

West Warwick Data in Your Backyard

Findings From the *2010 Rhode Island Kids Count Factbook*



Presented by Stephanie Geller

Rhode Island KIDS COUNT

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West Warwick, Rhode Island

Special thanks for hosting today's
presentation to:

Tides Family Services
and
**The West Warwick Police
Department**

2010 Rhode Island KIDS COUNT Factbook

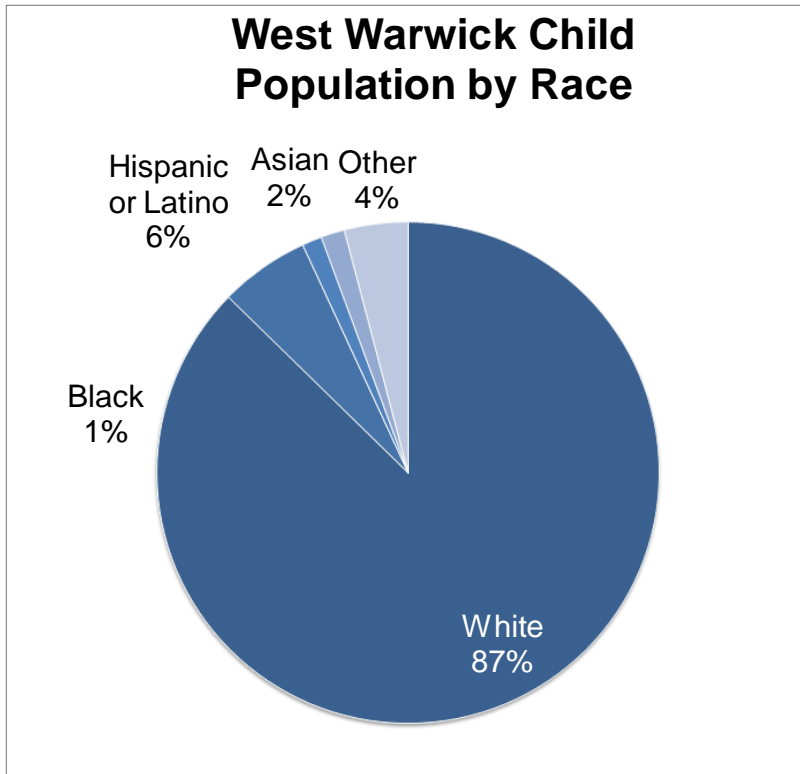


The 2010 Factbook is the 16th annual publication. The 2010 Factbook contains 67 indicators of child well-being, including 5 new indicators on youth and education. Most indicators include city and town level information.

Family and Community



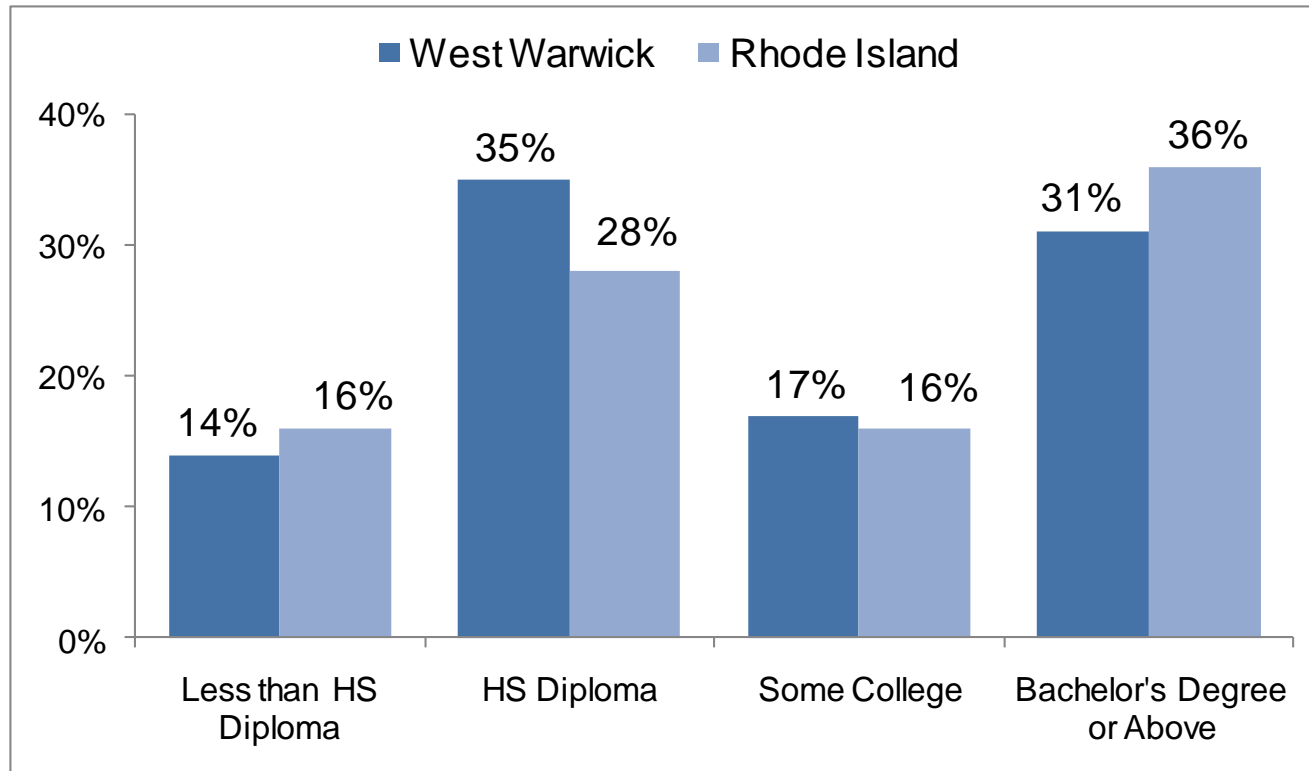
West Warwick's Child Population, By Race & Ethnicity, 2000



Population Under 18 Years of Age	
Hispanic or Latino	384
White, non-Hispanic	5,792
Black	86
Asian	102
Other/Two or More Races	268
Total	6,632

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

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 West Warwick, 14% of new mothers had less than a high school diploma, slightly less than the state rate of 16%. The proportion of new mothers with a bachelor's degree or above is smaller in West Warwick (31%) than in the state as a whole (36%).

