

Data in Your Backyard

2006 Rhode Island Kids Count Factbook

West Warwick



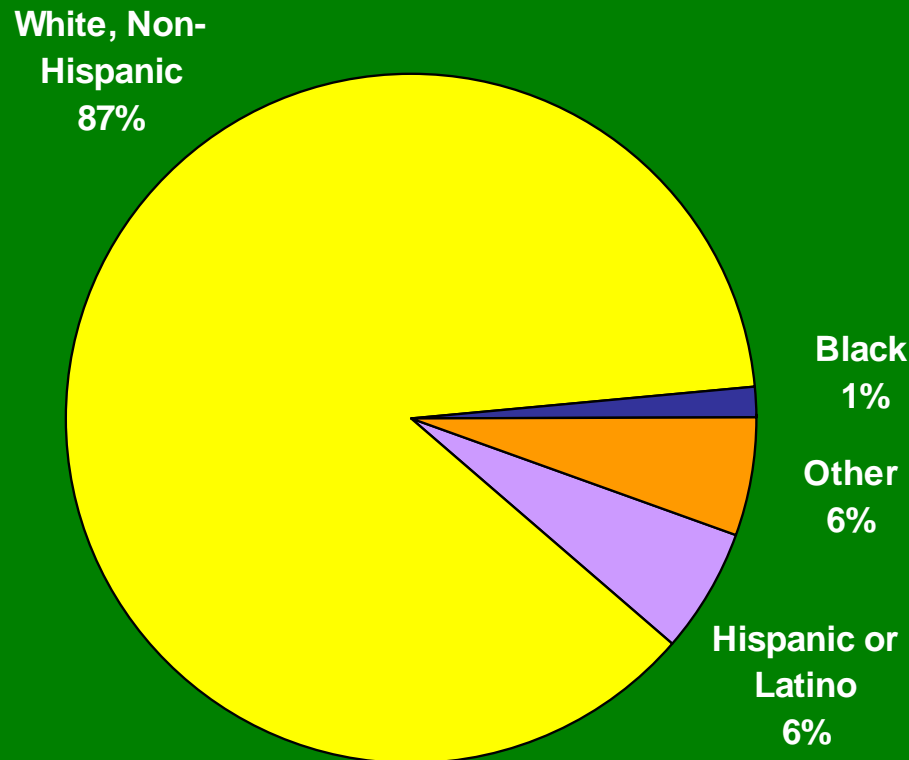
Presented by Elaine Farber
Research Analyst, Rhode Island KIDS COUNT

November 28, 2006
West Warwick, RI

The *2006 Factbook* contains 60 indicators of child well-being. Most include city and town level information. This year's *Factbook* contains one new indicator.

Family and Community

West Warwick's Child Population by Race and Ethnicity, 2000

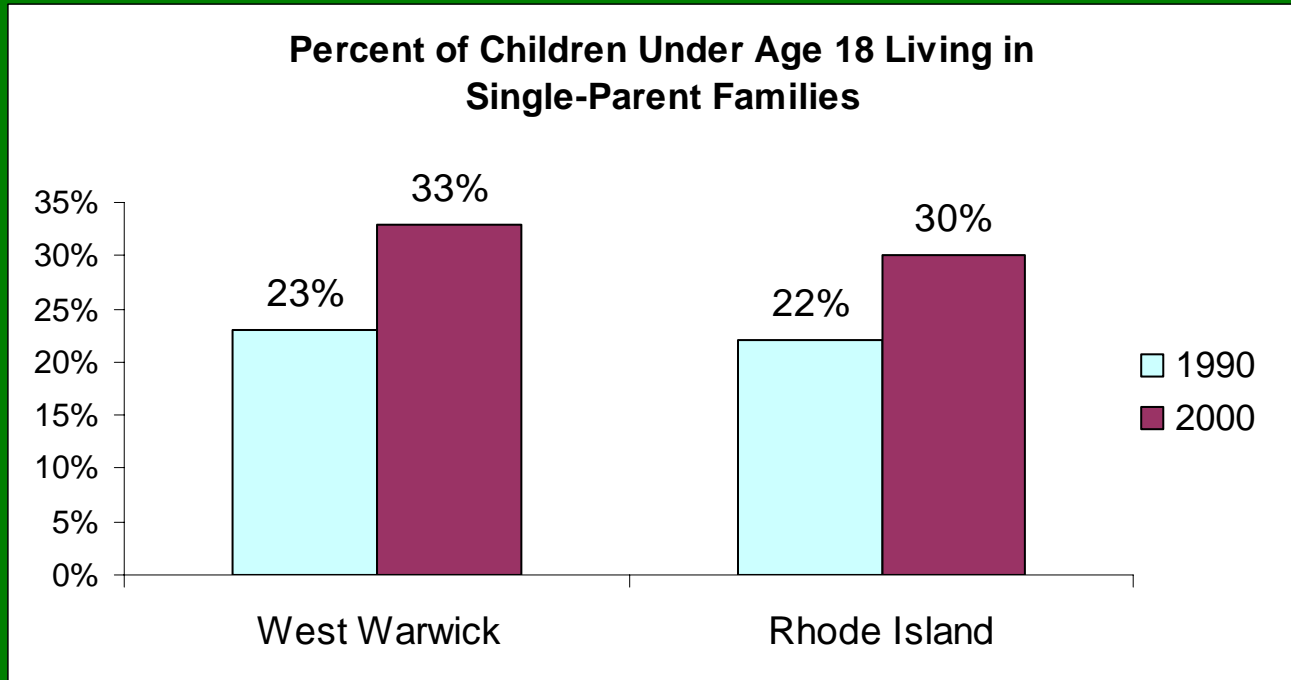


n = 6,632

Source: U.S. Census 2000

- ❖ The child population in West Warwick increased by 1.1% between 1990 and 2000, from 6,560 to 6,632.
- ❖ In West Warwick, 87% of the child population identifies as White, while 6% identifies as Hispanic or Latino, 1% identifies as Black, and 6% identifies as other.
- ❖ The proportion of the population that identifies as White is larger in West Warwick than in the state as a whole.

Children in Single-Parent Families



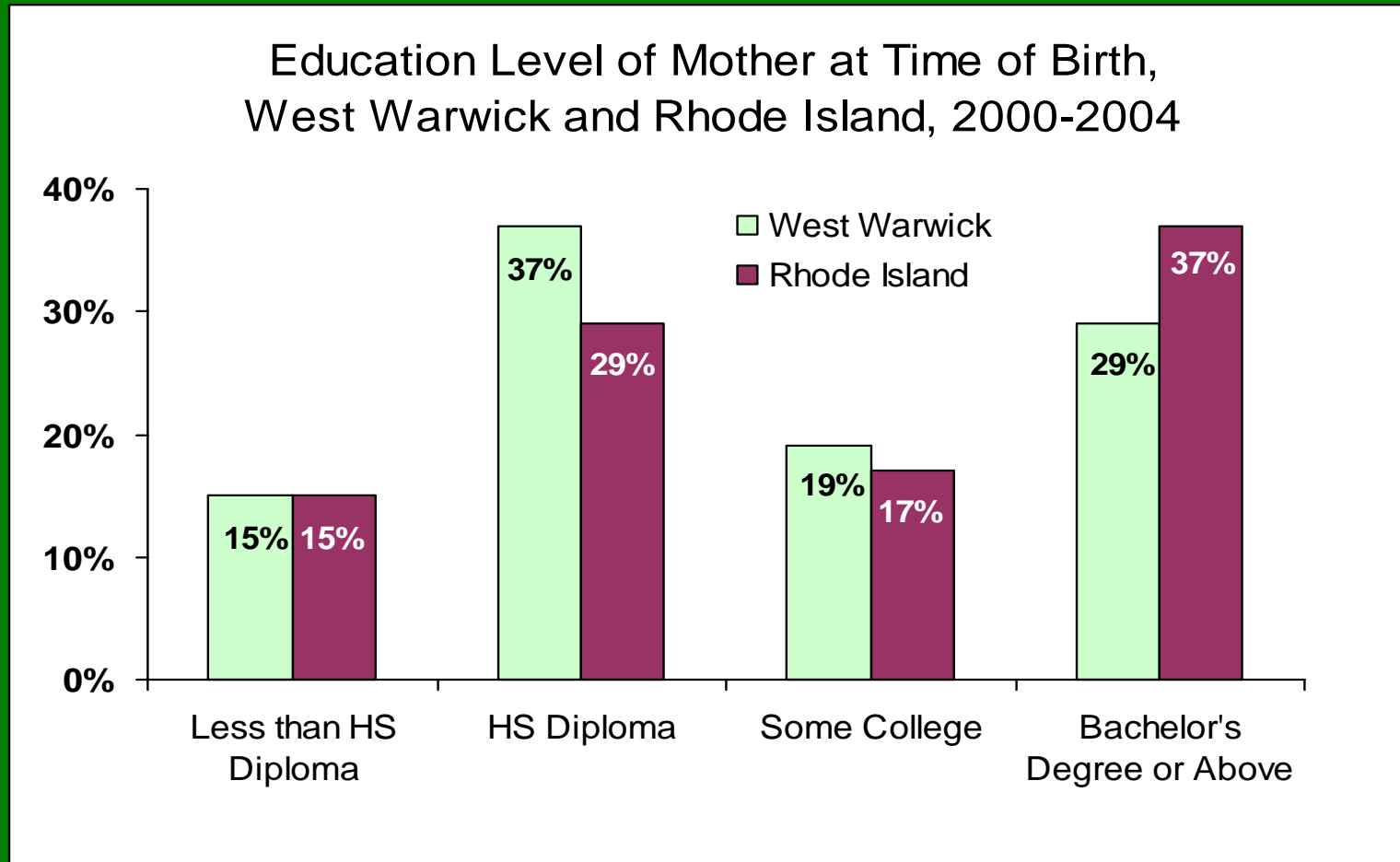
Source: U.S Bureau of the Census, 2000.

- ❖ In 2000 in West Warwick, 33% of children lived in single-parent families, compared to 30% statewide.
- ❖ Rhode Island currently has one of the highest rates of children living in single-parent families in the country. In 2004, 34% of Rhode Island's children lived in single parent families, and 86% of all poor children lived in single-parent families.

Grandparents Caring for Grandchildren

- ❖ In Rhode Island in 2004, 16,957 grandparents lived with their grandchildren. About one-third of these grandparents were financially responsible for their grandchildren.
- ❖ In 2004, more than half (53%) of Rhode Island grandparents who were financially responsible for their grandchildren had been responsible for the children for 3 or more years.
- ❖ In West Warwick in 2000, 344 grandparents lived in households with their grandchildren. One in five of these grandparents was financially responsible for their grandchildren.

Mother's Education Level



Source: Rhode Island Department of Health, 2000-2004.

Research shows that there are strong links between parental education levels and a child's school readiness, health and level of education that the child will ultimately achieve.

Infants Born at Highest Risk

Infants Born with Identified Risk Factors, Rhode Island, 2004

	# OF BIRTHS	# BORN AT HIGHEST RISK*	# BORN AT RISK**
Central Falls	409	40	375
Newport	314	28	216
Pawtucket	1,115	71	916
Providence	2,938	268	2,543
West Warwick	387	18	253
Woonsocket	568	59	482
Core Cities	5,731	484	4,785
Remainder of State	6,595	150	3,572
Rhode Island	12,710	639	8,542

* births to mothers who were younger than 20, single, and without a high school degree

** births with at least one risk factor identified by the Rhode Island Department of Health's Newborn Risk Assessment Program.

