

Woonsocket Data in Your Backyard

Findings from the *2011 Rhode Island Kids Count Factbook*



Presented by Stephanie Geller
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September 28, 2010
Woonsocket, Rhode Island

Special Thanks

Special thanks to
Connecting for Children & Families
for hosting today's presentation

2011 Rhode Island KIDS COUNT Factbook

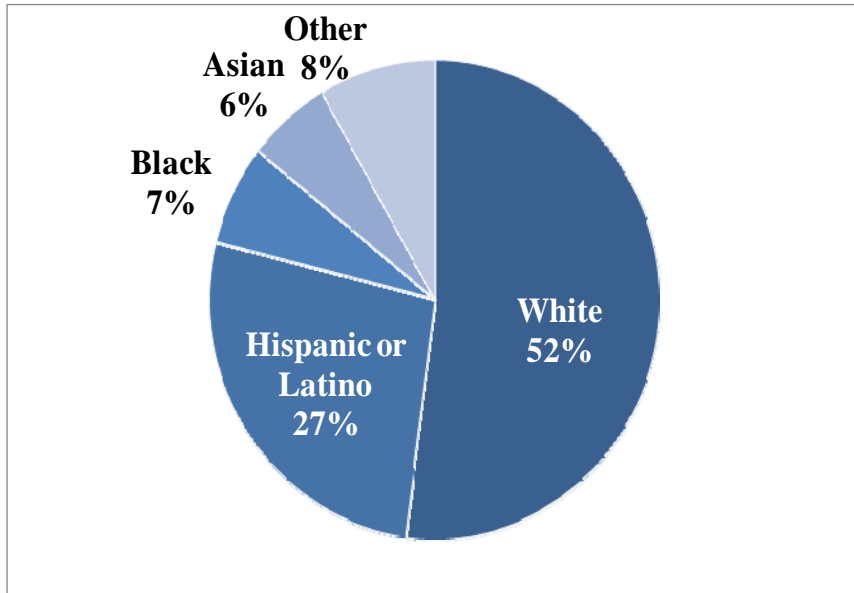


The 2011 Factbook is the 17th annual publication and contains 67 indicators of child well-being across 5 issue areas. Most indicators include city and town level information.