Infants Born at Highest Risk

Mother:

- Under Age 20
- Unmarried
- Without High School Degree



Child:

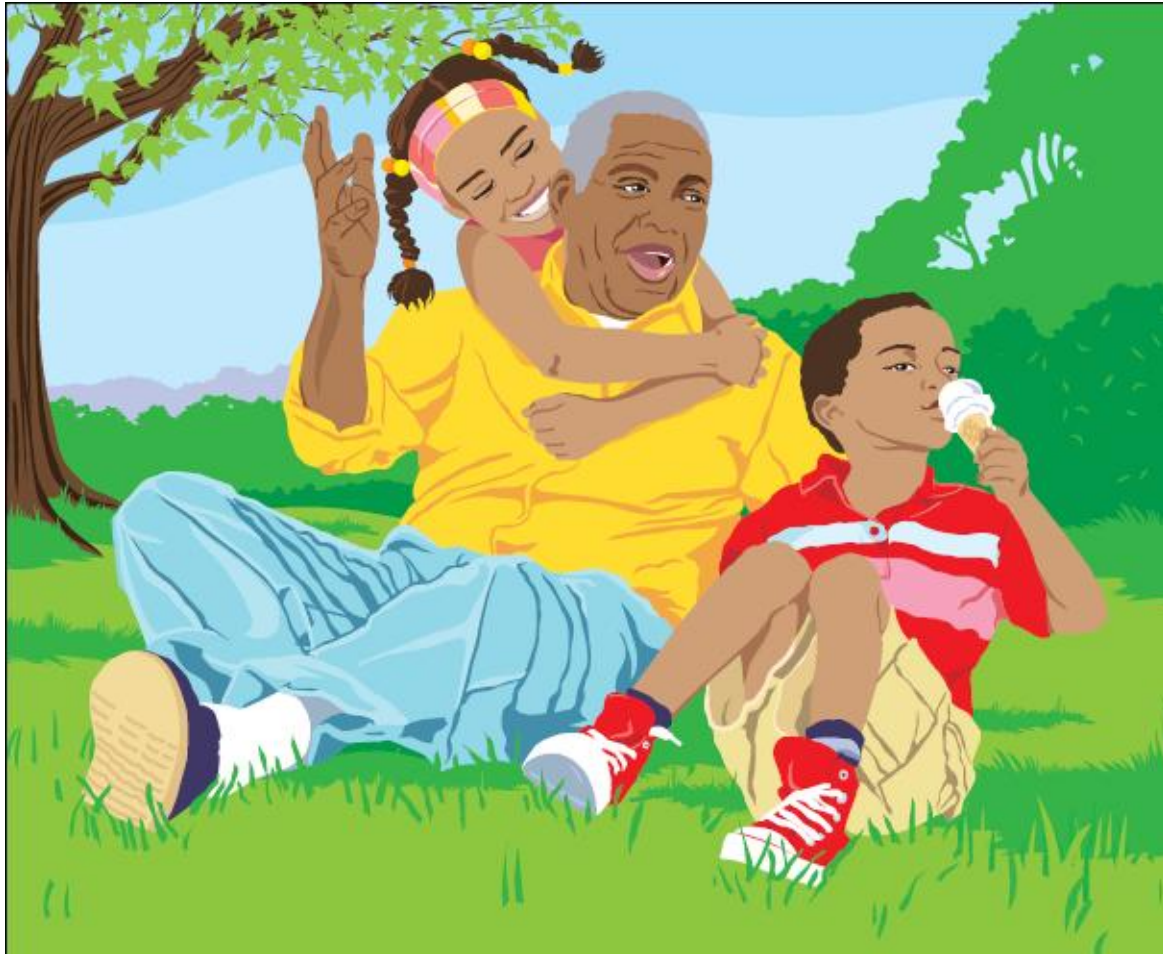
- More likely to grow up in poverty
- More likely to suffer from abuse or neglect
- Less likely to be ready for school at kindergarten entry
- Less likely to perform well in school
- Less likely to complete high school

❖ In 2009, 578 (5%) Rhode Island babies were born with all three risk factors, 15 of whom were born to mothers living in West Warwick.

❖ 4% of all babies born in 2009 to mothers living in West Warwick 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 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 (RIte Care).