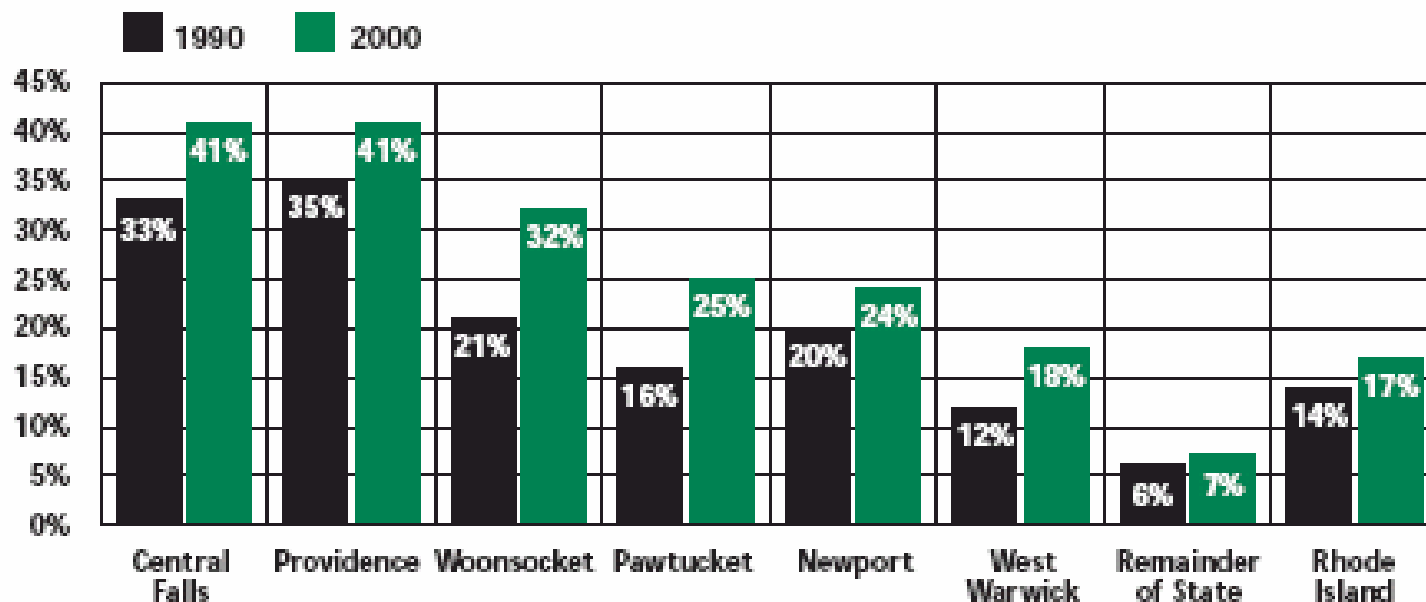
Source: Rhode Island Department of Health, KIDSNET database, 2004.

- ❖ There are three important social and economic risk factors present at birth that, when combined, strongly predict childhood poverty and poor education outcomes – *having a mother who is younger than 20, unmarried and without a high school degree.*
- ❖ In 2004, 5% of babies were born to Rhode Island women who were under age 20, unmarried and had less than 12 years of education. In West Warwick, 5% of babies were born at highest risk.

Economic Well-Being

Children in Poverty

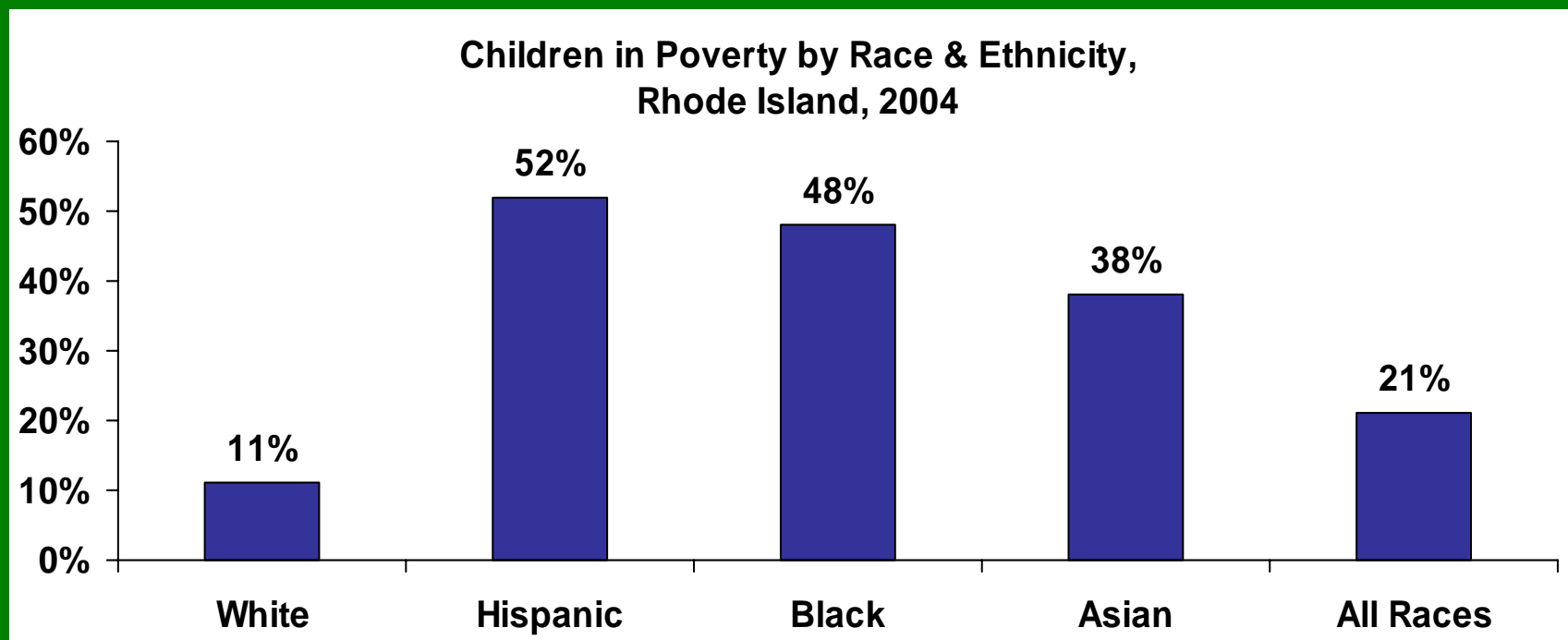
Child Poverty Rates, 1990 and 2000,
Core Cities, Remainder of State and Rhode Island



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Census 1990 and 2000, Summary File 3.

Rhode Island's core cities are those in which more than 15% of children live below the Federal Poverty Level. West Warwick is now the sixth core city with a child poverty rate of 18%, the sixth highest rate in the state.

Poverty By Race/Ethnicity



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

- ❖ The percentage of Rhode Island's children living in poverty increased from 17% in 2000 to 21% in 2004 and is the highest percentage of childhood poverty in New England.
- ❖ Latest data from the ACS show that Rhode Island's child poverty numbers have remained constant in 2005 at 20% (statistically not different from 2004).

Children in Poverty

Poverty Status for Children <18, 2000

	<u>West Warwick</u>	<u>Rhode Island</u>
Living Below 200% of the Poverty Threshold	2,655 (40.5%)	83,420 (34.2%)
Living Below 100% of the Poverty Threshold	1,186 (18.1%)	41,162 (16.9%)
Living Below 50% of the Poverty Threshold	462 (7.0%)	19,773 (8.1%)

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

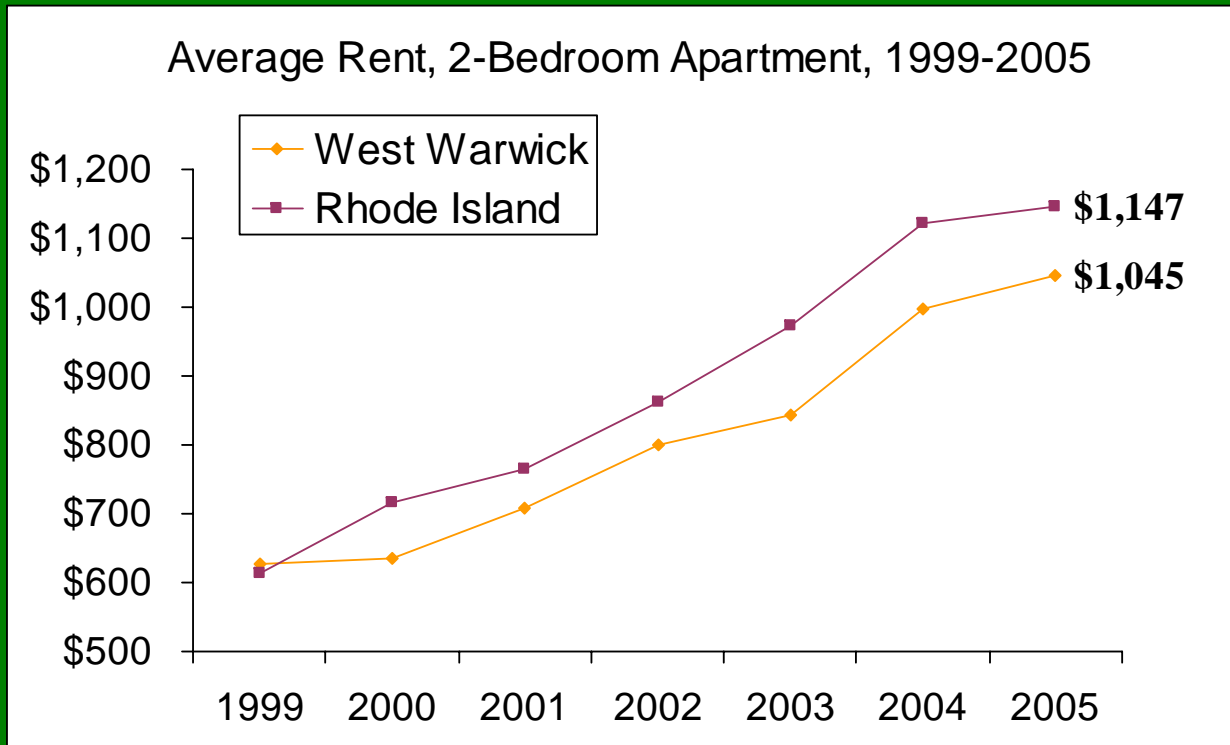
Young Children in Poverty

Poverty Status for Children <6, 2000

	<u>West Warwick</u>	<u>Rhode Island</u>
Living Below 200% of the Poverty Threshold	1,209 (53.4%)	28,282 (37.3%)
Living Below 100% of the Poverty Threshold	606 (26.8%)	14,548 (19.2%)
Living Below 50% of the Poverty Threshold	239 (10.6%)	7,230 (9.5%)

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

Cost of Rent



Source: Rhode Island Housing and Mortgage Finance Corporation, 1998 – 2005.

- ❖ Rent 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 West Warwick would have to devote 78% of their household income to the cost of rent (\$1,045).
- ❖ To afford the average rent (\$1,147) in Rhode Island without a cost burden, a worker would need to earn \$22.06 per hour for forty hours a week, more than three and a half times the state's minimum wage in 2005 of \$6.75 per hour.