Family and Community



Woonsocket's Child Population, By Race & Ethnicity, 2010



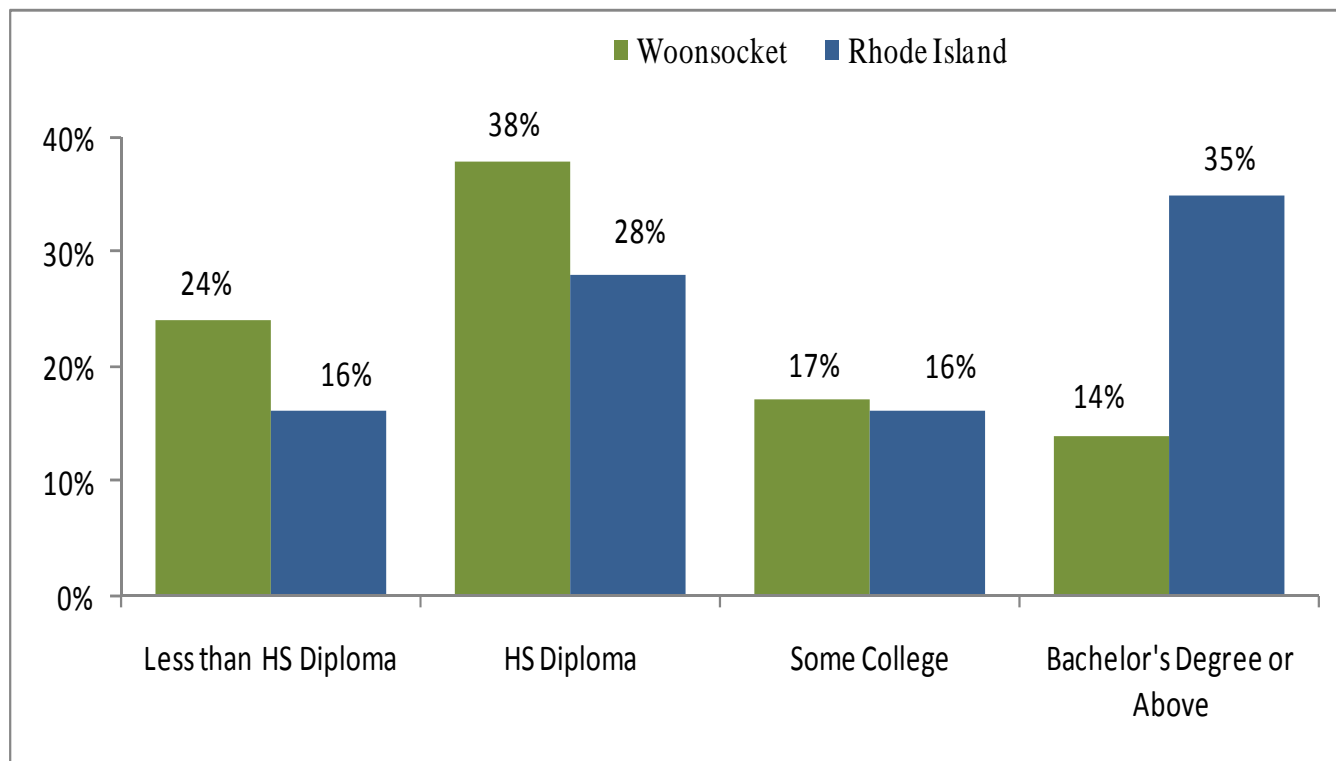
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Census 2010.

Population Under 18 Years of Age	
Hispanic or Latino	2,650
White, non-Hispanic	5,147
Black	676
Asian	592
Two or More Races	749
Other	74
Total	9,888

Between 2000 and 2010, the number of children living in Woonsocket went down 11% from 11,155 to 9,888.

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

Mother's Education Level, 2005-2009



Source: Rhode Island Department of Health, Center for Health Data and Analysis, 2005-2009.

- 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 Woonsocket, 24% of new mothers had less than a high school diploma, substantially higher than the state rate of 16%. The proportion of new mothers with a bachelor's degree or above is much smaller in Woonsocket (14%) than in the state as a whole (35%).

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 2010, 468 (4%) Rhode Island babies were born with all three risk factors, 57 of whom were born to mothers living in Woonsocket.
- 10% of all babies born in 2010 to mothers living in Woonsocket were born at highest risk (with all three risk factors), the highest percentage in the state.
- High-quality, evidence-based programs (e.g., home visiting programs) can help mitigate the risks faced by these children.

