's degree or above was higher in Warwick (46%) 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, 36 (4%) of Warwick babies were born with all three risk factors.

Infants Born at Highest Risk, 2008

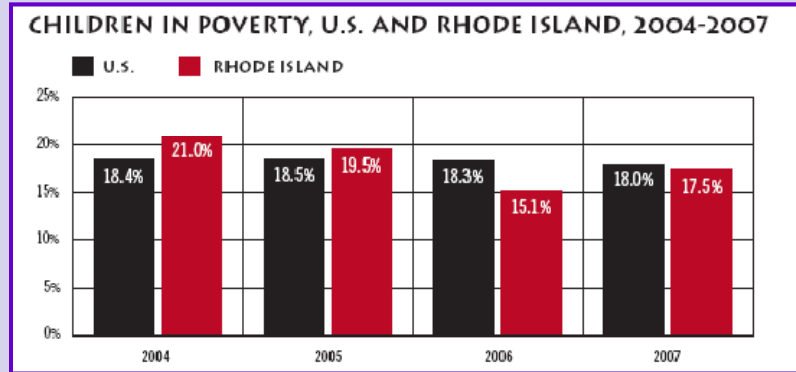
	# of Births	# Born at Highest Risk	% Born at Highest Risk
Coventry	313	11	4%
Cranston	835	26	3%
East Providence	506	21	4%
Johnston	296	5	2%
North Providence	335	7	2%
Warwick	810	36	4%
Core Cities	5,586	447	8%
Rhode Island	11,668	607	5%

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

Economic Well-Being



Child Poverty in Rhode Island

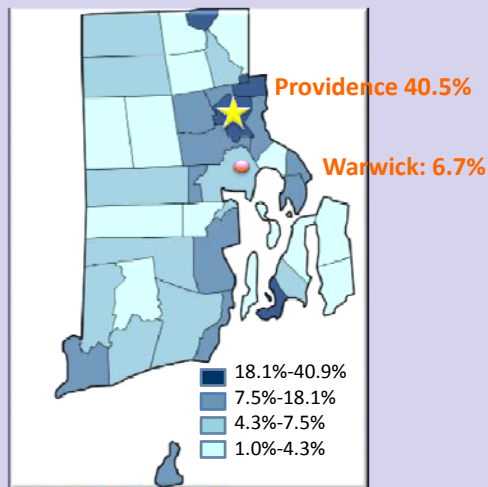


- ❖ According to the 2008 ACS, 15.5% (34,816) of Rhode Island's children under age 18 with known poverty status lived below the federal poverty threshold.
- ❖ In 2008, 16,430 children in Rhode Island lived in extreme poverty, representing 47.2% of all children living in poverty and 7.3% of all children in the state.

Source: U.S. Bureau of the Census, American Community Survey, 2004-2008.

Children in Poverty

Rhode Island Child Poverty Rates (Percent), 2000



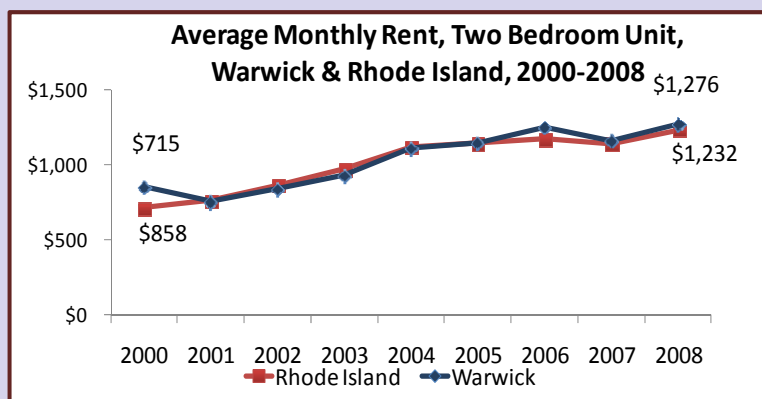
Source: U.S. Bureau of the Census, Census 2000