Rhode Island Standard of Need

According to The Poverty Institute's 2003 Rhode Island Standard of Need:

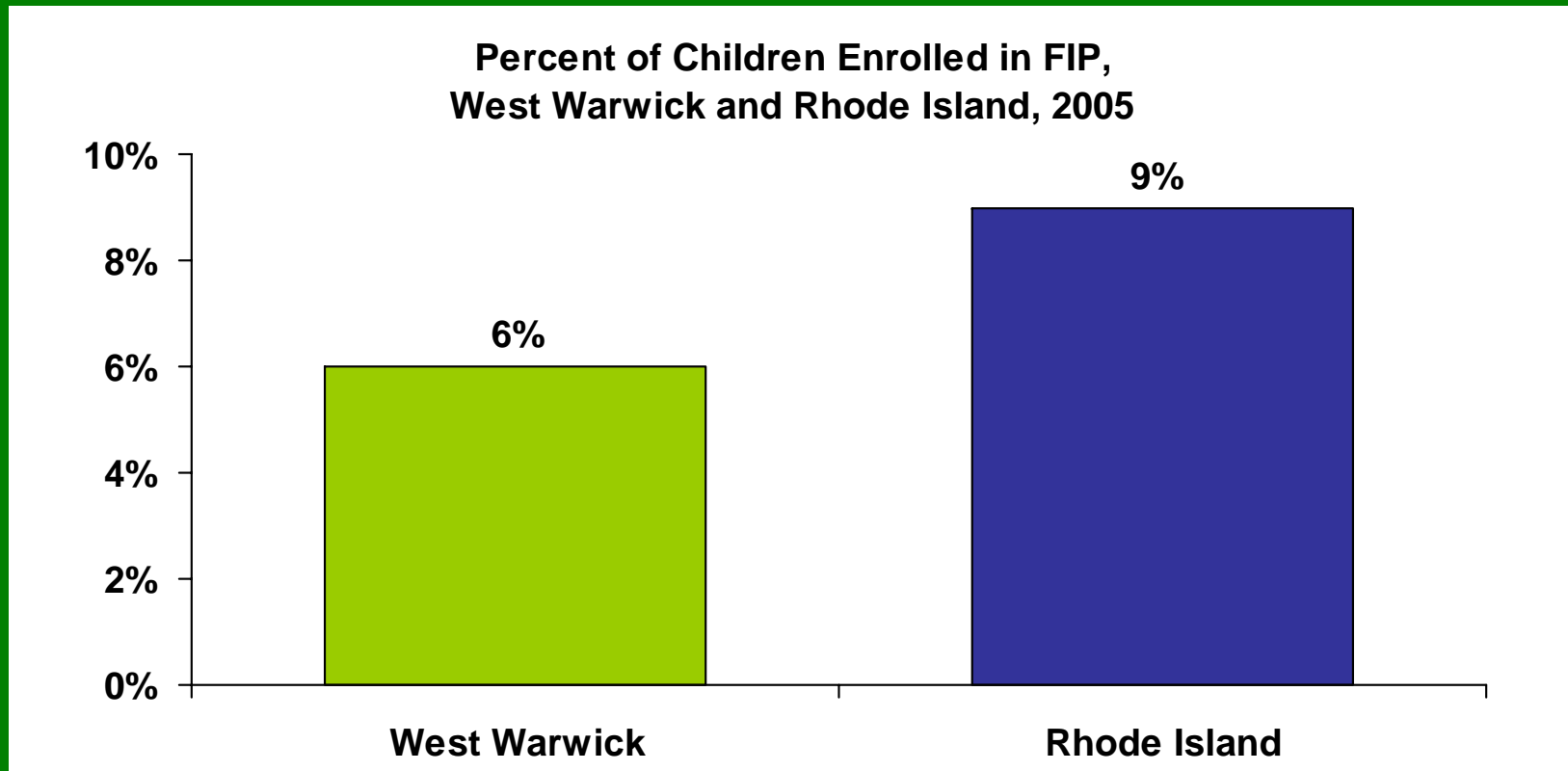
Single Parent Family

A single-parent family with two young children in which the parent is working needs an income of **\$44,208** (or **\$21 per hour for 40 hours per week**) to pay for basic living expenses, including housing, food, clothing, health insurance, child care and transportation.

Two Parent Family

A two-parent family with two young children in which both parents are working needs an income of **\$48,096** (or **\$23 per hour for 40 hours per week**) to pay for basic living expenses, including housing, food, clothing, health insurance, child care and transportation.

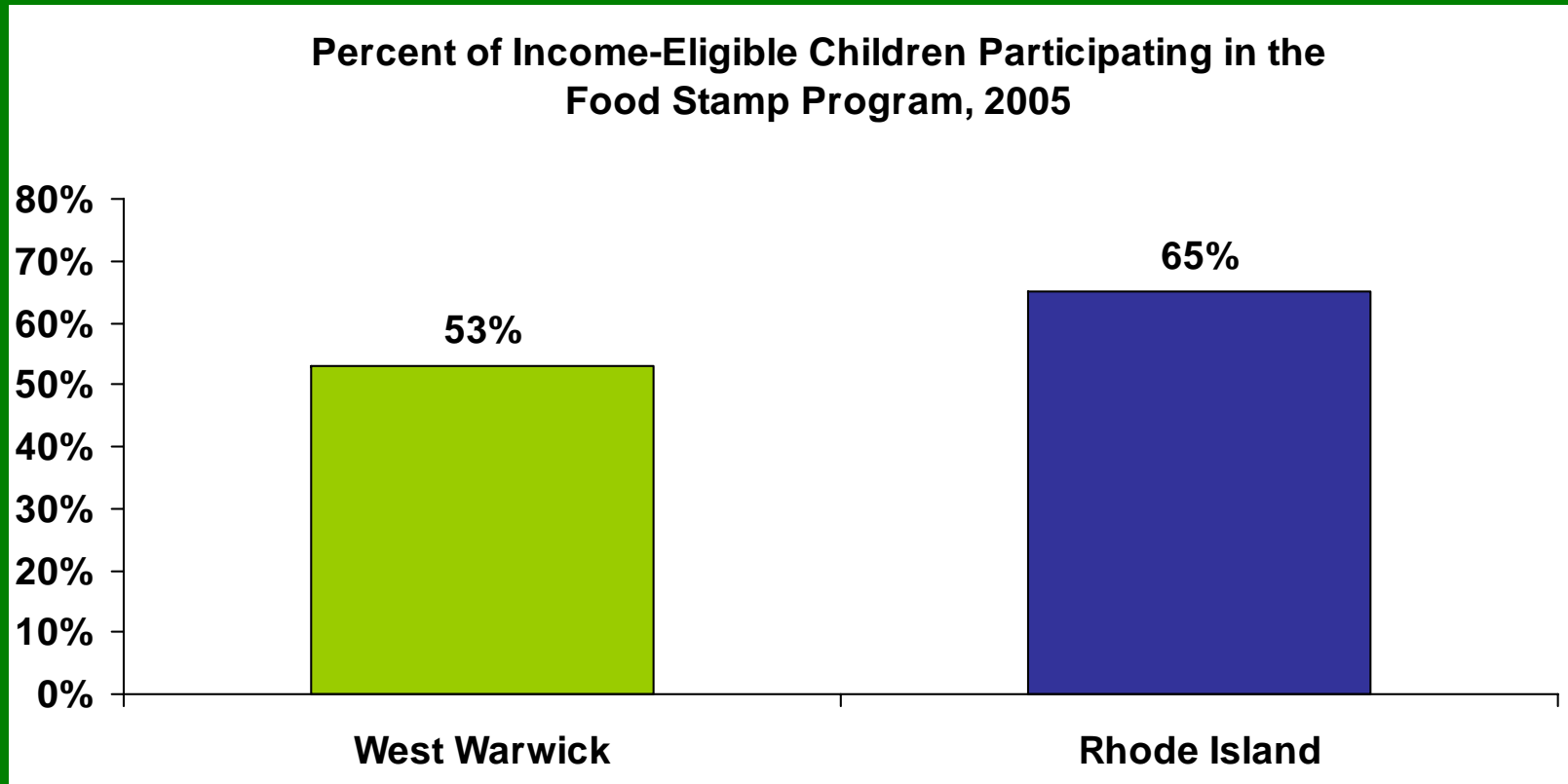
Children Enrolled in the Family Independence Program



Source: Rhode Island Department of Human Services, 2005.

- ❖ In West Warwick in 2005, 6% of all children <18 were enrolled in the Family Independence Program (FIP).
- ❖ Nearly three-quarters (71%) of all FIP beneficiaries in the state are children under the age of 18, and more than two out of every five (42%) children enrolled in FIP are under the age of six.

Children Receiving Food Stamps

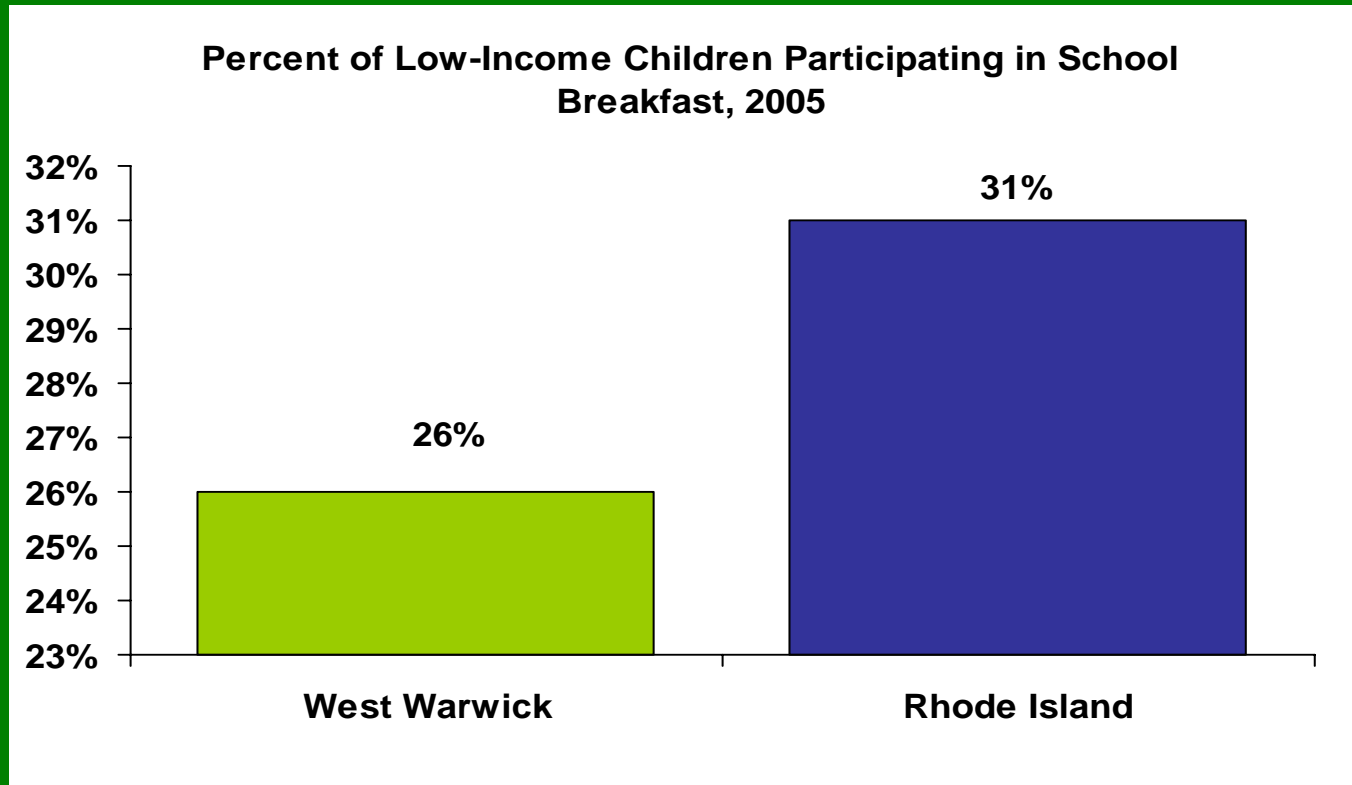


Source: Rhode Island Department of Human Services, InRhodes Database, 2005.

In October 2005 in West Warwick, 851 out of 1,610 estimated income-eligible children under age 18 were participating in the Food Stamp Program.

Note: Estimates of the percentage eligible for the FSP are based on the total number of children under 18 living in families with incomes below 130% of the FPL according to the 2000 census.