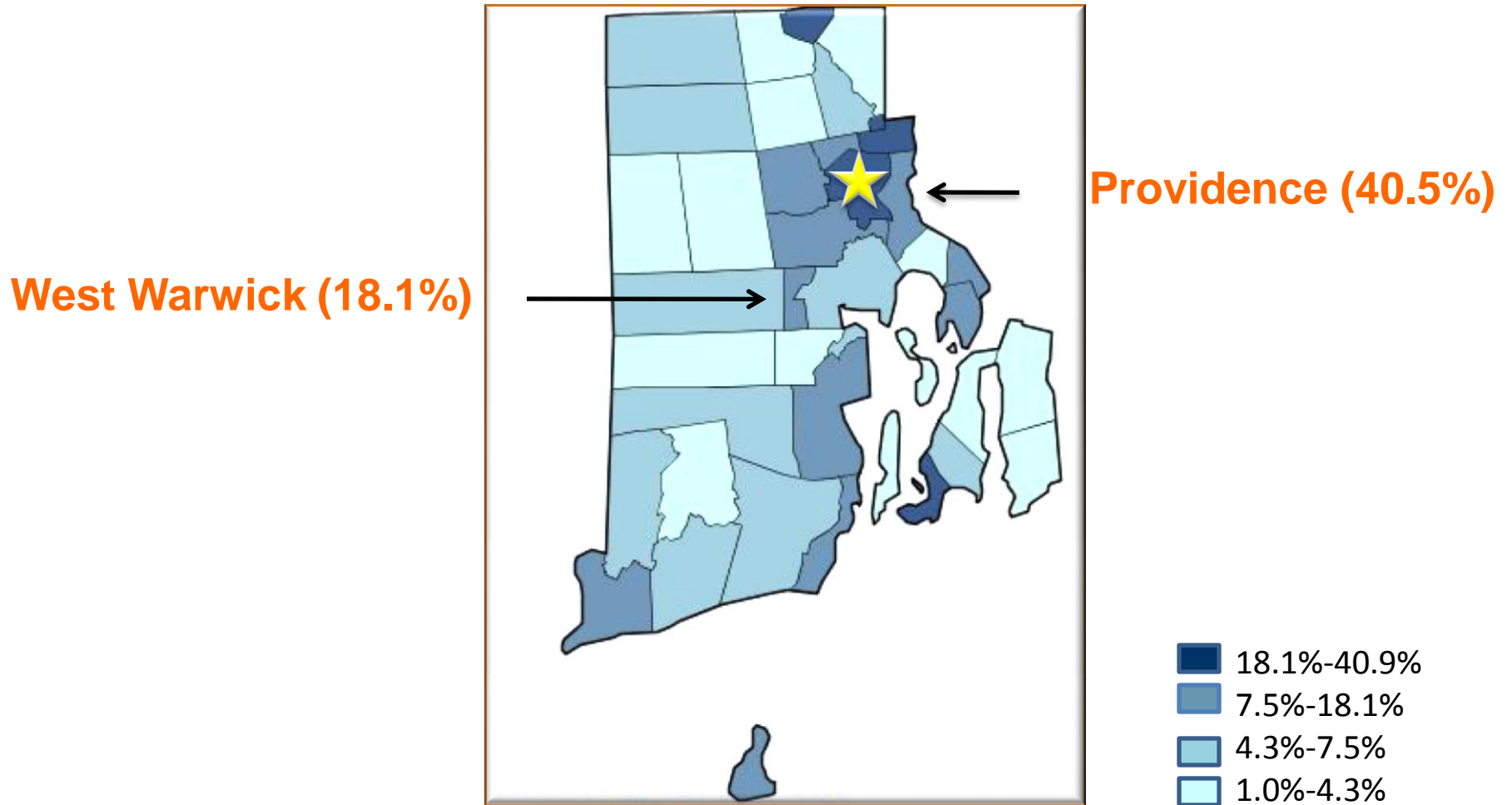
Children in Poverty, 2000

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.

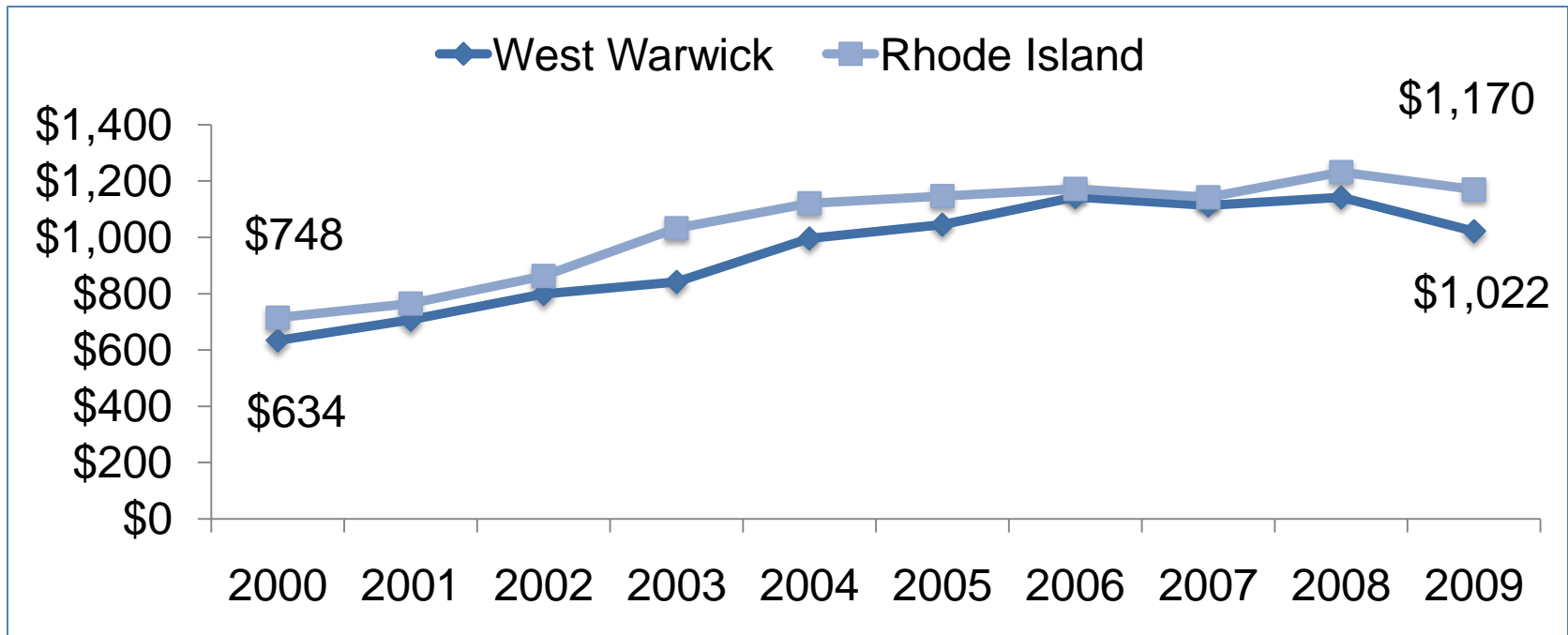
Rhode Island Child Poverty Rates, 2000



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

Map created using the KIDS COUNT Data Center (www.datacenter.kidscount.org)

Cost of Housing



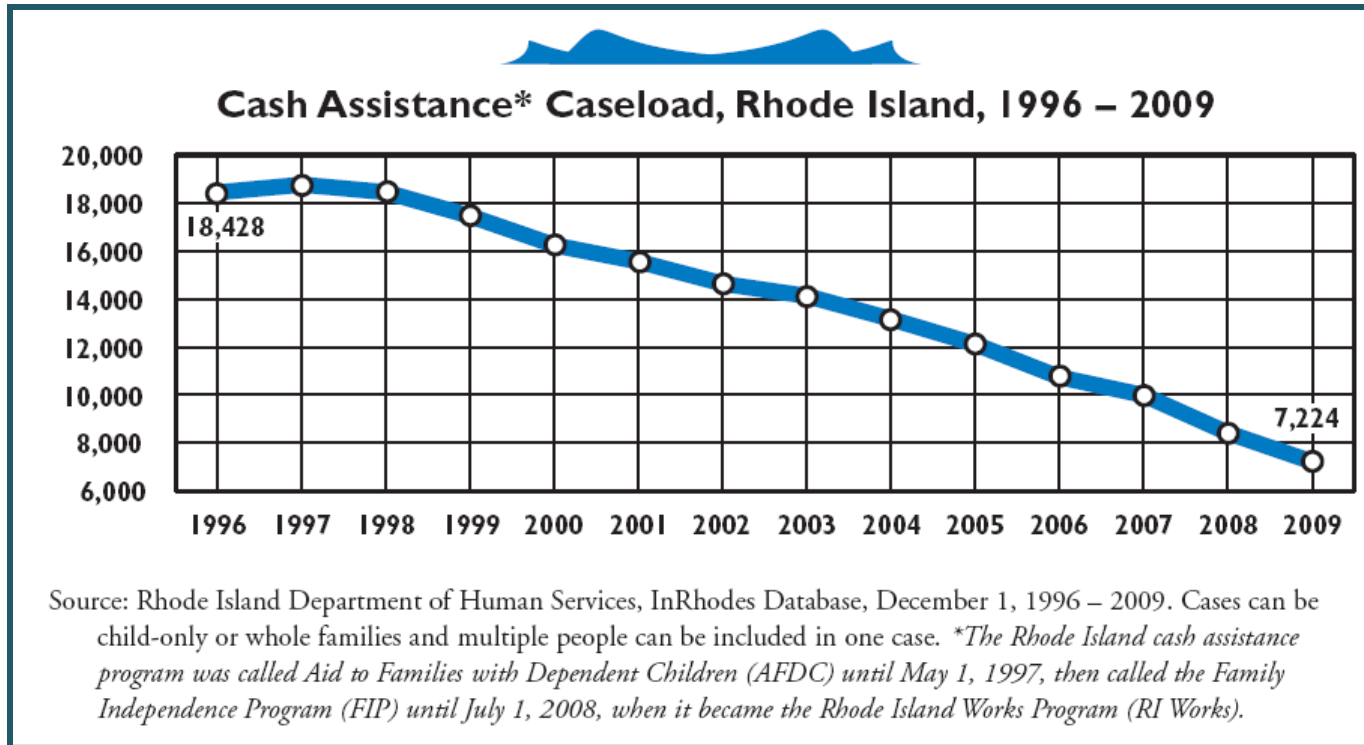
Source: Rhode Island Housing Rent Survey, 2000-2009.