Children in Poverty, 2000

	<50% FPL	<100%FPL	<200% FPL
Coventry	146 (1.8%)	481 (5.9%)	1,370 (16.8%)
Cranston	605 (3.7%)	1,496 (9.1%)	4,015 (24.3%)
East Providence	557 (5.4%)	1,126 (10.8%)	3,158 (30.4%)
Johnston	191 (3.3%)	527 (9.0%)	1,407 (24.0%)
North Providence	271 (4.7%)	579 (10.1%)	1,475 (25.7%)
Warwick	410 (2.2%)	1,243 (6.7%)	3,720 (20.2%)
Core Cities	15,483 (17.1%)	30,744 (33.9%)	53,557 (62.6%)
Rhode Island	19,773 (8.1%)	41,162 (16.9%)	83,420 (34.2%)

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

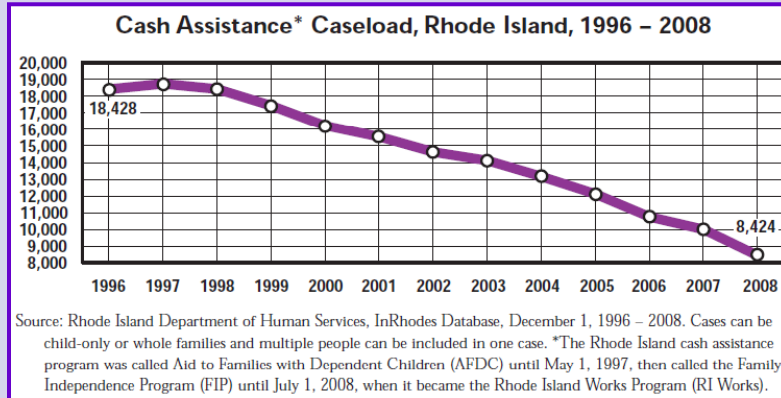
Cost of Rent



❖ To afford the average rent in Rhode Island of \$1,232 without a cost burden, a worker would need to earn \$23.69 per hour and work 40 hours a week 52 weeks a year. This is more than three times the state's minimum wage of \$7.40 per hour.

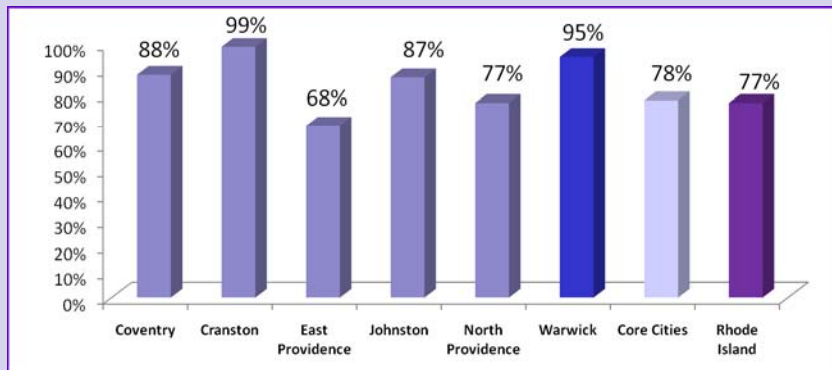
❖ In 2008, the average cost of housing in Warwick was **\$1,276**. A family of three living at the poverty level in Warwick would have to devote 87% of their household income to the cost of rent. Housing is considered to be affordable if it consumes 30% or less of a family's household income.

Children in Families Receiving Cash Assistance



- ❖ As of December 1, 2008, 454 (2%) Warwick children were in families 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.

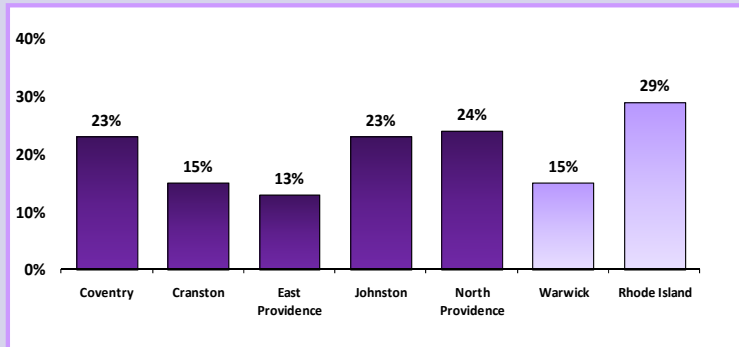
Children Receiving SNAP Benefits (Food Stamps)



Source: Rhode Island Department of Human Services, INRHODES Database, October 1, 2008.