Children Participating in School Breakfast



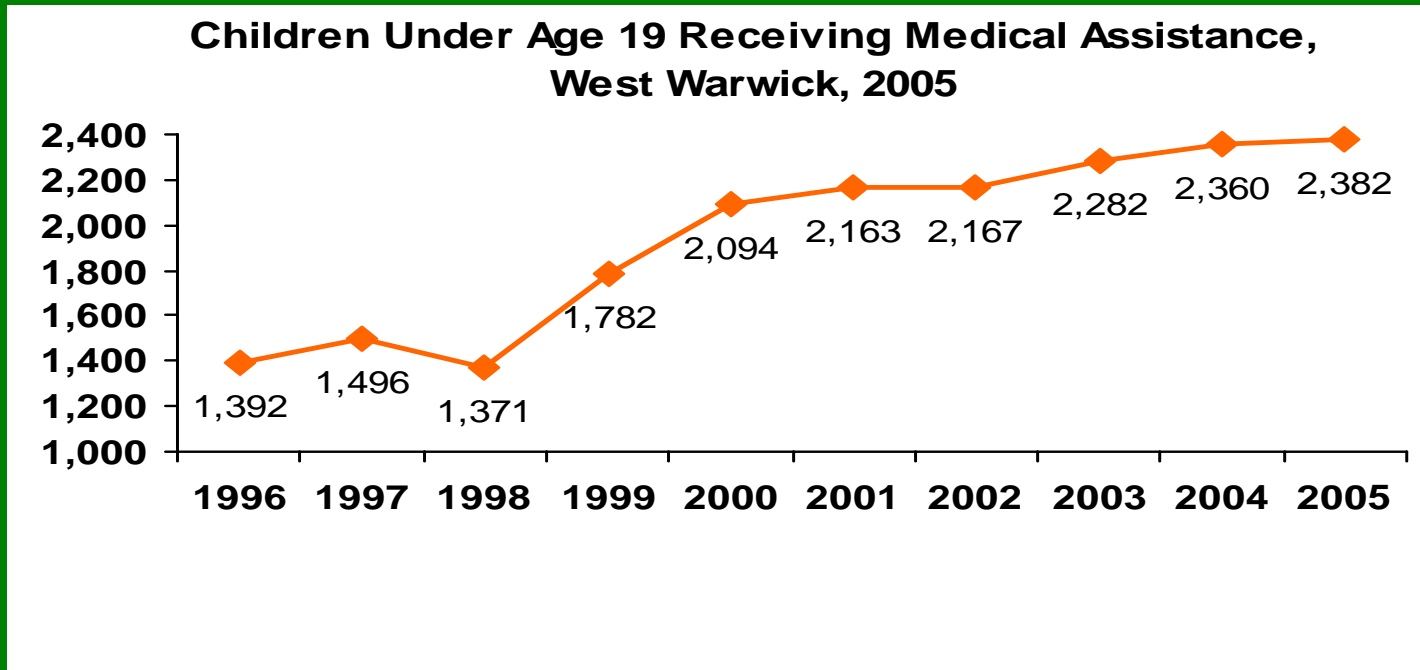
Source: RI Department of Elementary and Secondary Education, Office of School Food Services, October 2005.

In the Fall of 2005, 315 of the 1,194 (26%) low-income children in West Warwick public schools participated in the School Breakfast Program.

Health



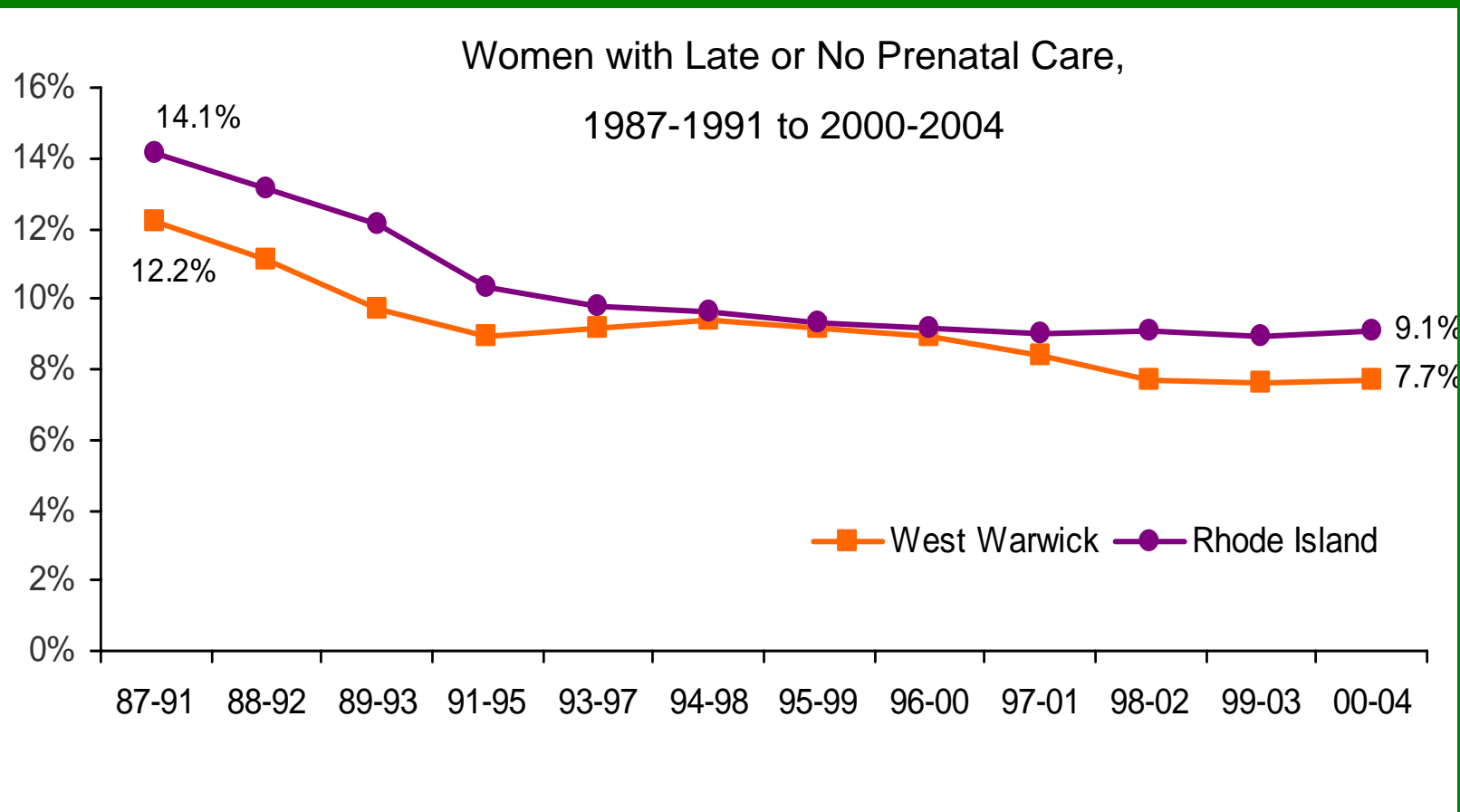
Children's Health Insurance



Source: Rhode Island Department of Human Services, 1996-2005.

- ❖ As of December 2005, 2,382 children living in West Warwick were receiving Medical Assistance.
- ❖ In 2005, 6.6% of Rhode Island's children under age 18 were uninsured (up from 5.8% in 2004), compared with 11.1% of children nationally.
- ❖ As of 2004, there were 16,000 uninsured children under age 19 in Rhode Island. Of these, an estimated 10,000 Rhode Island children were eligible for RItE Care but uninsured.

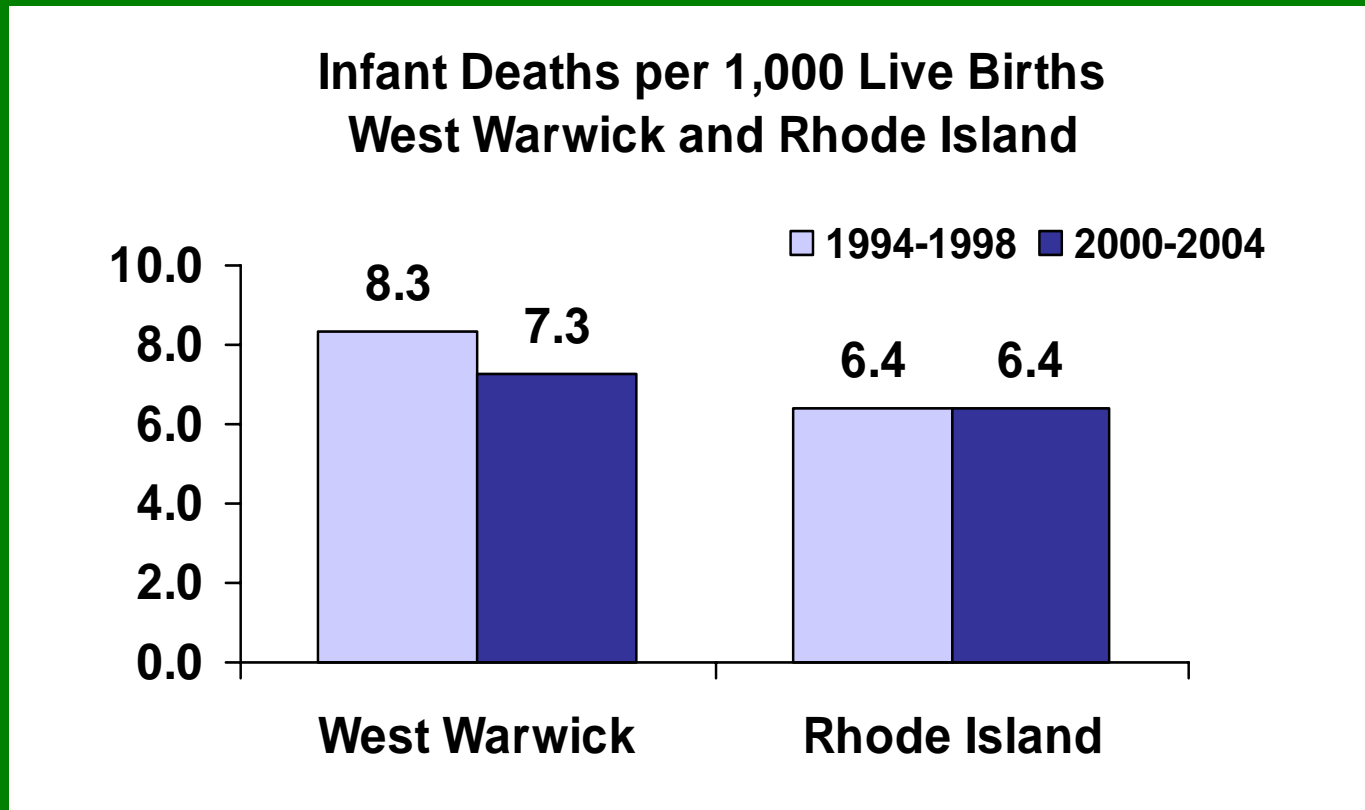
Women with Delayed Prenatal Care



Source: RI Department of Health, 1987-2004

In West Warwick 158 out of 2,043 total births between 2000 & 2004 had delayed prenatal care, for a rate of 7.7%. Delayed prenatal care is defined as the percent of women beginning care in the second or third trimester of pregnancy or receiving no prenatal care at all.