- ❖ 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 West Warwick was slightly lower at **\$1,022**. A family of three living at the poverty level in West Warwick would have to devote 67% 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.
 - West Warwick was the last permanent residence for 39 of these children.
- ❖ During the 2008-2009 school year, Rhode Island public school personnel identified 1,099 children as homeless.
 - West Warwick Public School personnel identified 21 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, 4% (281) of children in West Warwick were receiving cash assistance, down from 6% (430) in 2005.
- ❖ 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

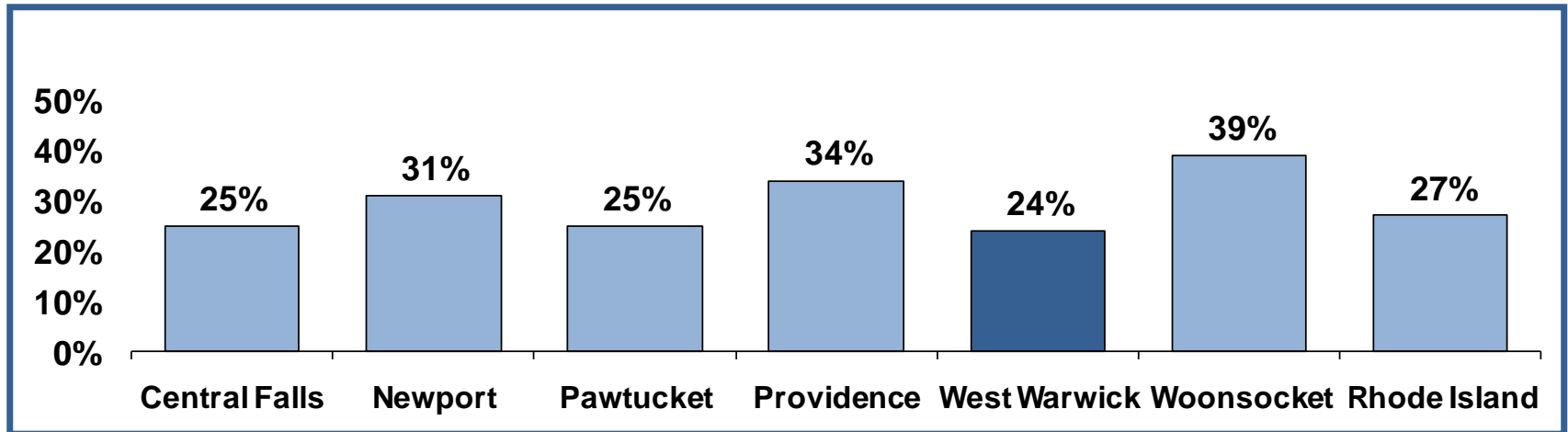
	# Participating 2005	# Participating 2009	% Change 2005-2009
Central Falls	2,038	2,917	43%
Newport	884	1,202	36%
Pawtucket	3,795	5,790	53%
Providence	16,767	20,771	24%
West Warwick	851	1,472	73%
Woonsocket	2,833	4,696	66%
Core Cities	27,168	36,848	36%
Remainder of State	8,000	16,784	110%
Rhode Island	35,168	53,632	53%

Source: Rhode Island Department of Human Services, 2005-2009.

- ❖ In October 2009, 1,472 West Warwick children were receiving SNAP benefits, a 73% increase in participation from 2005, the biggest increase of any core city.
- ❖ 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



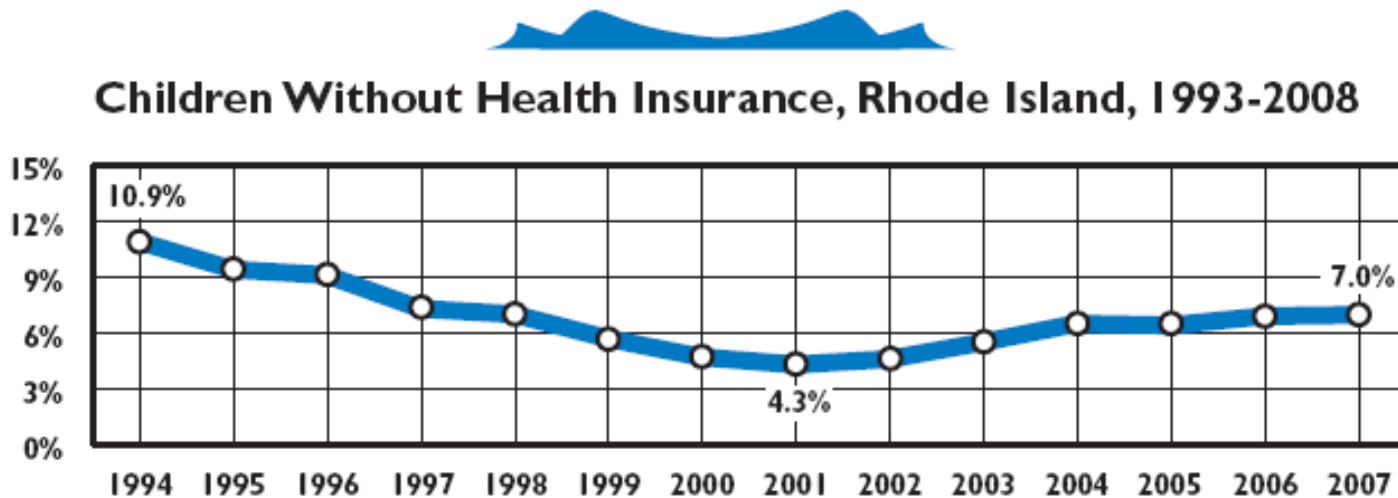
Source: Rhode Island Department of Elementary and Secondary Education, October 2009.