Economic Well-Being

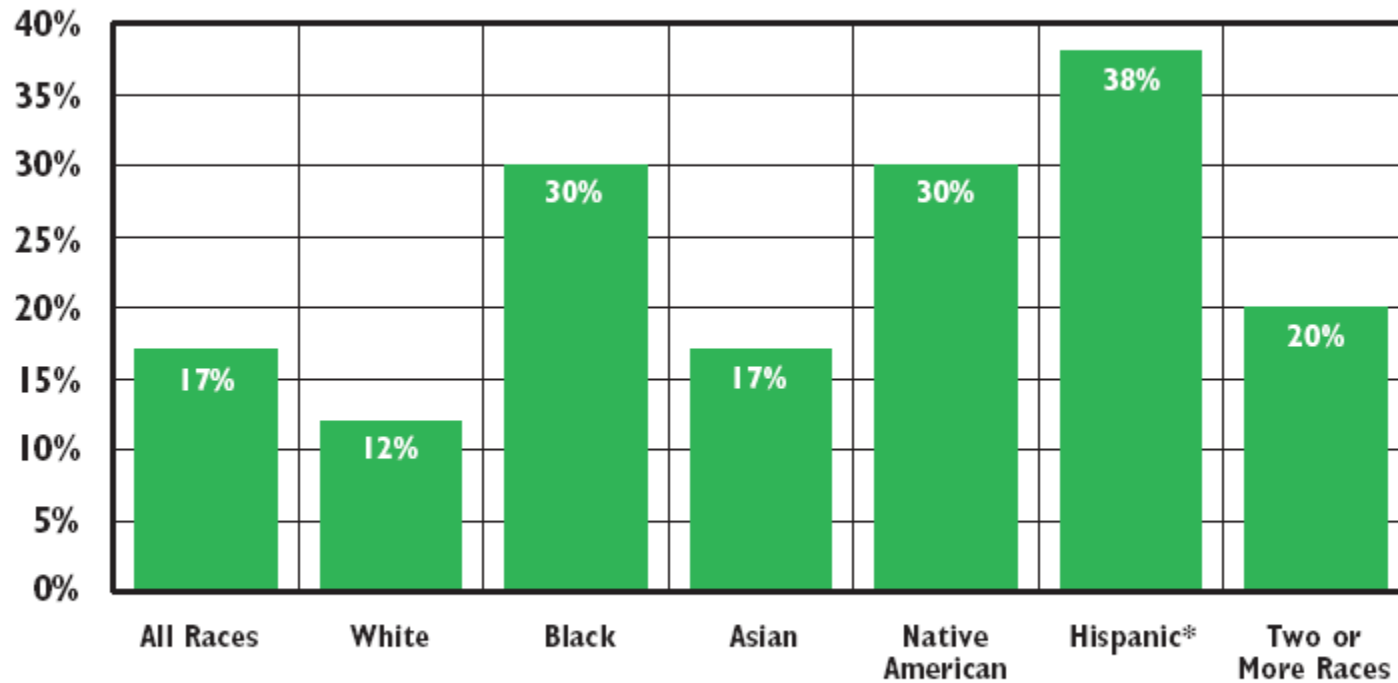


Child Poverty

- The poverty level in 2010 was \$17,568 for a family of three with two children and \$22,113 for a family of four with two children.
 - Between 2005 and 2009, 35% (3,639) of children in Woonsocket were living in poverty.
 - Between 2005 and 2009, 17% (38,487) of children in Rhode Island were living in poverty.
- The extreme poverty level in 2010 was \$8,784 for a family of three with two children and \$11,057 for a family of four with two children.
 - Between 2005 and 2009, 1,919 Woonsocket children (18% of all children and 53% of poor children) were living in extreme poverty.
 - Between 2005 and 2009, 17,433 Rhode Island children (8% of all children and 45% of poor children) were living in extreme poverty.
- The Poverty Institute's *2010 Rhode Island Standard of Need* states that a single parent with two young children would need \$48,576 a year to pay basic living expenses, including housing, food, clothing, health care, child care and transportation.