- ❖ In October 2008, 95% of income-eligible children in Warwick were participated in the Food Stamp/SNAP Program, compared to 77% statewide.
- ❖ 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.

Children Participating in School Breakfast



Source: Rhode Island Department of Elementary and Secondary Education, Office of School Food Services and Office of Finance, October 2008.

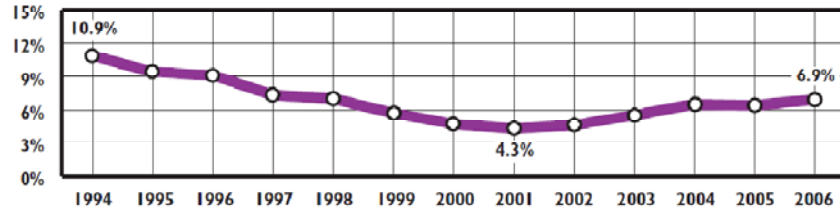
- ❖ In October 2008, an average of 426 (15%) of low-income children in the Warwick Public Schools participated in the School Breakfast Program each day out of 2,918 who were eligible for free or reduced-price breakfast.
- ❖ Universal school breakfast programs, which provide free breakfast to all children regardless of income, increase school breakfast participation, especially among low-income students.
- ❖ Newly mandated Rhode Island Nutrition Requirements (RINR) apply new nutrition standards to school breakfasts and lunches, making them among the healthiest in the country.

Health



Children without Health Insurance, Rhode Island, 1993-2007

Children without Health Insurance, Rhode Island, 1993-2007 3-Year Averages



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Current Population Survey, 1993-2007, three-year averages (labeled by the mid-point year), compiled by Rhode Island KIDS COUNT. Data are for children under 18 years of age.

❖ New data from the U.S. Census Bureau show that 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

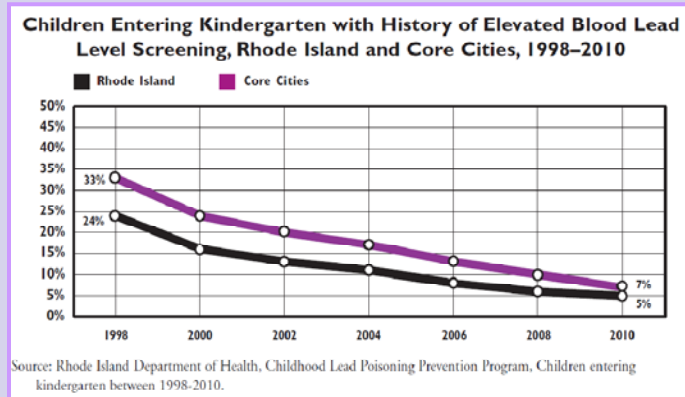
	Delayed Prenatal Care	Preterm Births	Low Birthweight Infants	Infant Mortality (Rate/1,000 Births)
Coventry	8.7	12.6%	8.6%	4.5
Cranston	10.3%	12.0%	7.9%	5.4
East Providence	9.0%	12.4%	9.4%	6.1
Johnston	8.7%	11.0%	7.3%	4.3
North Providence	10.1%	12.0%	8.1%	3.6
Warwick	8.9%	11.8%	8.0%	5.1
Core City Avg.	16.0%	13.0%	8.9%	7.9
Rhode Island	12.1%	12.0%	8.1%	6.3

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

❖ 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.