- ❖ In October 2009, an average of 402 (24%) low-income children in West Warwick participated in the School Breakfast Program each day out of 1,677 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, which provide free breakfast to all children, regardless of income, increase school breakfast participation and can reduce administrative costs.

Health



Uninsured Children in Rhode Island



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.

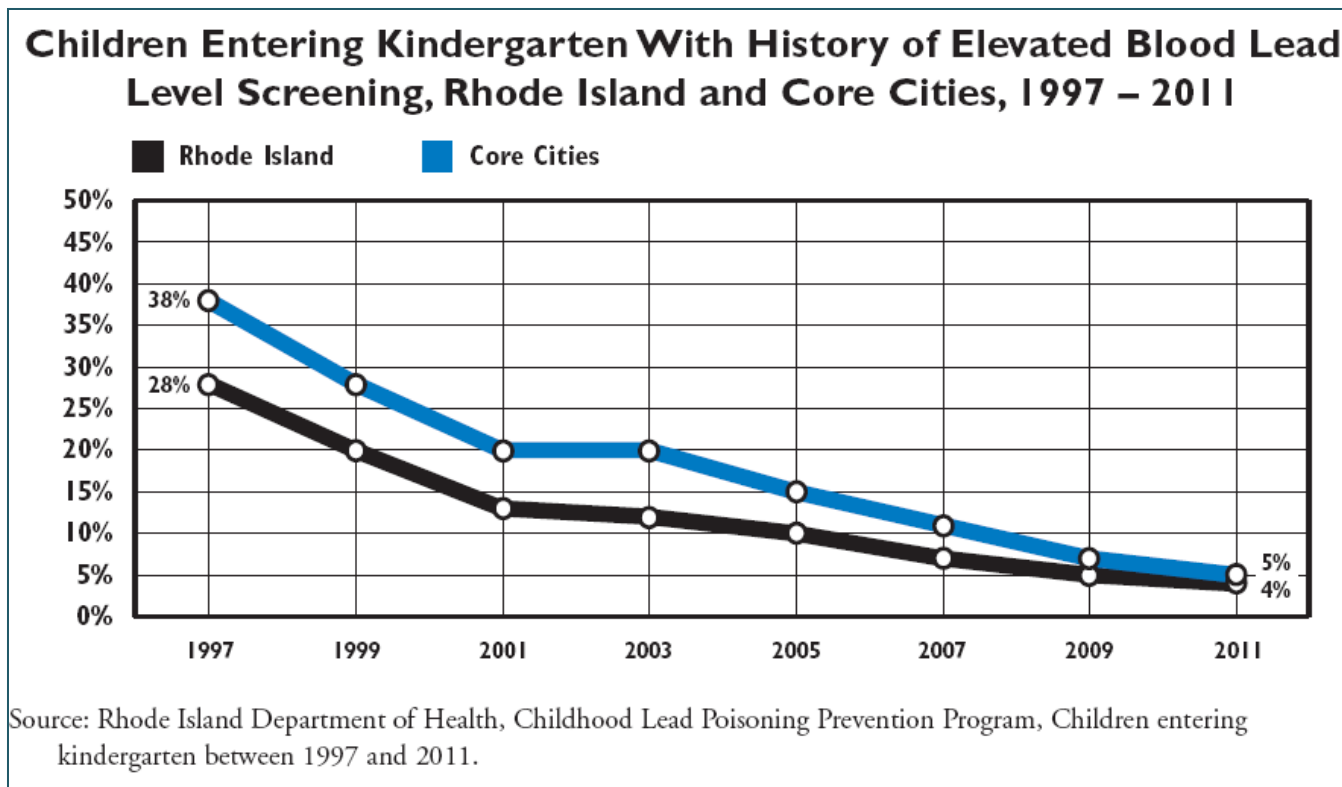
- ❖ Census data released earlier this fall showed that between 2007 and 2009, 7.7% of Rhode Island children under age 18 were uninsured, lower than the national rate of 10.3%. Rhode Island ranks 19th best in the country for lowest percentage of children uninsured.
- ❖ In Rhode Island, the percentage 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 West Warwick preterm birth rate is 10.9%, the lowest of the core cities and lower than the state rate of 11.9%.
- ❖ The West Warwick infant mortality rate (4.0 per 1,000 births) is lower than Rhode Island as a whole (6.2 per 1,000 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 elevated blood lead levels (5.1%) than children in the remainder of the state (2.2%).
- ❖ Of the 368 West Warwick children who will enter kindergarten in the fall of 2011 who were screened for elevated blood lead levels:
 - ❖ 6 (1.6%) screened positive (finger prick test)
 - ❖ 2 (0.5%) were confirmed positive for elevated blood lead levels ≥ 10 mcg/dL with a secondary blood test.

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

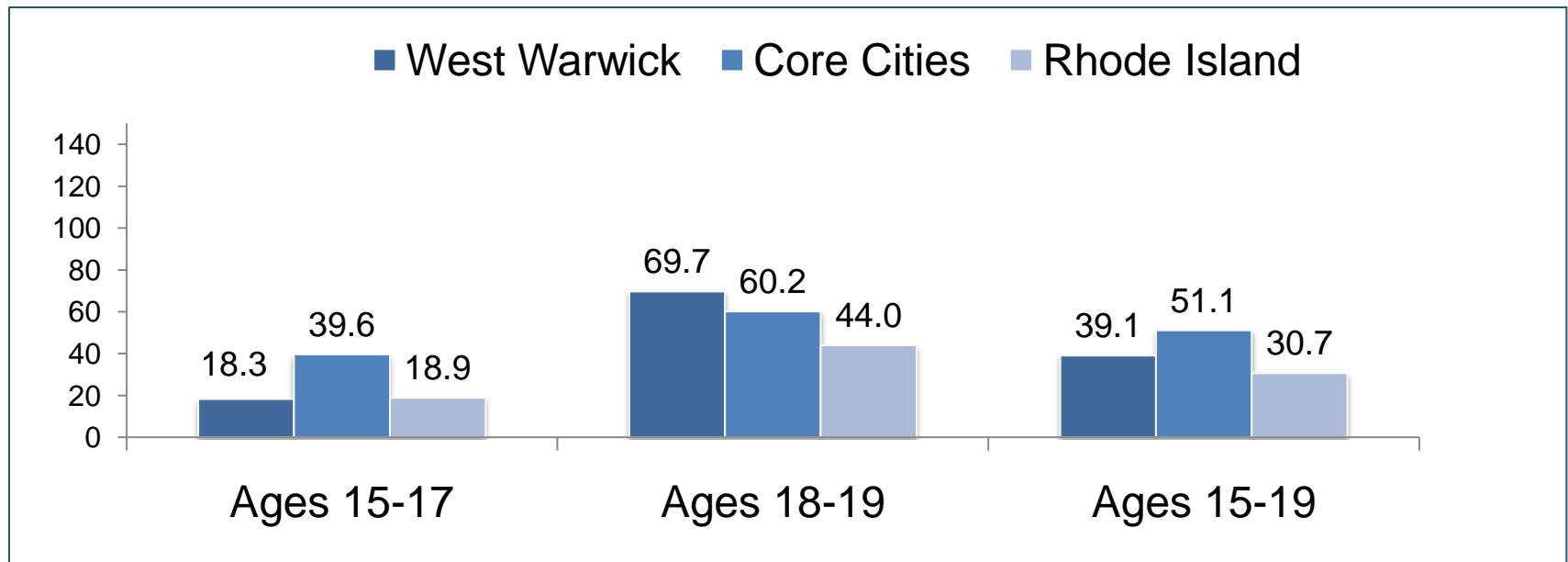
Source: Rhode Island Department of Health, Hospital Discharge Database, 2004-2008.