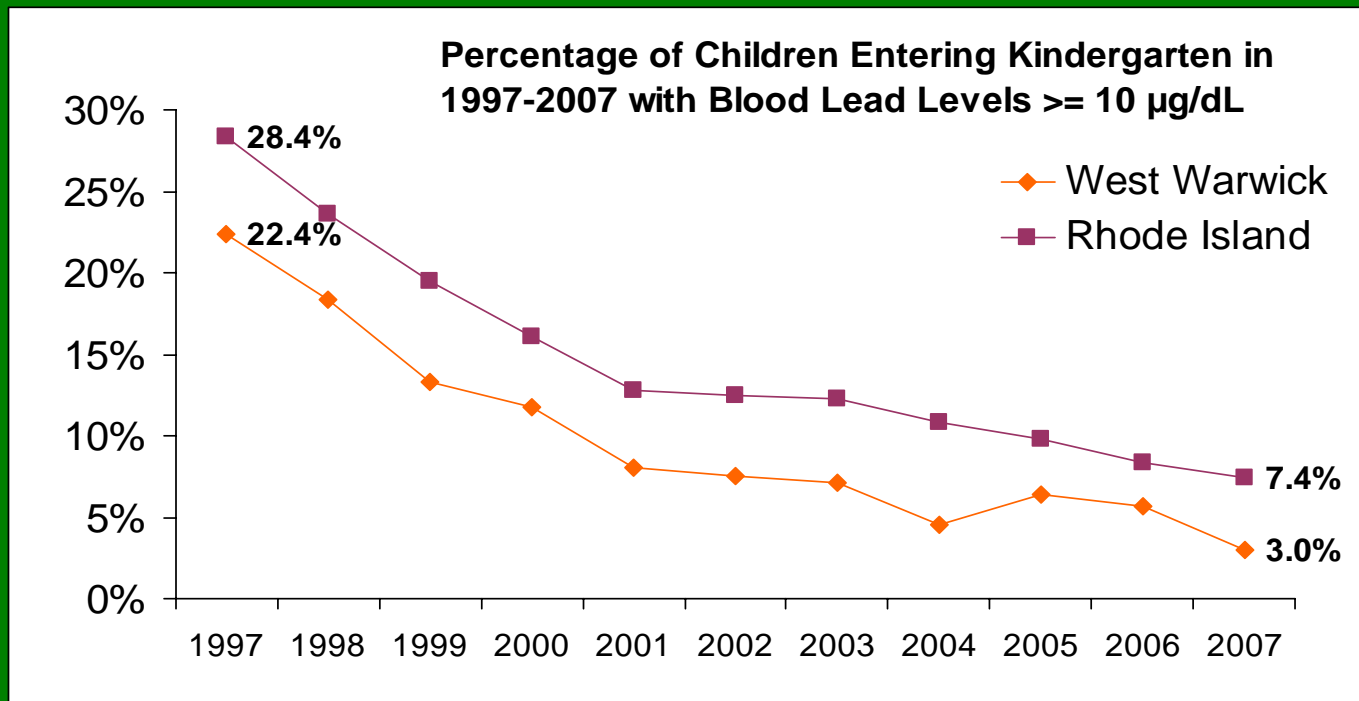
Infant Mortality



Source: RI Department of Health, Division of Family Health, Maternal and Child Health Database, 1994-1998 & 2000-2004.

The infant mortality rate in West Warwick was 7.3 infant deaths per 1,000 live births, higher than the state rate of 6.4.

Children with Elevated Blood Lead Levels



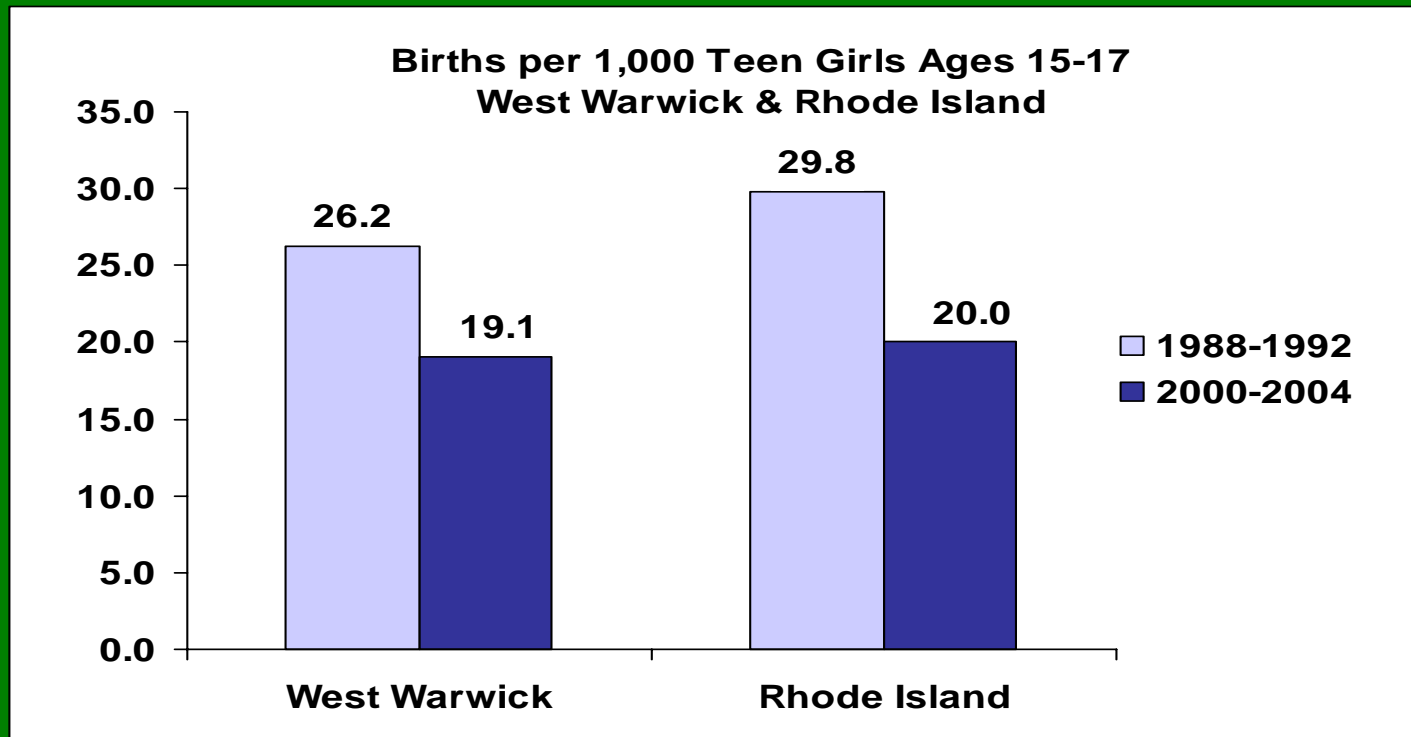
Source: Rhode Island Department of Health, Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention Program, 2005.

Since 1997, West Warwick has seen a decline in the percentage of children entering kindergarten who screened positive for elevated blood lead levels ($\geq 10 \mu\text{g/dL}$). West Warwick has consistently remained below the state rate.

Note: Children entering Kindergarten with Lead Poisoning is the percentage of three-year-old children screened for lead poisoning who had elevated blood lead levels (greater than or equal to $10 \mu\text{g/dL}$) at any time prior to December 31. These data are for children eligible to enter Kindergarten in the Fall of the year cited.

Source: Rhode Island KIDS COUNT Factbooks, 1996-2006.

Births to Teens



Source: RI Department of Health, Division of Family Health, Maternal and Child Health Database, 2000-2004.

- ❖ West Warwick has the lowest teen birth rate of Rhode Island's six core cities and nearly matches the state rate of 20.0.
- ❖ In 2000-2004, there were 47 births to teen girls ages 15 to 17 in West Warwick.
- ❖ In 2000-2004, there were 0 births to girls ages 14 and under, 47 births to girls ages 15 to 17, and 123 births to girls ages 18-19 in West Warwick.

Overweight Children and Youth

Perceptions of Weight and Weight Loss Behaviors Among High School Students, Rhode Island, 2003

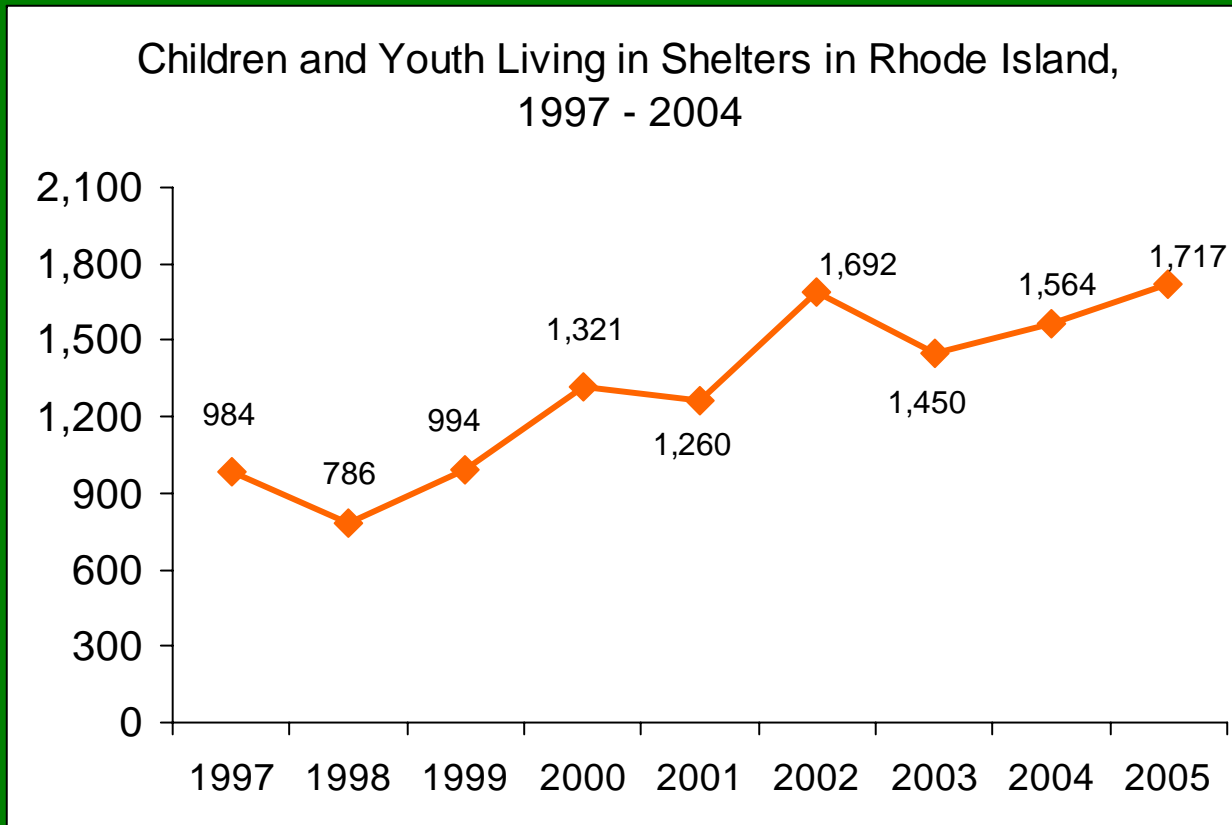
	ALL	MALE	FEMALE
Students who were overweight	10%	14%	6%
Students who described themselves as overweight	30%	26%	35%
Students who were trying to lose weight	44%	28%	61%
<i>"To Lose or Keep from Gaining Weight":</i>			
Students who ate less food, fewer calories, or low-fat foods*	40%	27%	54%
Students who went without eating for 24 hours or more*	11%	7%	15%
Students who took diet pills, powders, or liquids*	6%	5%	7%
Students who vomited or took laxatives*	4%	3%	5%

Source: Rhode Island Department of Health, Center for Health Information and Communication, Rhode Island Youth Risk Behavior Survey, 2003. *During the past 30 days

- ❖ In Rhode Island, 13% of high school students were overweight in 2005, although 33% considered themselves overweight and many attempted to lose weight by changing their eating and exercising behaviors.
- ❖ The rate of obesity in Rhode Island public high school students increased from 9% in 2001 to 13% in 2005, a statistically significant increase.

Safety

Homeless Children and Homeless Youth



Source: Rhode Island Emergency Shelter Information Project, 1998-2005

- ❖ Children under the age of 13 accounted for 83% (1,416) of the total number of children and youth living in shelters in 2005.
- ❖ Of the 6,408 people who received shelter services in Rhode Island in 2005, 126 people claimed West Warwick as their city of last residence.