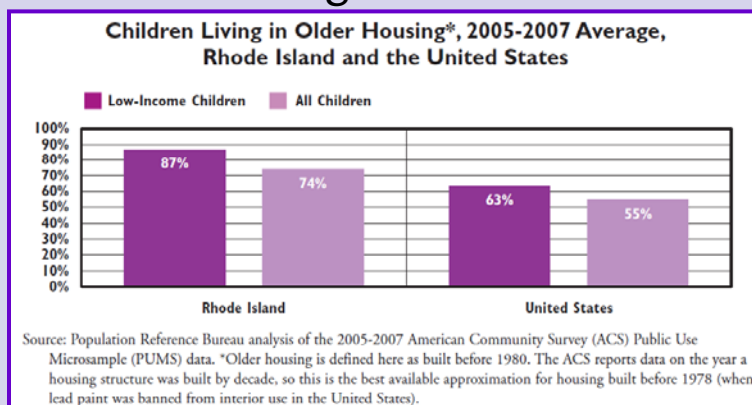
❖ Warwick's infant health outcomes are consistently better than outcomes for the state as a whole.

Children with Elevated Blood Lead Levels



- ❖ Elevated blood lead levels have been steadily declining in both Rhode Island and Warwick over the past decade.
- ❖ Warwick's rate has historically been much lower than the state rate.
- ❖ In the most recent year of testing, 807 Warwick children were screened for elevated blood lead levels, 13 (1.6%) screened positive initially and 7 (0.9%) were confirmed positive for lead levels ≥ 10 mcg/dL. This compares to 2000 when 5.9% of children screened positive.

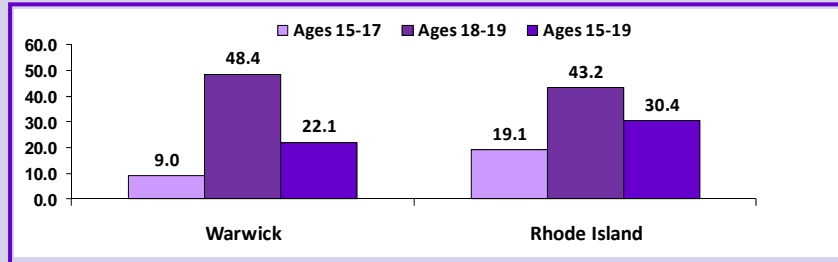
Housing and Health



- ❖ 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.
- ❖ 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.
- ❖ Between 2005 and 2007, 87% of low-income children in Rhode Island lived in older housing, the highest percentage in any state.

Births to Teens

Births per 1,000 girls ages 15-19, 2003-2007

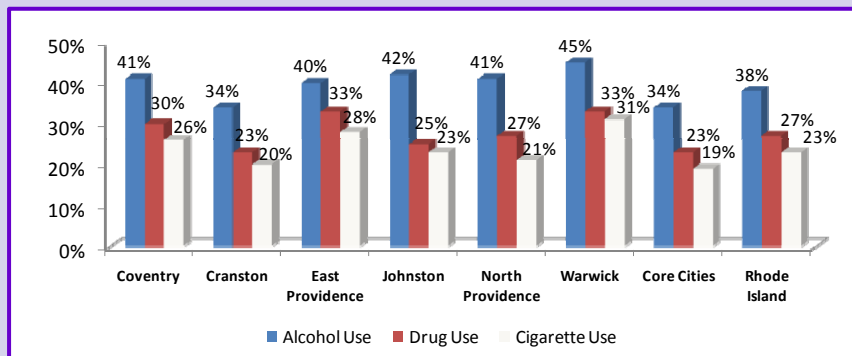


Source: Rhode Island Department of Health, 2003-2007.

- ❖ Since the early 1990's, the teen birth rate for Warwick girls ages 15 to 19 has declined, mirroring the state and national trend.
- ❖ Teen mothers are less likely to have the financial resources, social supports and parenting skills needed for healthy child development.
- ❖ Between 2003 and 2007, the teen birth rate per 1,000 for all teen girls ages 15-19 in Warwick (22.1) was lower than the state rate (30.4), though the teen birth rate for older teens ages 18-19 was slightly higher in Warwick (48.4) than the state rate (43.2).
- ❖ Between 2003 and 2007 in Rhode Island, almost one in five teen births (18%) were to teens who were already mothers (repeat births).