❖ Asthma is the most common chronic condition in children, 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 in West Warwick, 1.7 children were hospitalized with a primary diagnosis of asthma 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 lower in West Warwick (18.3) than the state as a whole (18.9).
- ❖ The teen birth rate for teens ages 18 to 19 is higher in West Warwick (69.7) than the state rate (44.0).
- ❖ Between 2004-2008, in Rhode Island, almost 1 in 5 teen births (18%) were to teens who were already mothers.

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 14% of West Warwick 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 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 dropped out of high school

Juveniles Referred to Family Court and at the Rhode Island Training School

- ❖ In 2009, 4,825 youth were referred to Family Court for 7,829 wayward and delinquent offenses. 73% of youth referred were males and 27% were females.

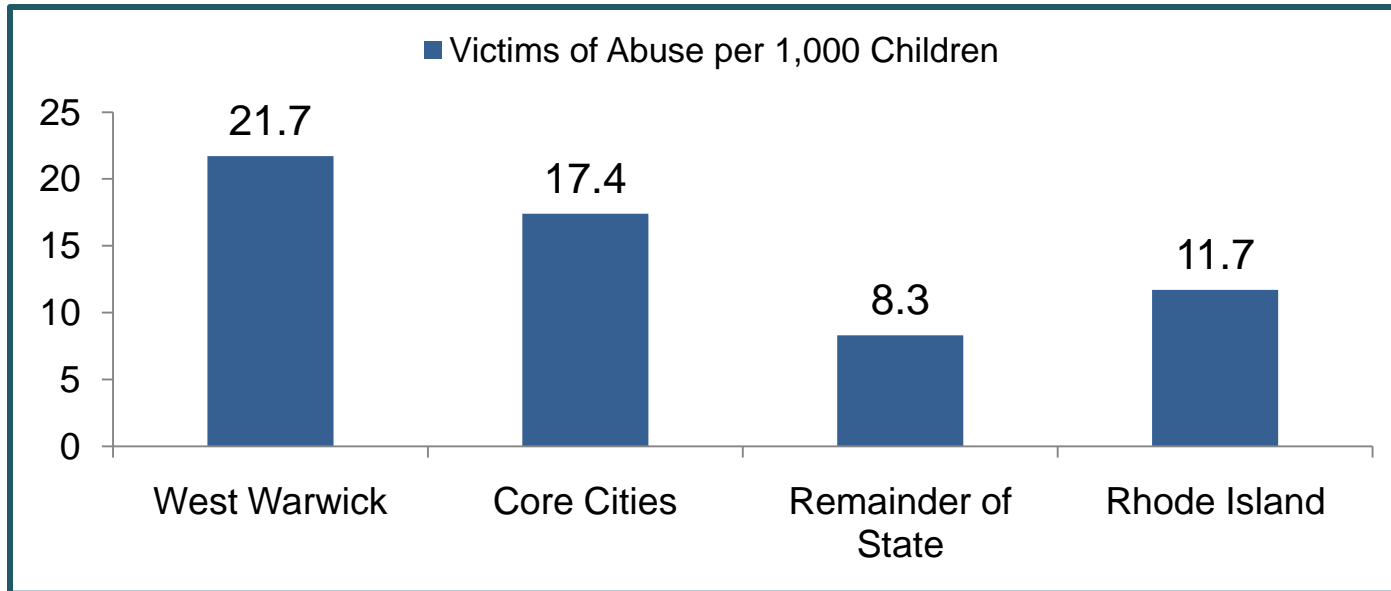
Types of Juvenile Wayward/Delinquent Offenses Referred to Family Court, 2009	
24% - Property Crimes	5% - Traffic Offenses
19% - Status Offenses	5% - Violent Crimes
19% - Disorderly Conduct	3% - Weapons Offenses
10% - Simple Assault	6% - Other
9% - Alcohol and Drug Offenses	

- ❖ In 2009, 28 youth from West Warwick passed through the Training School, out of a total of 894 youth who passed through the Training School in 2009.

- ❖ Of the 28 youth from West Warwick who passed through the Training School in 2009, 10 were detained only and did not receive a sentence to the training school or a community-based placement.

Child Abuse & Neglect

*Victims of Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 children, 2009
West Warwick, Core Cities, Remainder of State and Rhode Island*



❖ In 2009 in West Warwick, there were 144 victims of child abuse and neglect, a rate of 21.7 per 1,000 children, which is almost double the state rate of 11.7 per 1,000 children and an increase from 15.4 per 1,000 children in 2008.

❖ 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. West Warwick's rate was higher than every other community except Woonsocket.

Education



Children Enrolled in Early Head Start, 2009

- ❖ According to Census 2000, an estimated 385 West Warwick children under age three were income-eligible for enrollment in the Early Head Start program. *In 2009, 56 (15%) 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.