Juveniles in Family Court and the Training School

❖ In 2005, in Rhode Island, there were 5,188 juveniles referred to Family Court for 8,747 wayward and delinquent offenses.

❖ *In 2005, juveniles from West Warwick committed 327 offenses, accounting for 3.7% of the offenses in Rhode Island.*

❖ In 2005, 1,029 juveniles were in the care and custody of the Rhode Island Training School (85% were male and 15% were female). *Of those with a reported address, 36 (3.5%) were from West Warwick.*

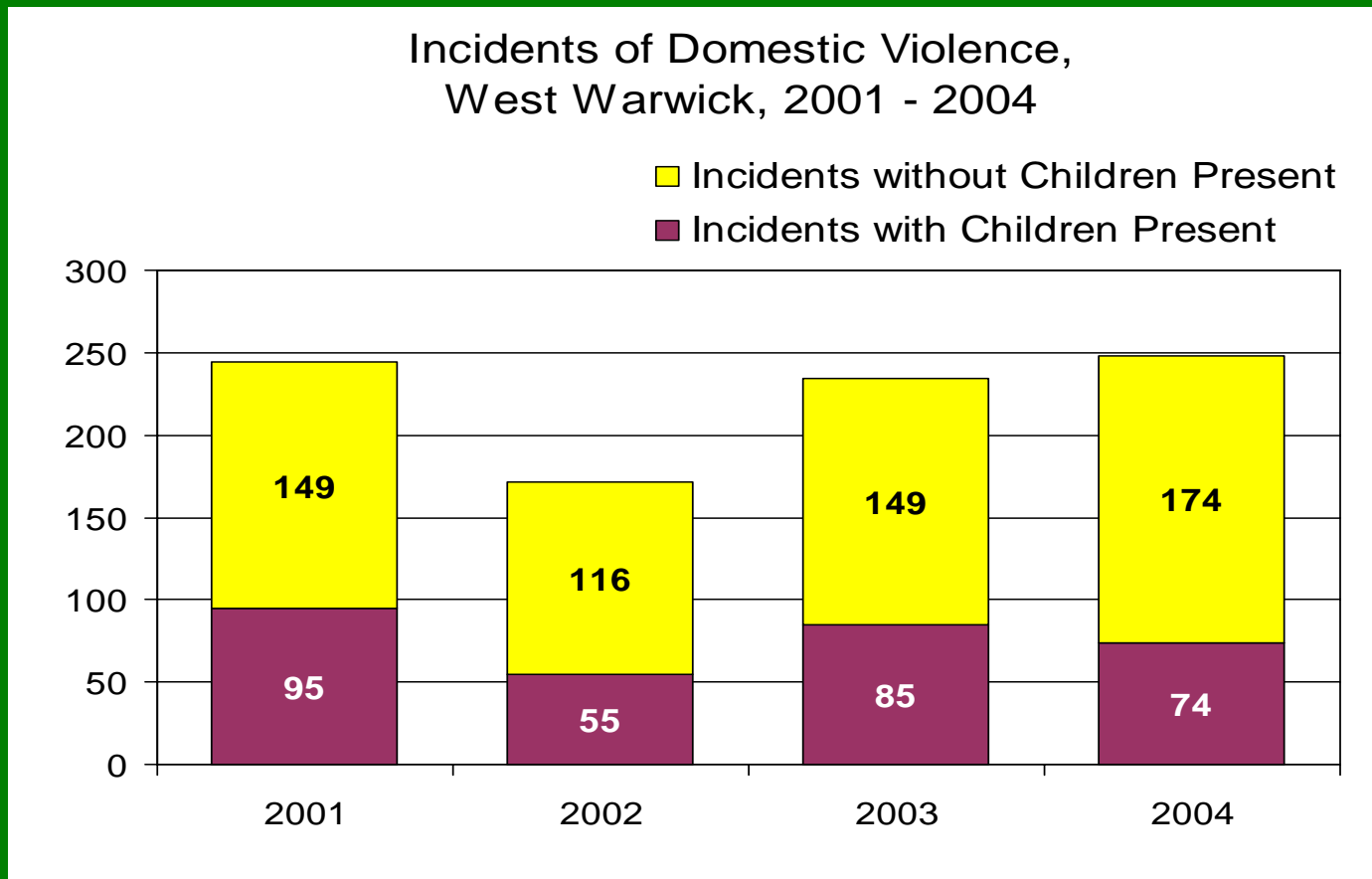
❖ 47% of adjudicated youth at the Training School had at some point in their childhood been victims of documented child abuse or neglect.

Source: Rhode Island Family Court, and Rhode Island Department of Children Youth and Families.

Children of Incarcerated Parents

- ❖ The number of U.S. children with parents in prison grew from 936,500 in 1991 to 1.5 million in 1999.
- ❖ In Rhode Island in 2005, 1,443 adults serving a sentence at the RI Department of Corrections reported having 3,099 children.
- ❖ 44 of these parents, with 98 children, reported their last residence as West Warwick.
- ❖ 14.8 per 1,000 children in West Warwick have parents who are incarcerated, compared to 12.5 statewide.

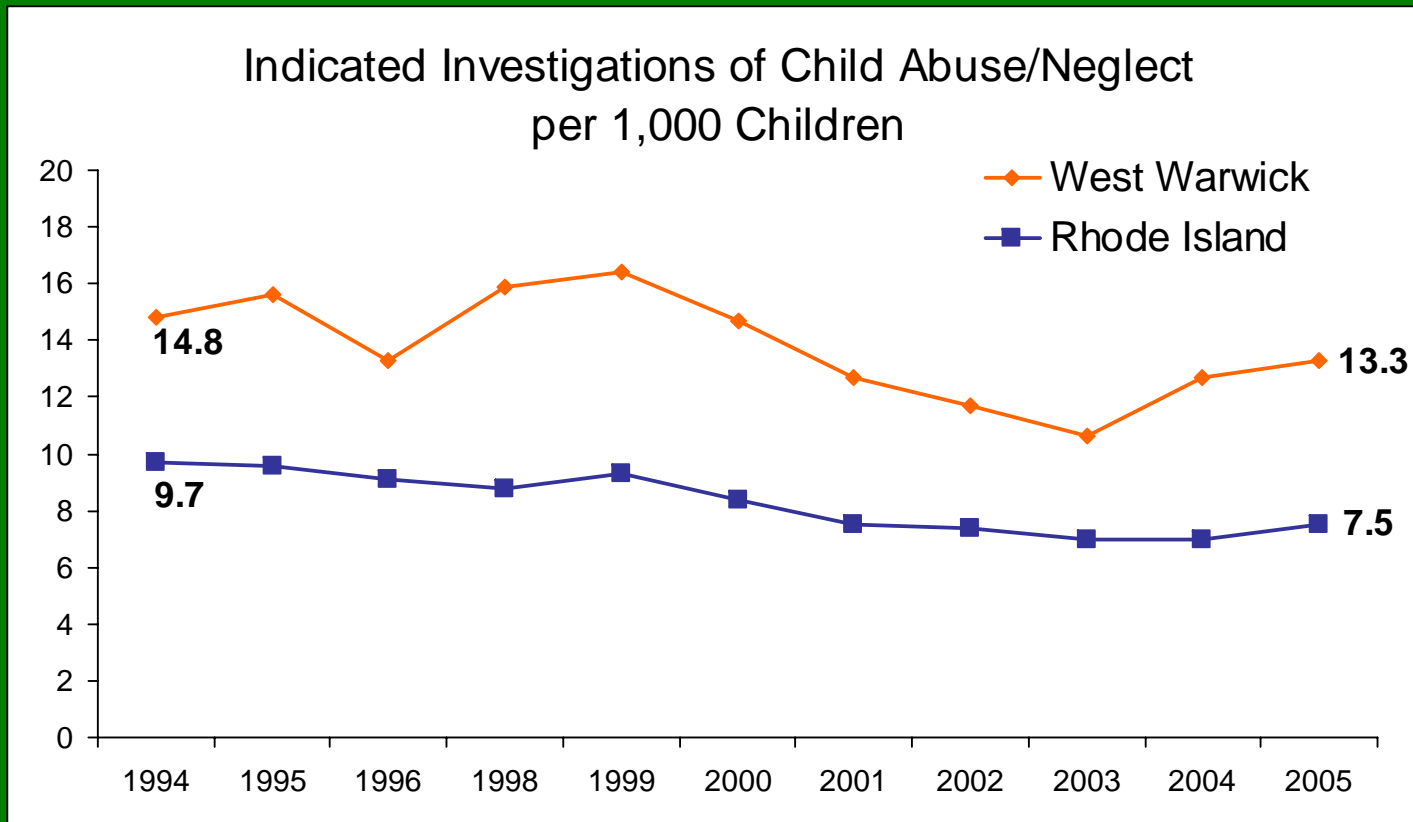
Children Witnessing Domestic Violence



Source: Rhode Island Supreme Court, Domestic Violence Training and Monitoring Unit, 2001-2004.

In 2004, there were 248 reports of domestic violence incidents in West Warwick. Of these, 74 (30%) noted that children were present.

Child Abuse and Neglect

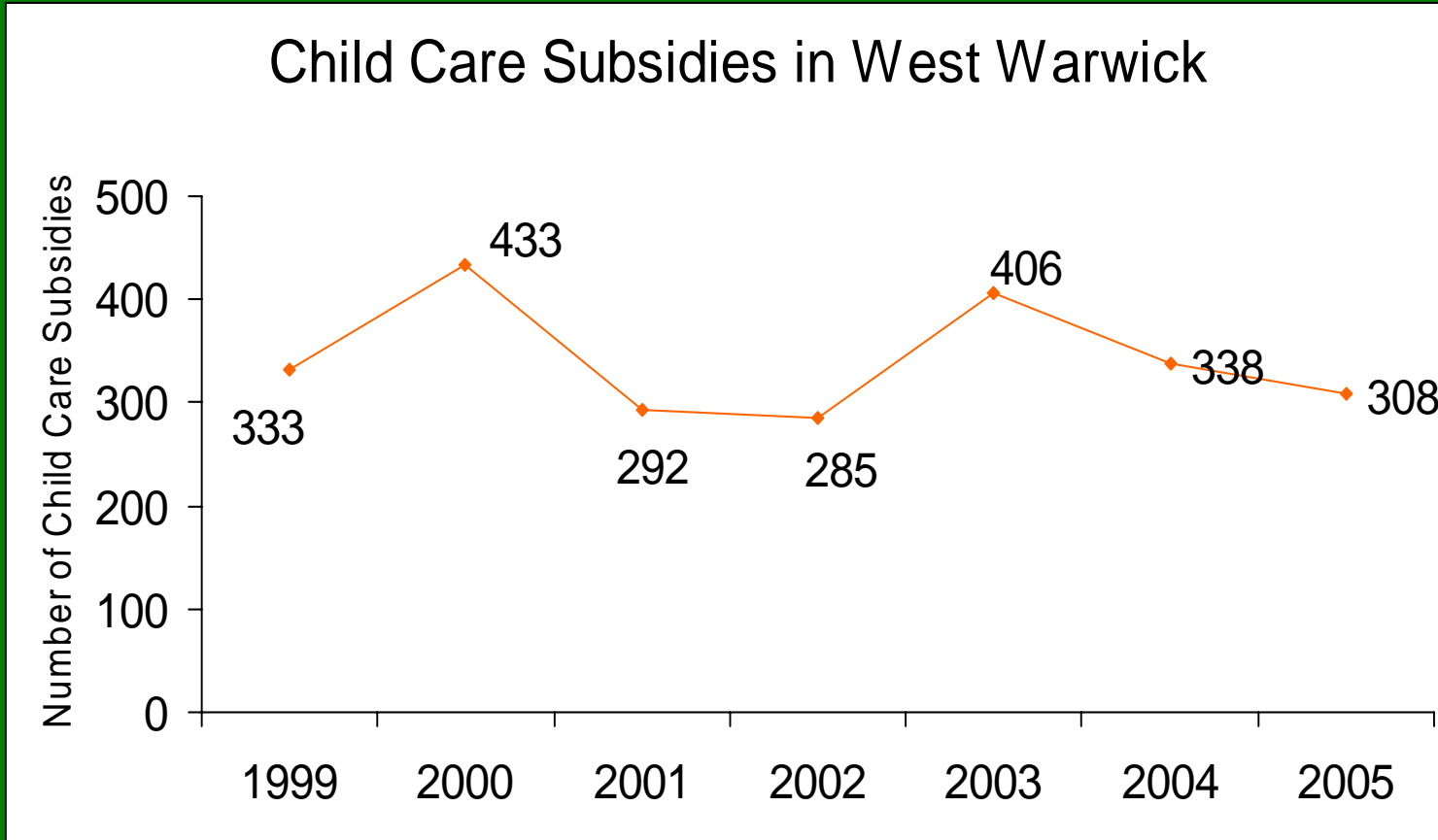


Source: Rhode Island KIDS COUNT Factbooks, 1995-2005 (Original data from the Rhode Island Department of Children, Youth and Families RICHIST system).