Alcohol, Drug and Cigarette Use

High School Student Reports of Alcohol, Drug and Cigarette Use, 2007-2008



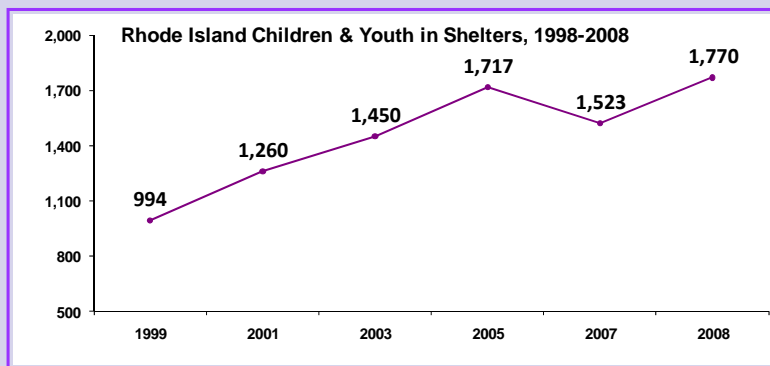
Source: The Student Accountability for Learning and Teaching Survey (SALT) Student Survey, 2007-2008.

- ❖ During the 2007-2008 school year, 45% of Warwick high school students reported using alcohol within the previous 30 days, 33% reported using drugs, and 31% reported using cigarettes. Warwick's alcohol, drug, and cigarette use rates are all higher than the state rate and are among the highest in the state.

Safety



Homeless Children and Youth



Source: Rhode Island Emergency Shelter Information Project, Annual Reports 1998-2008.

- ❖ Between July 1, 2007 and June 30, 2008, 1,770 children entered Rhode Island's emergency shelter system accompanied by an adult, a 16% increase from the previous year and the highest number ever reported.
- ❖ 81 of these children were in families that reported that Warwick was their last permanent residence.

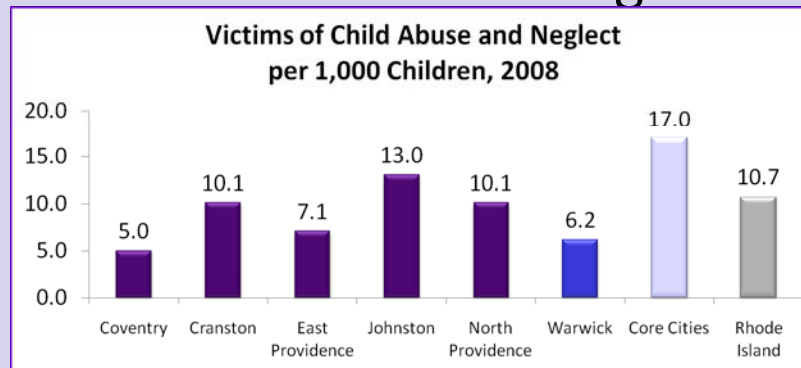
Juveniles Referred to Family Court and at the RI Training School

- ❖ Of the wayward and delinquent offenses referred to Family Court in Rhode Island during 2008, 74% were committed by males and 26% by females.
- ❖ In 2008, 8,790 wayward or delinquent offenses were referred to Family Court. 17% of these offenses were status offenses, such as truancy and disobedient conduct that would not be punishable if committed by an adult.
- ❖ In 2008, a total of 1,037 youth passed through to the Training School. Thirty-eight youth were from Warwick.

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	

Source: RI Family Court, 2008 Juvenile Offense Report

Child Abuse and Neglect



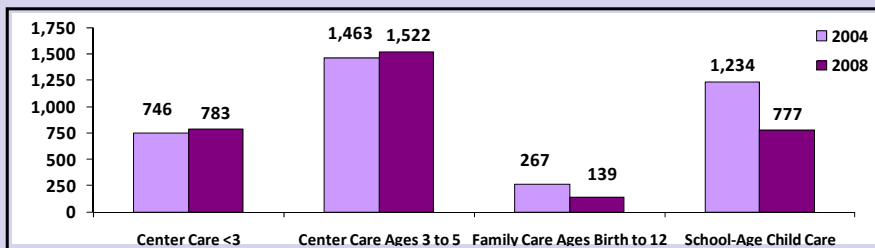
❖ In 2008 in Warwick, there were 116 victims of child abuse and neglect, a rate of 6.2 per 1,000 children, substantially lower than the state rate of 10.7.

❖ 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



Child Care



Source: RI Department of Children, Youth and Families.