Disparities in Poverty Rates

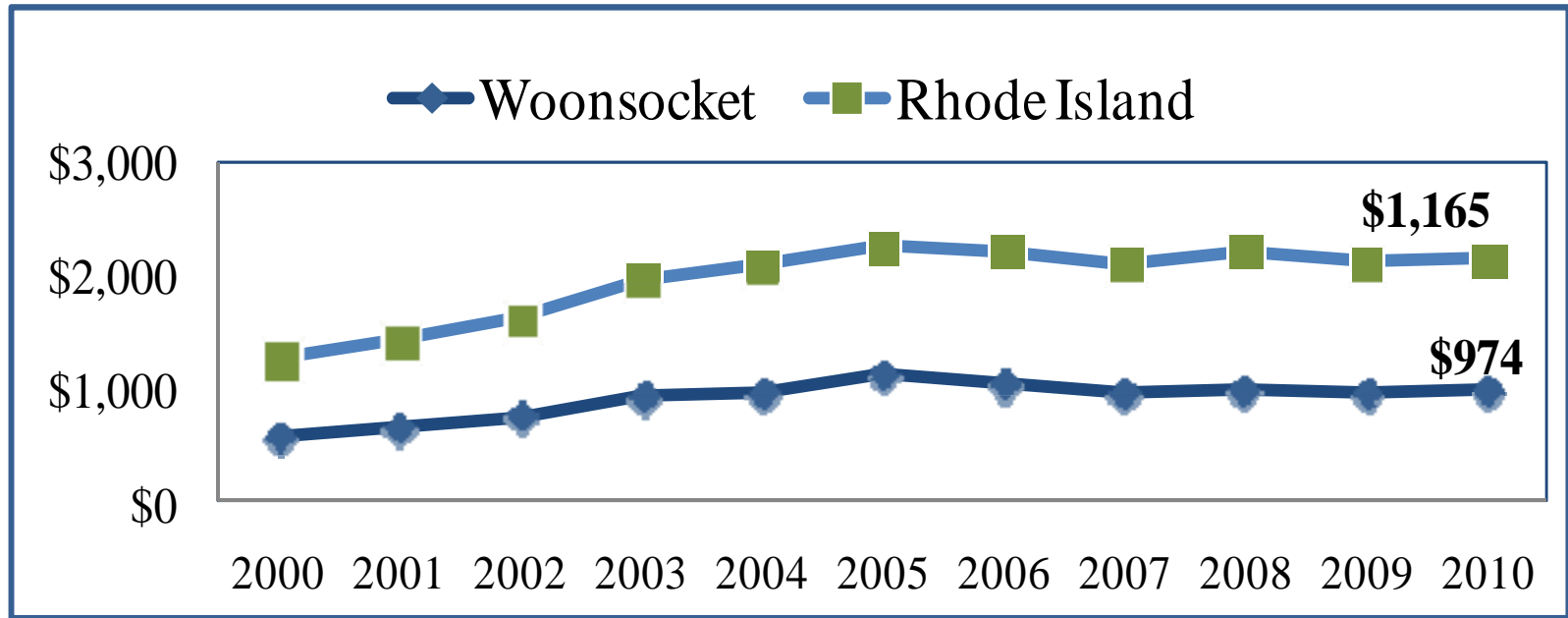
Children in Poverty, by Race and Ethnicity, Rhode Island, 2007-2009



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2007-2009. Tables B17001, B17020A, B17020B, B17020C, B17020D, B17020G and B17020I. *Hispanic children may be included in any race category.