West Warwick's rate of indicated cases of child abuse and neglect had declined from 1999-2003, but has experienced an upward spike in the past few years. West Warwick still has one of the highest rates of child abuse in the state (similar to other core cities).

Education

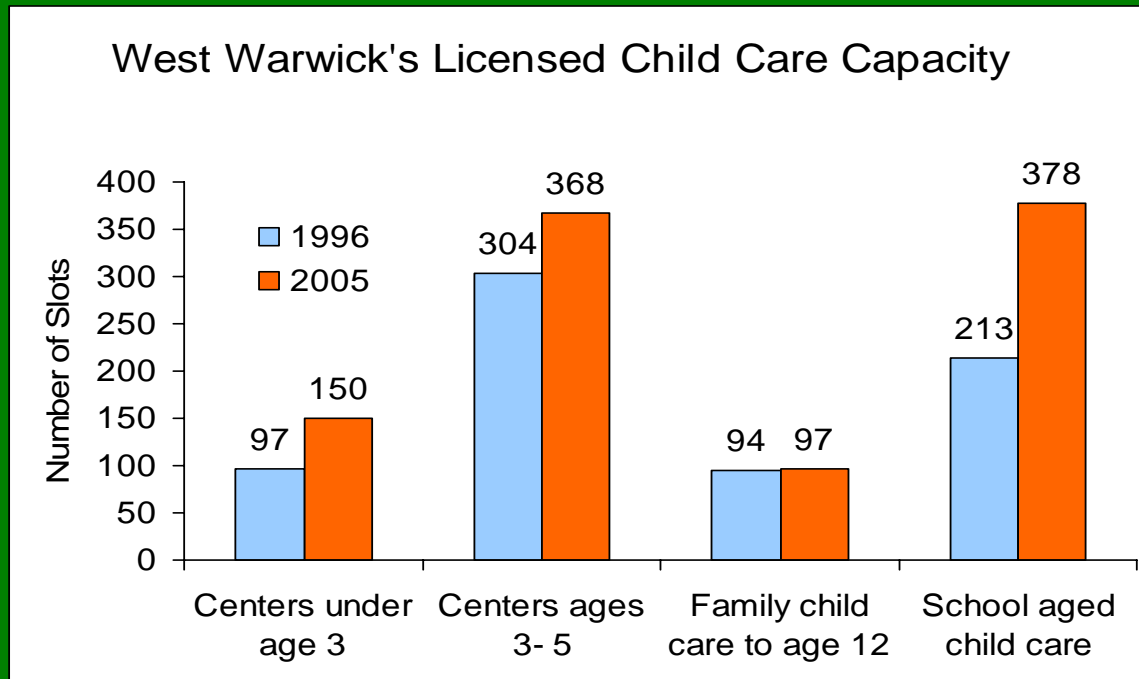
Child Care Subsidies



All data are reported by location of the child care program not the residence of the child. Child care subsidies can be used for care by a child care center, family child care home, a relative, or an in-home caregiver.

Source: Rhode Island KIDS COUNT Factbooks, 2000 – 2005.

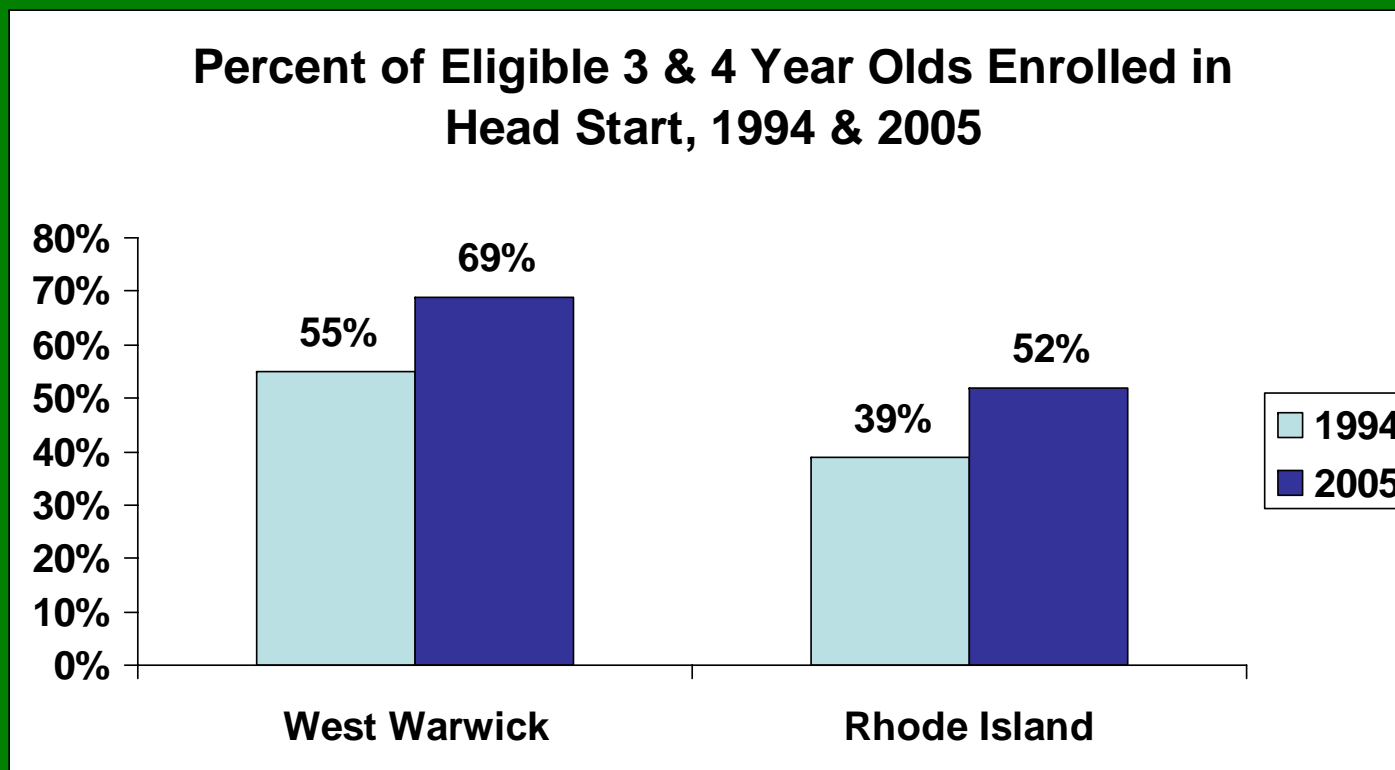
Regulated Child Care



Source: Options for Working Parents, 1996 and 2005.

- ❖ The number of child care slots for children at both child care centers and family child care homes increased between 1996 and 2005 in West Warwick.
- ❖ Accreditation is often used to mark higher levels of quality. In West Warwick in 2005, only 1 out of 27 child care programs were NAEYC or NAFCC accredited.

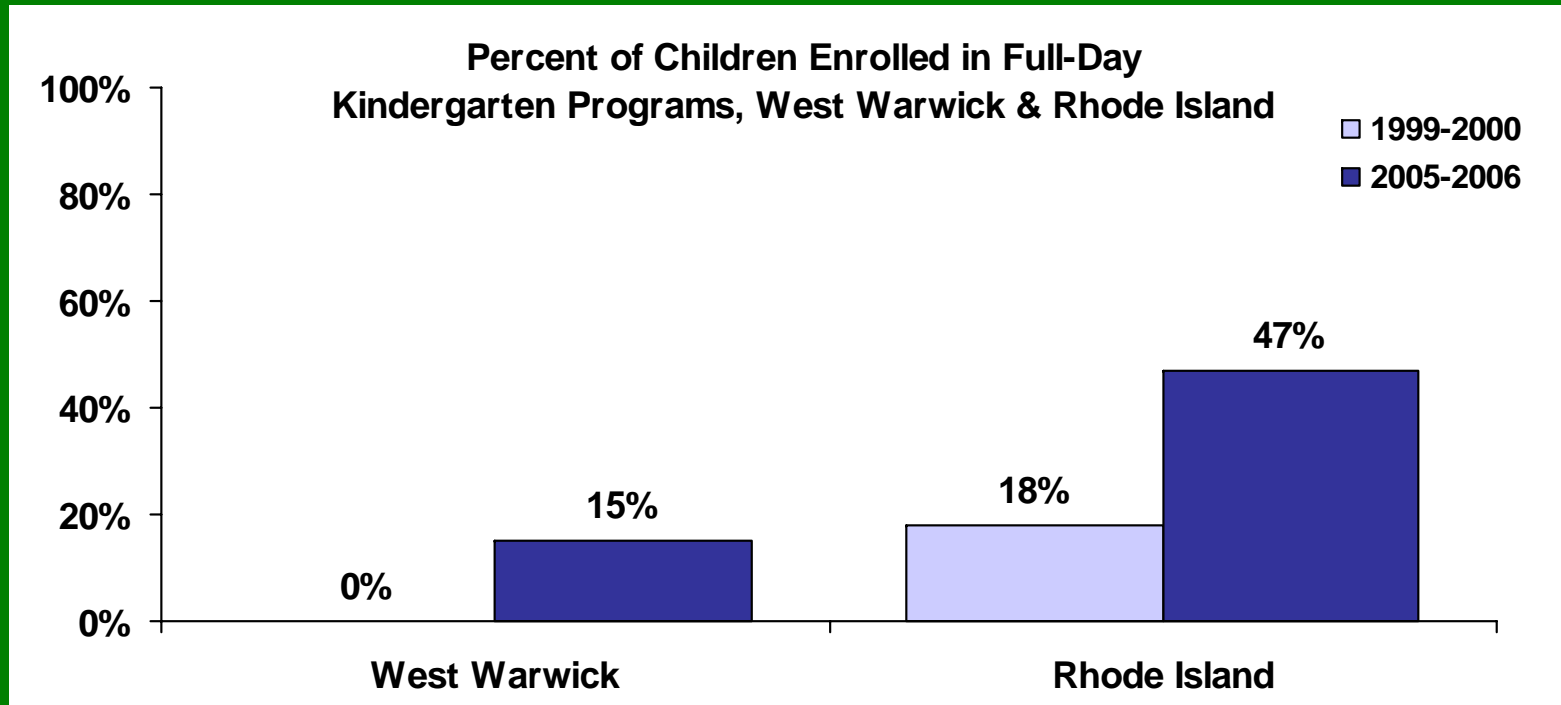
Children Enrolled in Head Start



Source: 1995 and 2006 Rhode Island KIDS COUNT Factbooks

In West Warwick, 143 children were enrolled in Head Start programs as of October 2005, a 25% increase from 1994. Another 55 children were enrolled in Early Head Start.