❖ From 2004 to 2008, the number of licensed child care center slots for children under age 3 in Warwick increased by 5% from 746 to 783, while the number of slots for children ages 3-5 increased by 4% from 1,463 to 1,522.

❖ During that same period, the number of certified family child care slots in Warwick decreased by 48% from 267 to 139.

❖ From 2004 to 2008, the number of licensed after-school slots in Warwick decreased by 37% from 1,234 to 777.

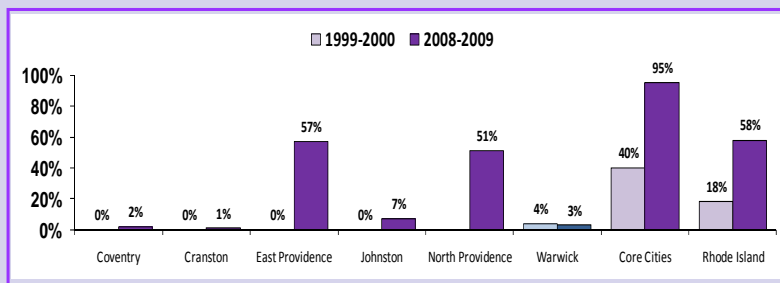
Children Enrolled in Early Head Start, 2008

- ❖ According to the 2000 Census, an estimated 260 children in Warwick under age three were income-eligible for enrollment in the Early Head Start program. *In 2008, of these children, 64 (25%) 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 the 2000 Census, an estimated 189 children in Warwick ages three to four were eligible for enrollment in the Head Start preschool program. *In 2008, 164 (87%) Warwick 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.

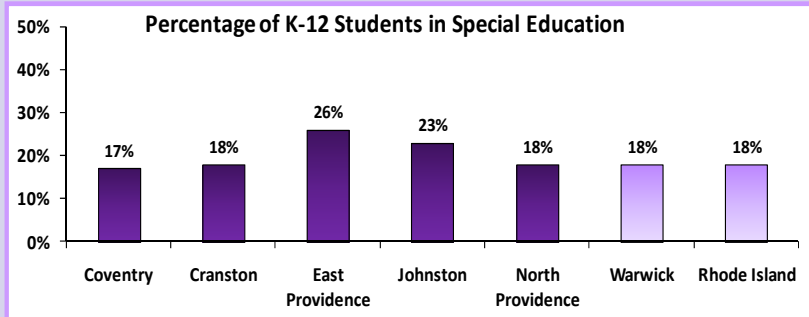
Children in Full-Day Kindergarten



Rhode Island Department of Elementary and Secondary Education, 1999-2000 and 2006-2007.

- ❖ During the 2008-2009 school year, 17 out of 642 children who attended kindergarten in Warwick were enrolled in a full-day program.
- ❖ As of the 2008-2009 school year, 13 school districts in RI offered universal access to full-day kindergarten programs. Another 8 school districts, including Warwick, operated at least one full-day kindergarten classroom.
- ❖ Full-day kindergarten programs can be especially beneficial to poor and minority children and can contribute significantly to closing academic achievement gaps.

Children Enrolled in Special Education

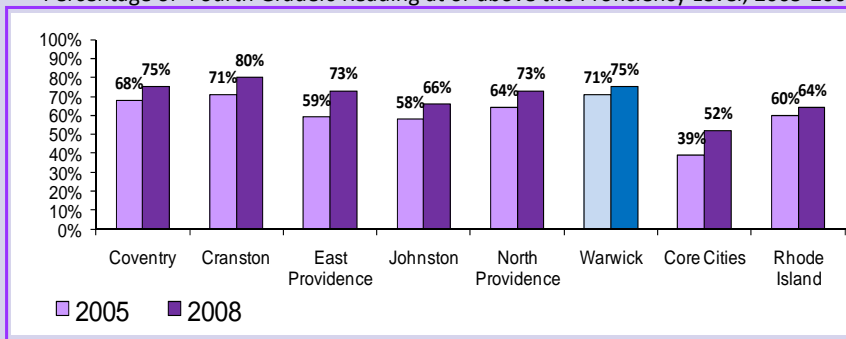


Source: Rhode Island Department of Elementary and Secondary Education, 2007-2008.