- While about half (51%) 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



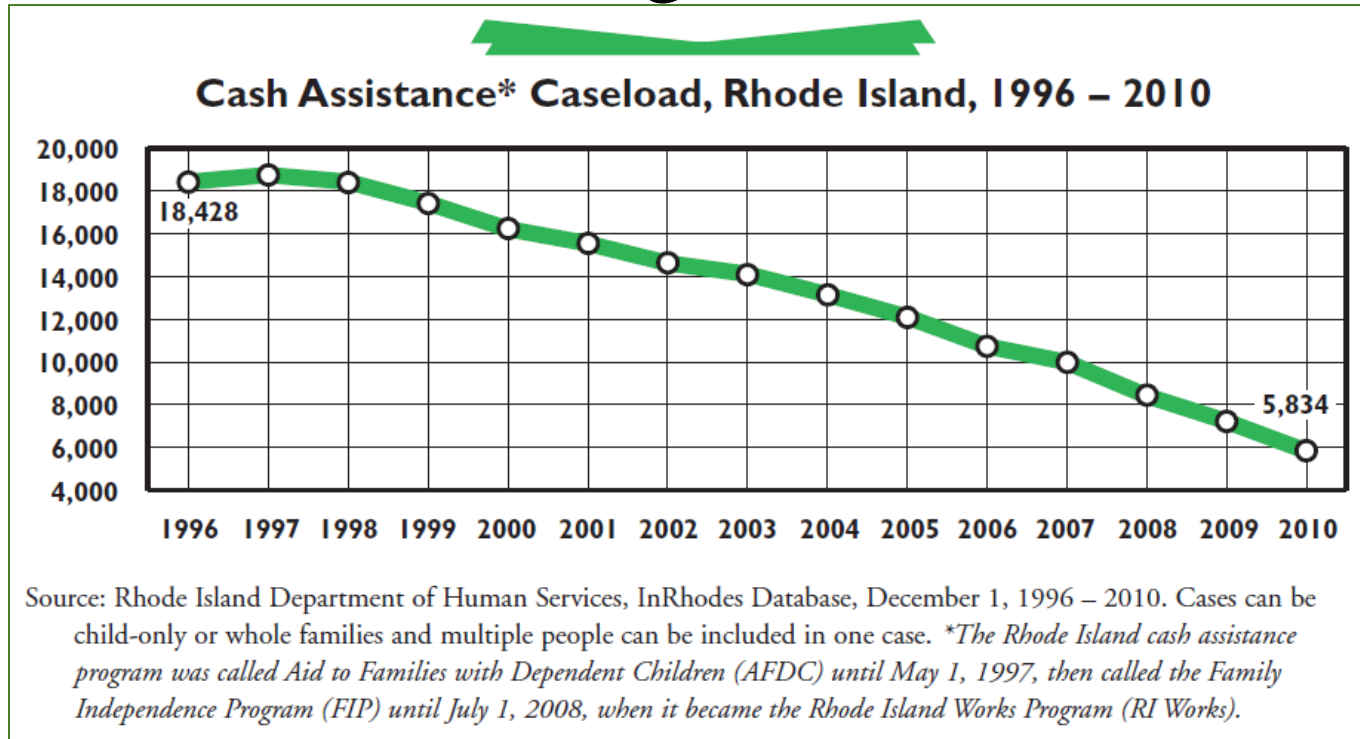
Source: Rhode Island Housing, Annual Rent Surveys, 2000-2010.

- To afford the average rent in Rhode Island in 2010 of \$1,165 without a cost burden, a worker would need to earn \$22.40 per hour and work 40 hours a week. This is more than 3 times the state's minimum wage of \$7.40 per hour.
- In 2010, the average cost of a 2-BR apartment in Woonsocket was **\$974**. A family of three living at the poverty level in Woonsocket would have to devote 64% of its household income to rent. Housing is considered to be affordable if it consumes 30% or less of a family's household income.

Homeless Children & Youth

- In 2010, 1,150 children under age 18 received emergency housing in a homeless shelter or a domestic violence shelter in RI.
 - Woonsocket was the last permanent residence for 12% (138) of these children.
- During the 2009-2010 school year, Rhode Island public school personnel identified 996 children as homeless.
 - Woonsocket Public School personnel identified 31 children as homeless, a significant decrease from 110 in the 2008-2009 school year.