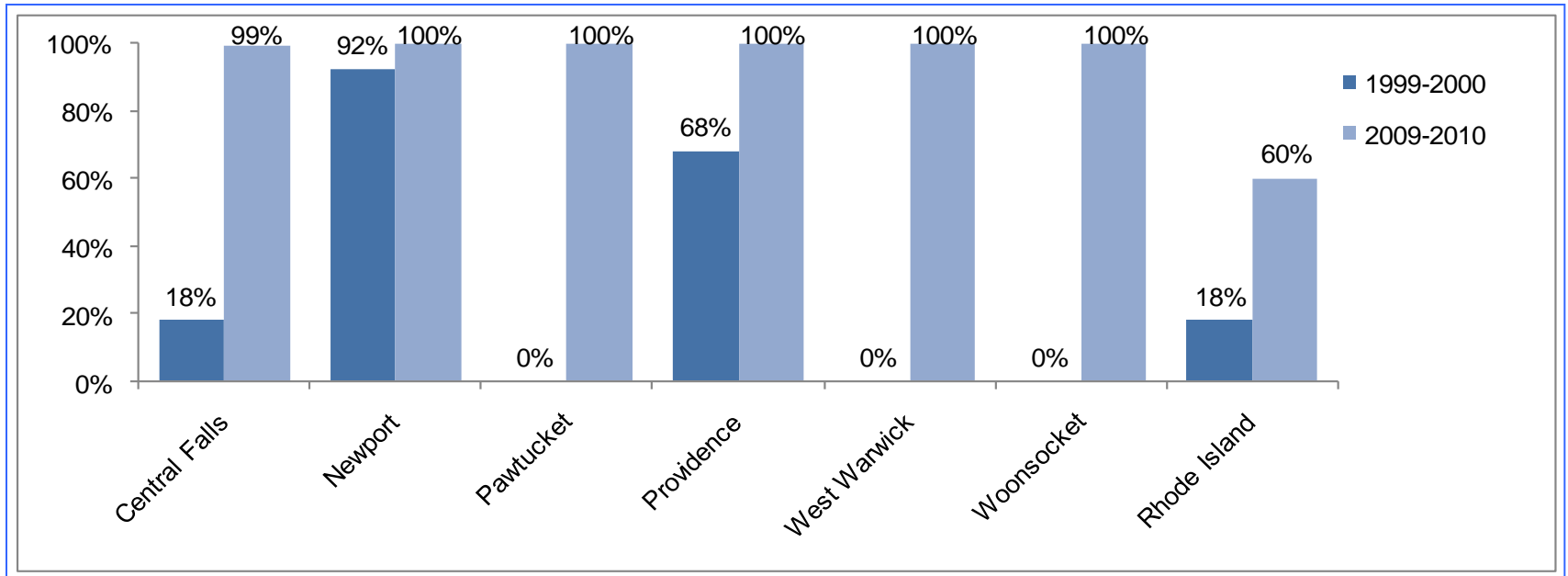
Children Enrolled in Head Start, 2009

- ❖ According to Census 2000, an estimated 266 West Warwick children ages three to four were eligible for enrollment in the Head Start preschool program. *In 2009, 113 (42%) 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 3,594 students enrolled in West Warwick public schools in grades pre-K through 12.**
 - 1,622 students were in grades K-5
 - 788 were in grades 6-8
 - 1,101 were in grades 9-12
 - 83 were enrolled in public preschool special education classrooms
- ❖ 82% of West Warwick public school students were non-Hispanic White, 10% were Hispanic, 4% were Black, 2% were Asian and 1% were Native American.
- ❖ 45% of West Warwick 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



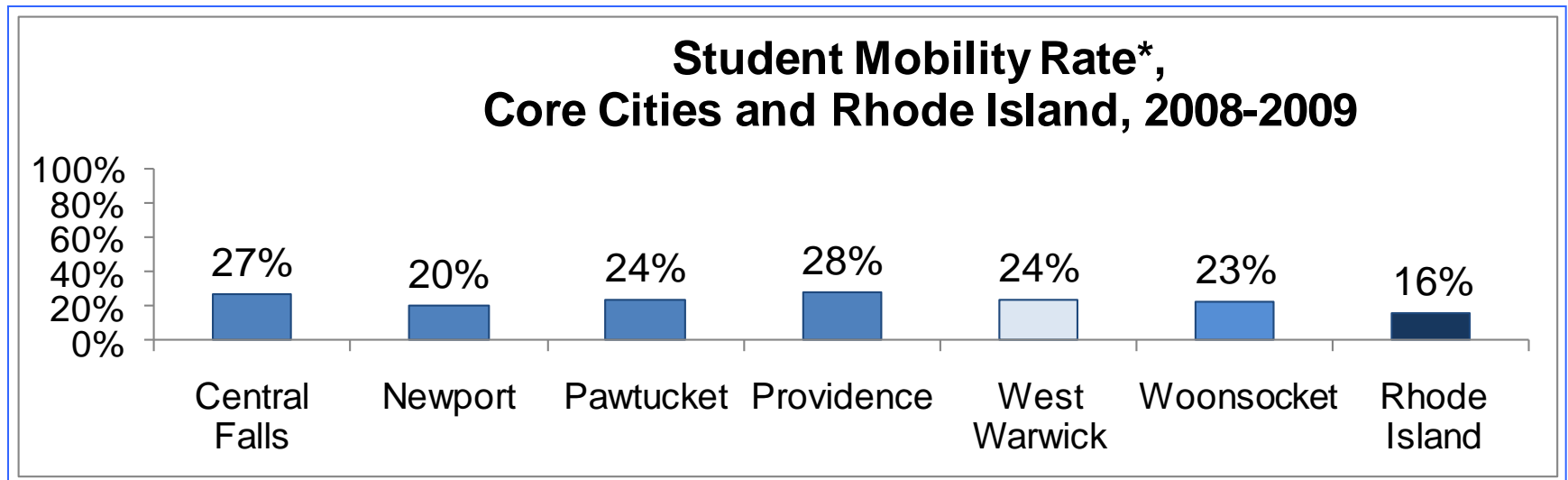
Source: Rhode Island Department of Elementary and Secondary Education, 1999-2000 & 2009-2010.

❖ 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 West Warwick, 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 more than doubled, from 40% in 1999-2000 to 100% in 2009-2010.

Student Mobility



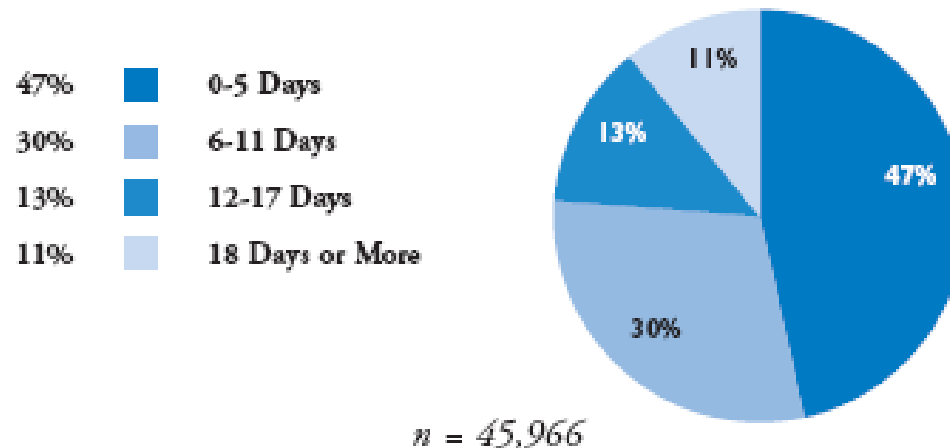
Source: Rhode Island Department of Elementary and Secondary Education, 2008-2009.