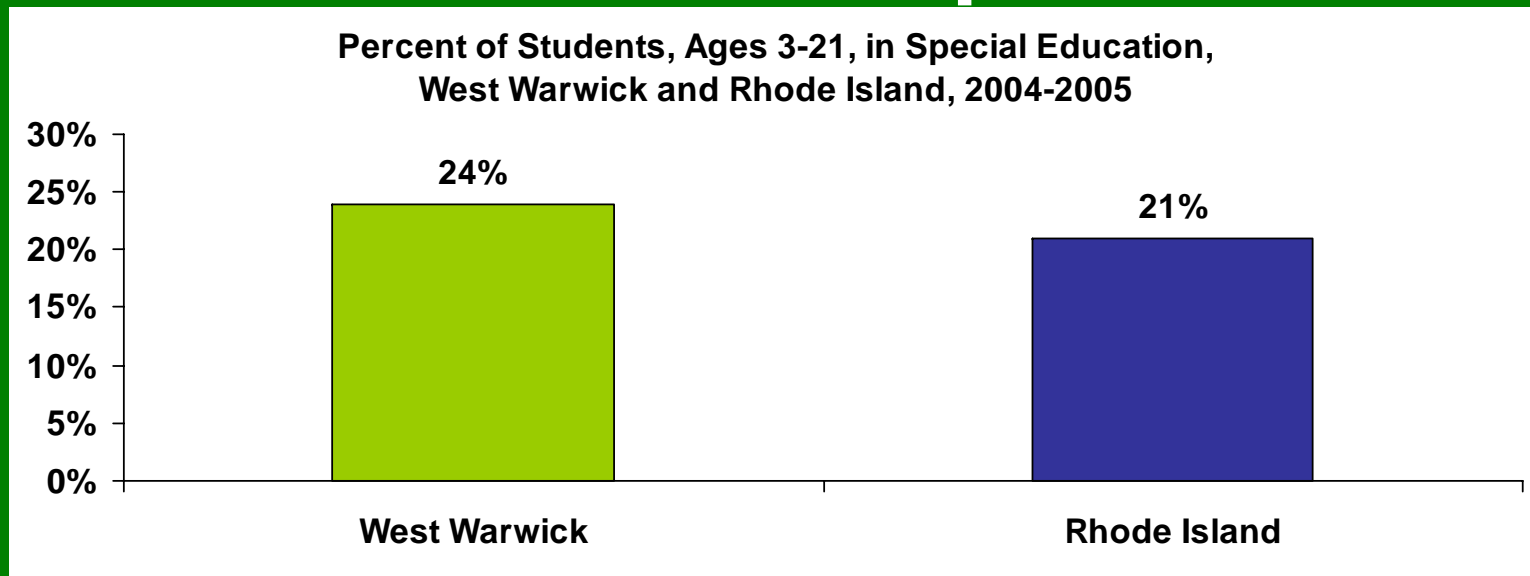
Children in Full-Day Kindergarten



Source: Rhode Island Department of Elementary and Secondary Education, 1999-2000 and 2004-2005.

- ❖ In West Warwick in 2005-2006, 40 out of 265 children who attended kindergarten were in a full day program.
- ❖ As of the 2005-2006 school year, 12 school districts offered universal access to full-day kindergarten programs. Another 9 school districts operated at least one full-day kindergarten classroom.
- ❖ Cost is a major consideration for most districts considering full-day K. Some research suggests that districts can save money in the long term because full-day K programs are more effective and reduce the need to retain students.

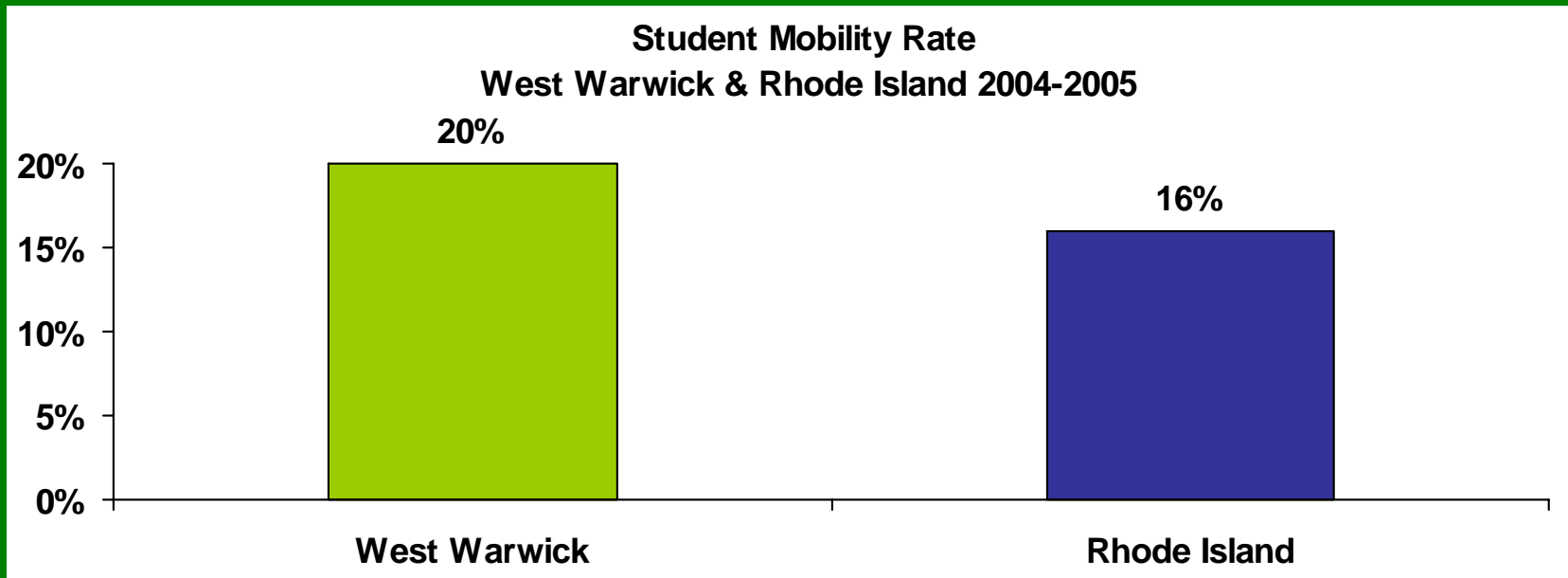
Children Enrolled in Special Education



Source: Rhode Island Department of Elementary and Secondary Education, 2004-2005 school year.

- ❖ In the 2004-2005 school year, 24% of West Warwick's children ages 3-21 were enrolled in special education, compared to 21% for the state as a whole.
- ❖ Between the 1992-1993 and 2004-2005 school years, special education enrollment in Rhode Island increased from 16% to 21%.
- ❖ In the 2003-2004 school year (the most recent year national data were tabulated), Rhode Island had the highest percentage of public school students with disabilities and receiving special education services.

Student Mobility*



Source: Rhode Island Department of Elementary and Secondary Education, 2004-2005 school year.

- ❖ In Rhode Island, students who move are absent more often than students who do not move. Thirty-one percent of students who did not move missed 16 or more days of school, compared to 42% of students who moved at least once during the same time period. In 2005, the high school attendance rate in West Warwick was 90%, the same as the state as a whole.
- ❖ 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.

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

2006 New England Common Assessment Program (NECAP) District Results

2006 NECAP District Summary Results

Proficiency Across Grades 3-8, West Warwick, Rhode Island

	<u>Reading</u>	<u>Mathematics</u>	<u>Writing</u>
West Warwick	56%	43%	53%
Rhode Island	59%	50%	51%

NECAP is the New England Common Assessment Program. There are four levels of proficiency: Proficient with Distinction, Proficient, Partially Proficient and Substantially Below Proficient.

Source: Rhode Island Department of Elementary and Secondary Education, 2006.

High School Performance

- ❖ In 2005 a total of 27 high schools (47%) across Rhode Island were classified as high performing.
- ❖ In 2005 there were 13 high schools (23%) classified as moderately performing.
- ❖ In 2005, 17 Rhode Island high schools (30%) were classified as in need of improvement. Fifteen of the high schools were operated by core city school districts and the remainder were operated by the state.
- ❖ West Warwick's one high school was classified as in need of improvement.

School Suspensions

School District	# of Students Enrolled	Out-of-School Suspension	In-School Suspension	Total Disp. Actions	Actions per 100 Students
West Warwick	3,651	1,065	1,206	2,615	72
Rhode Island	151,706	29,947	17,983	48,929	32

❖ In West Warwick in the 2004-2005 school year, there were 72 disciplinary actions for every 100 students, significantly higher than the state rate of 32.

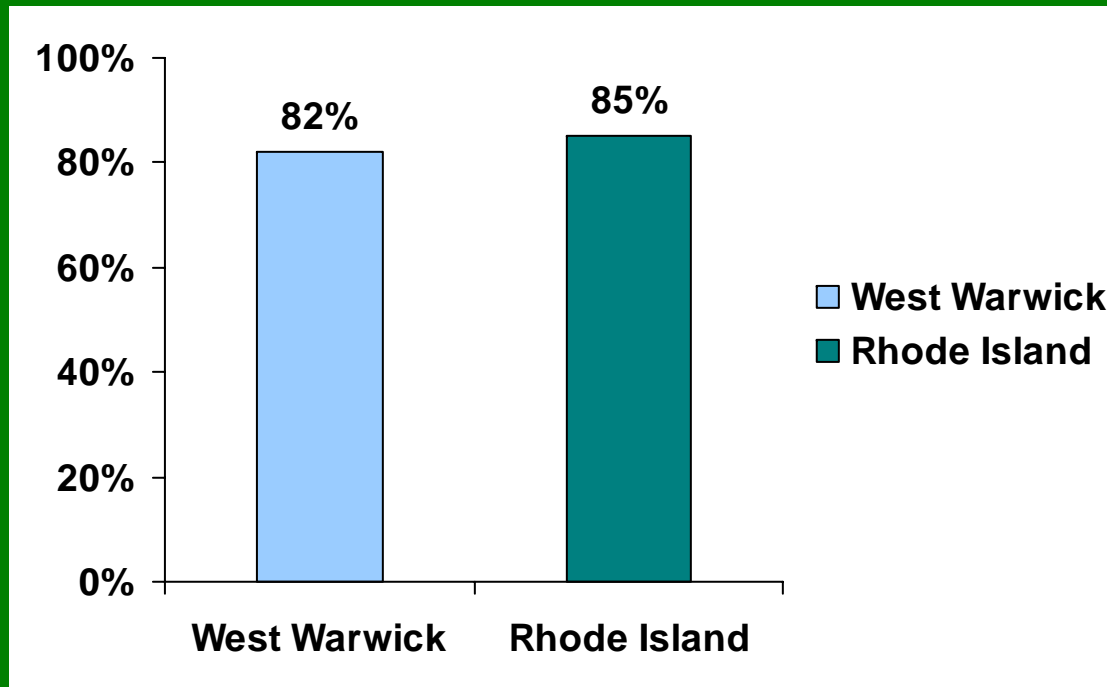
❖ Suspended students are more likely to have poor academic performance and to drop out of school.

❖ Low-income and minority students are at increased risk for suspension. In Rhode Island in 2004-2005, 52% of disciplinary actions were to students in the core cities.

** Actions per 100 students does not signify the total number of students out of every 100 who were disciplined, but the number of disciplinary actions assigned per 100 students.*

High School Graduation Rate

West Warwick and Rhode Island, 2006



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

- ❖ At 82%, West Warwick has a slightly lower graduation rate than the state average of 85% for 2006.
- ❖ West Warwick also has a higher rate than the average of the core cities (74%).

Elaine Farber
Research Analyst
Rhode Island KIDS COUNT
One Union Station
Providence, RI 02903
efarber@rikidscount.org
(401) 351-9400 voice
(401) 351-1758 fax
www.rikidscount.org