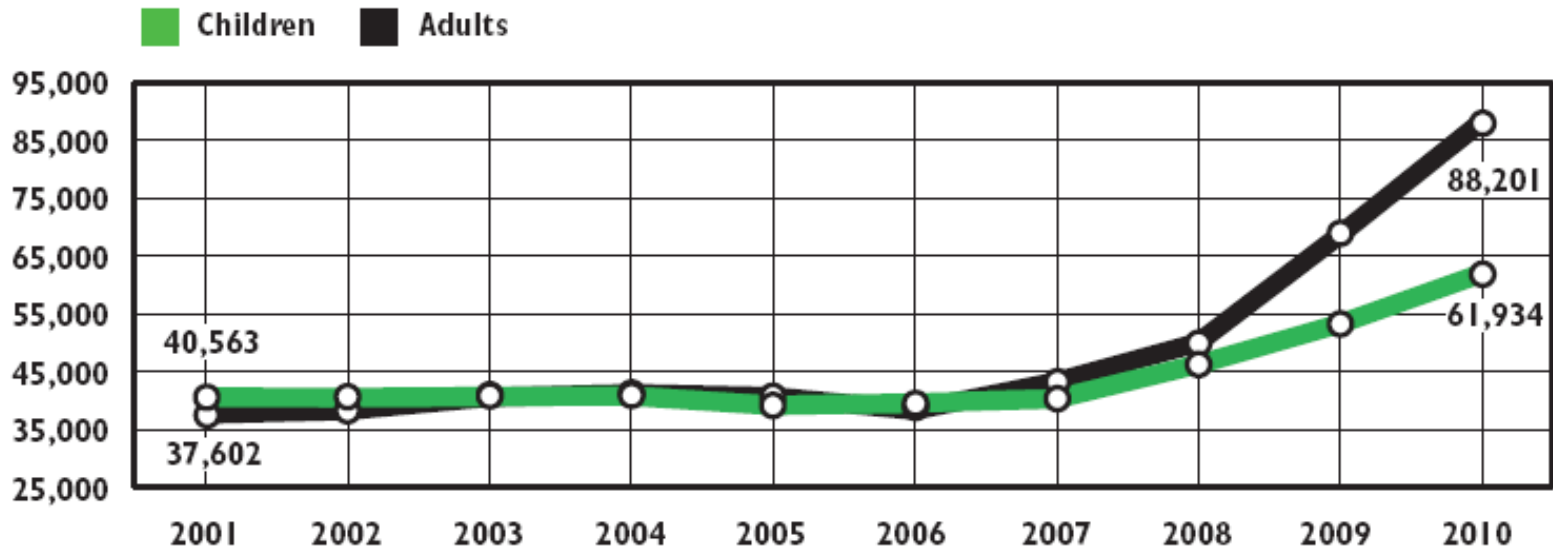
Families Receiving Cash Assistance



- From 1996 to 2010, there was a 68% decline in Rhode Island's cash assistance caseload.
- In December 2010, 8% (886) of children in Woonsocket were receiving cash assistance, down from 17% (1,904) in 2005.
- More than two-thirds (70%) of RI Works beneficiaries are children under age 18. Half (50%) of children enrolled in RI Works are under age 6.
- In SFY 2010, for the first time, the state budget included no general revenue spending for cash assistance.

Children Receiving SNAP Benefits

Participation in the Supplementary Nutrition Assistance Program, Children and Adults, Rhode Island, 2001-2010