- ❖ 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, 18% of Warwick students in K-12 were enrolled in special education, the same as the state rate.
- ❖ There were an additional 2,866 preschool-age students receiving special education services in Rhode Island.

Fourth-Grade Reading Skills

Percentage of Fourth Graders Reading at or above the Proficiency Level, 2005-2008

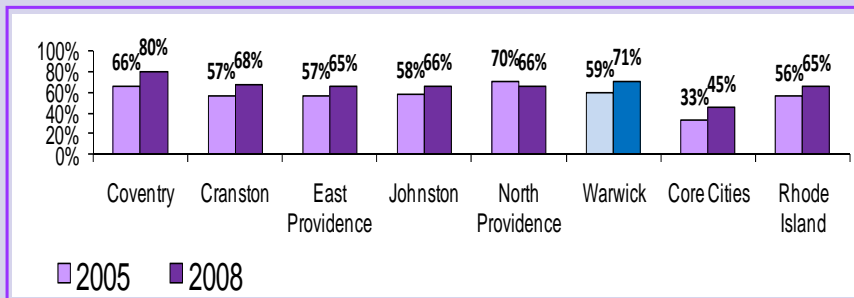


Source: Rhode Island Department of Elementary and Secondary Education, 2005 -2006 and 2006-2007 school year.

- ❖ Between 2005 and 2008, the percentage of fourth graders who read at or above proficiency in Warwick increased from 71% to 75%.
- ❖ When students continue to have difficulty reading beyond third grade, they face tremendous difficulty catching up.

Eighth-Grade Reading Skills

Percentage of Eighth Graders Reading at or above the Proficiency Level, 2005-2008



Source: Rhode Island Department of Elementary and Secondary Education, 2005 -2006 and 2006-2007 school year.

- ❖ Between 2005 and 2008, the percentage of eighth graders who read at or above proficiency in Warwick increased from 59% to 71%.
- ❖ Adolescents who are poor readers have difficulty doing well in other core subjects and are at-risk for dropping out.
- ❖ Schools can improve adolescent literacy through strong leadership, interdisciplinary teaching teams, targeted professional development, comprehensive literacy strategies, and effective student assessment strategies.

High School Graduation and Dropout Rates* Class of 2008

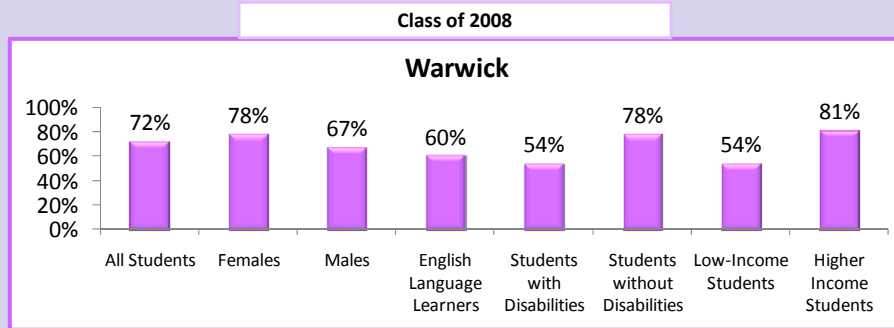
	Graduation Rate	Dropout Rate	% Completed GED	% Still in School
Coventry	83%	11%	2%	4%
Cranston	82%	9%	4%	5%
East Providence	76%	18%	1%	6%
Johnston	78%	8%	8%	6%
North Providence	88%	5%	1%	6%
Warwick	72%	13%	4%	11%
Rhode Island	74%	16%	3%	7%

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

- ❖ 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 2008, Warwick's high school graduation rate was 72%, lower than the state rate of 74%, but an improvement from 2007 when the graduation rate was 66%.

* 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.

❖ This chart shows the graduation rates for different subgroups of students.



Stephanie Geller, Ed.M.
Policy Analyst
Rhode Island KIDS COUNT
One Union Station
Providence, RI 02903
sgeller@rikidscount.org
(401) 351-9400 x11 voice
(401) 351-1758 fax
www.rikidscount.org