- ❖ 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 2008-2009 student mobility rate in West Warwick of 24% is an increase from 18% in the 2007-2008 school year and is higher than the state rate of 16%.

*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

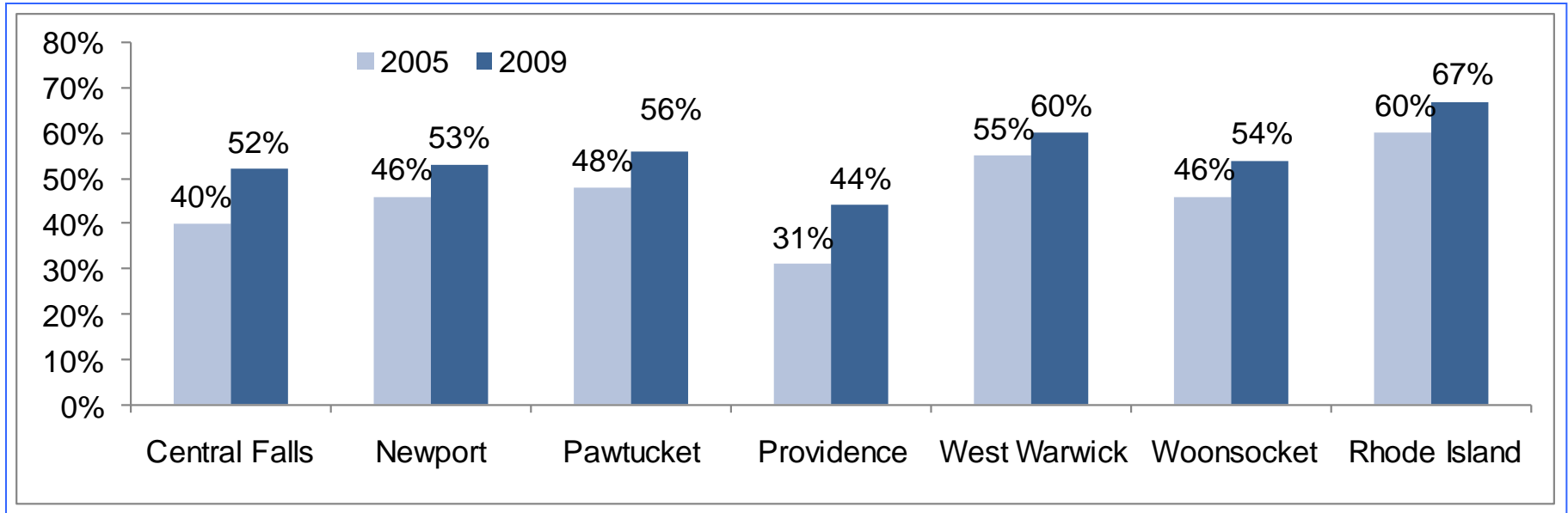


Source: Rhode Island Department of Elementary and Secondary Education, 2008-2009 school year.

- ❖ *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, 8% of West Warwick students in grades K-3 were chronically absent (i.e. absent 18 days or more), lower than the state rate of 11%.

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, *New England Common Assessment Program (NECAP)*, October 2005 & October 2009.

- ❖ Between 2008 and 2009, the percentage of 4th grade students in West Warwick public schools who were proficient in reading fell from 69% to 60%.
- ❖ Between 2008 and 2009, the percentage of West Warwick 8th graders reading at or above proficiency level increased from 59% to 71% and is now comparable with the state as a whole (70%).

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
West Warwick	42%	56%	51%	62%
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, West Warwick had a suspension rate of 34 disciplinary actions per 100 students, down from 64 the year before.
- Disciplinary actions 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%

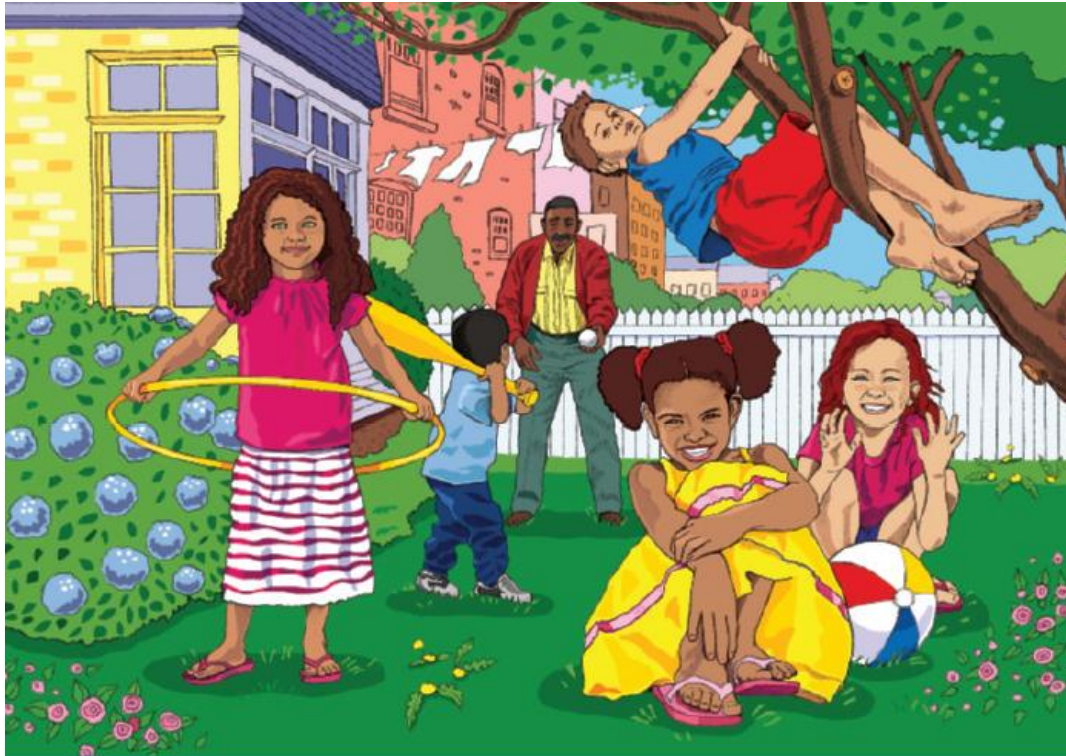
Source: Rhode Island Department of Elementary and Secondary Education, Class of 2009.

- ❖ 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 West Warwick in 2009, 69% of students graduated from high school in four years, compared to 67% in 2007.

*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 West Warwick: 72% of high school seniors reported planning to attend college, yet only 45% 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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