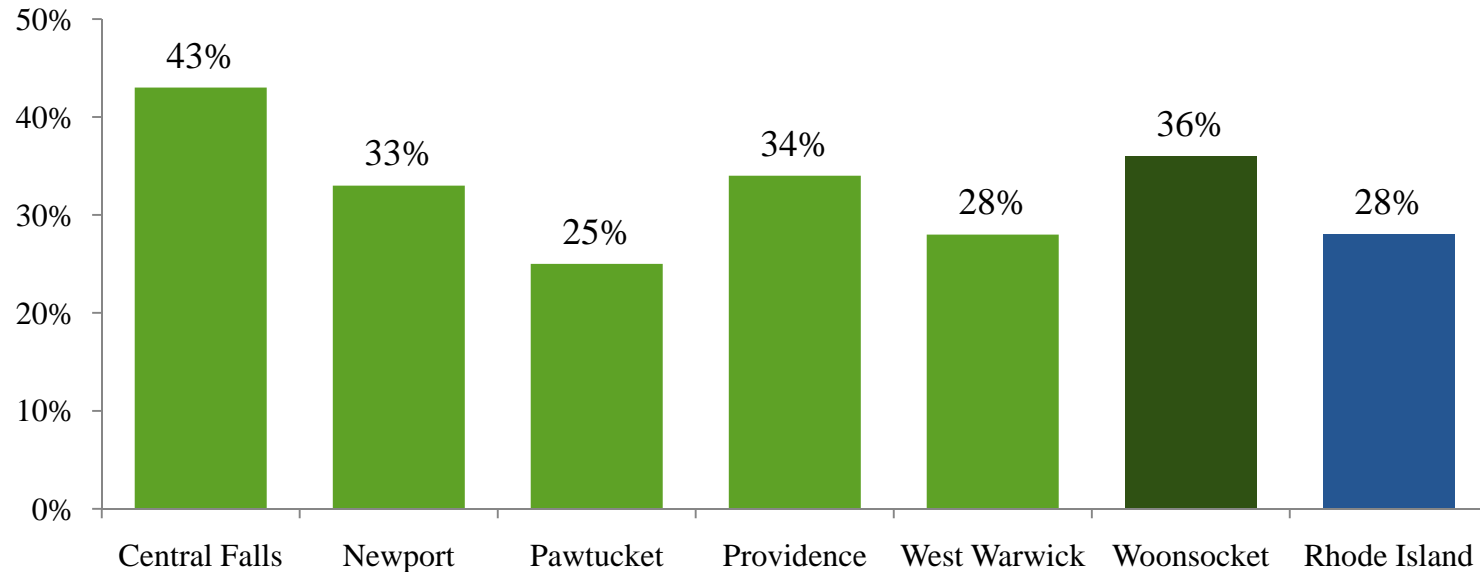


Source: Rhode Island Department of Human Services, InRhodes Database, 2001–2010. Data represent children under age 18 and adults who participated in SNAP during the month of October.

- In October 2010, 4,847 Woonsocket children were receiving SNAP benefits, a 71% 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 Low-Income Children Participating in School Breakfast, October 2010



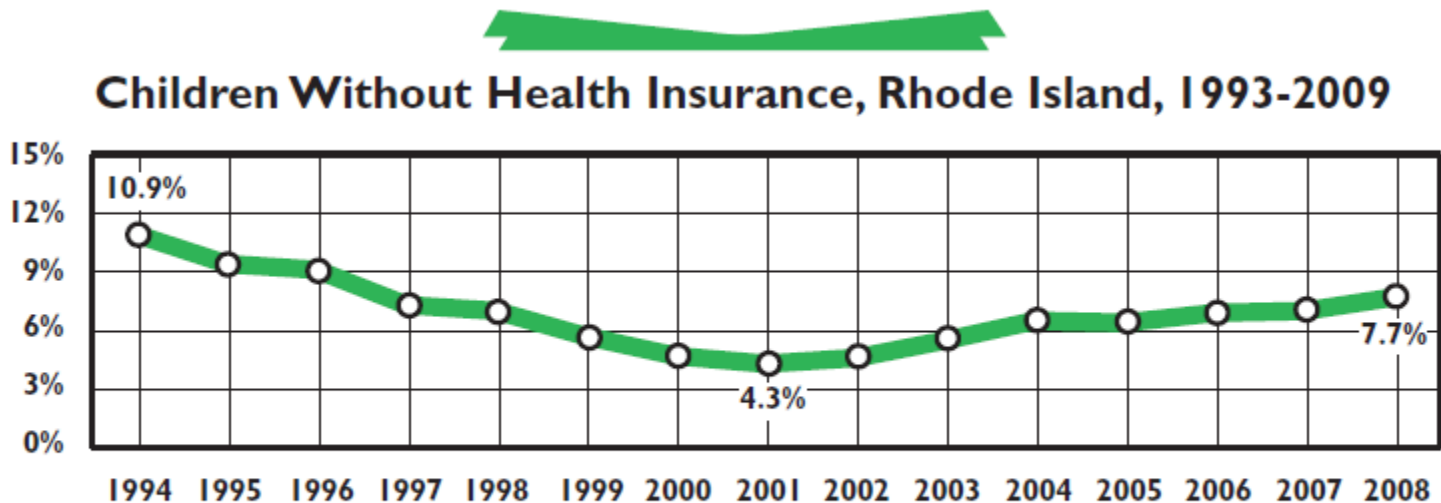
Source: Rhode Island Department of Elementary and Secondary Education, 2010.

- Woonsocket has a Universal School Breakfast Program which offers free breakfast to all children regardless of income.
- In October 2010, an average of 1,495 (36%) low-income children in Woonsocket participated in the Universal School Breakfast Program each day out of 4,155 who were eligible for free or reduced-price meals.
- Offering breakfast in the classroom at the start of the school day could help increase participation.
- Students who eat breakfast have significantly higher math and reading scores, fewer absences, improved attentiveness and lower incidences of social and behavioral problems.

Health



Uninsured Children in Rhode Island



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Current Population Survey, 1993-2009, 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 Census data released earlier this month showed that between 2008 and 2010, 6.3% of Rhode Island children under age 18 were uninsured, the same percentage as the period from 2005-2007, before the recession began. Rhode Island ranks 13th best in the nation for children's health coverage.
- Although the percentage of children with employer-sponsored health coverage has been steadily decreasing, children's health insurance coverage rates in Rhode Island have held steady, with more children enrolled in RItE Care, Rhode Island's combined Medicaid/Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP).

Infant Health Outcomes, 2005-2009

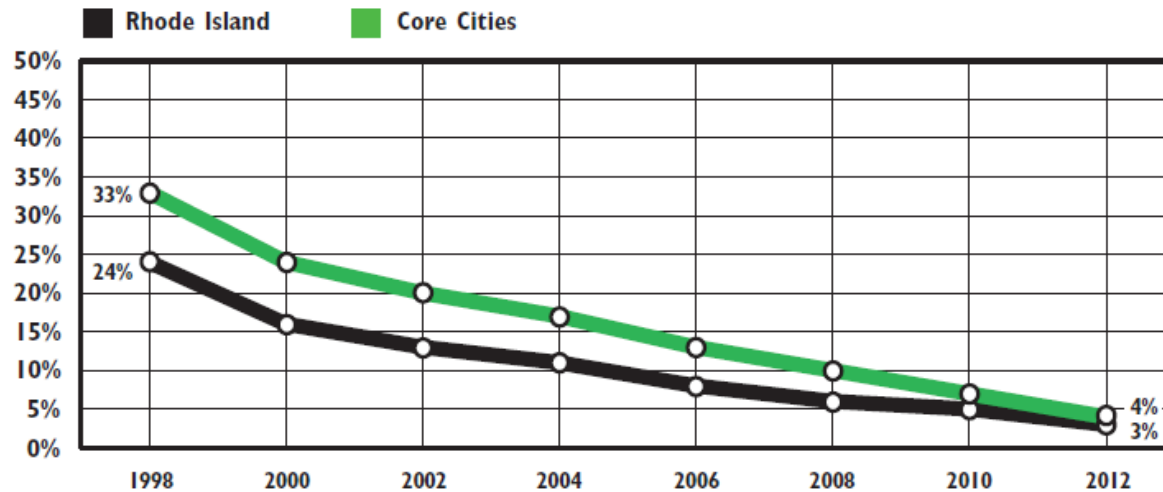
	Delayed Prenatal Care	Preterm Births	Low Birthweight Infants	Infant Mortality Rate/1000 Births
Central Falls	19.8%	11.7%	7.1%	10.7
Newport	10.2%	11.9%	8.3%	6.1
Pawtucket	17.5%	11.8%	8.4%	6.9
Providence	22.1%	13.7%	9.3%	9.5
West Warwick	15.6%	11.3%	7.2%	3.5
Woonsocket	16.8%	13.2%	10.3%	4.8
Remainder of State	11.0%	10.9%	7.1%	4.9
Core Cities	19.4%	12.9%	8.9%	7.9
Rhode Island	14.9%	11.8%	8.0%	6.3

Source: Rhode Island Department of Health, Center for Health Data and Analysis.

- 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 percentage of infants born low birthweight in Woonsocket is the highest in the state at 10.3%, and Woonsocket's rate of preterm births (13.2%) is second highest in the state, slightly behind Providence (13.7%).
- Woonsocket's infant mortality rate (4.8 per 1,000 births) is lower than Rhode Island as a whole (6.3 per 1,000 births) and is the second lowest among the core cities.

Children with Elevated Blood Lead Levels

Children Entering Kindergarten With History of Elevated Blood Lead Level Screening, Rhode Island and Core Cities, 1998–2012

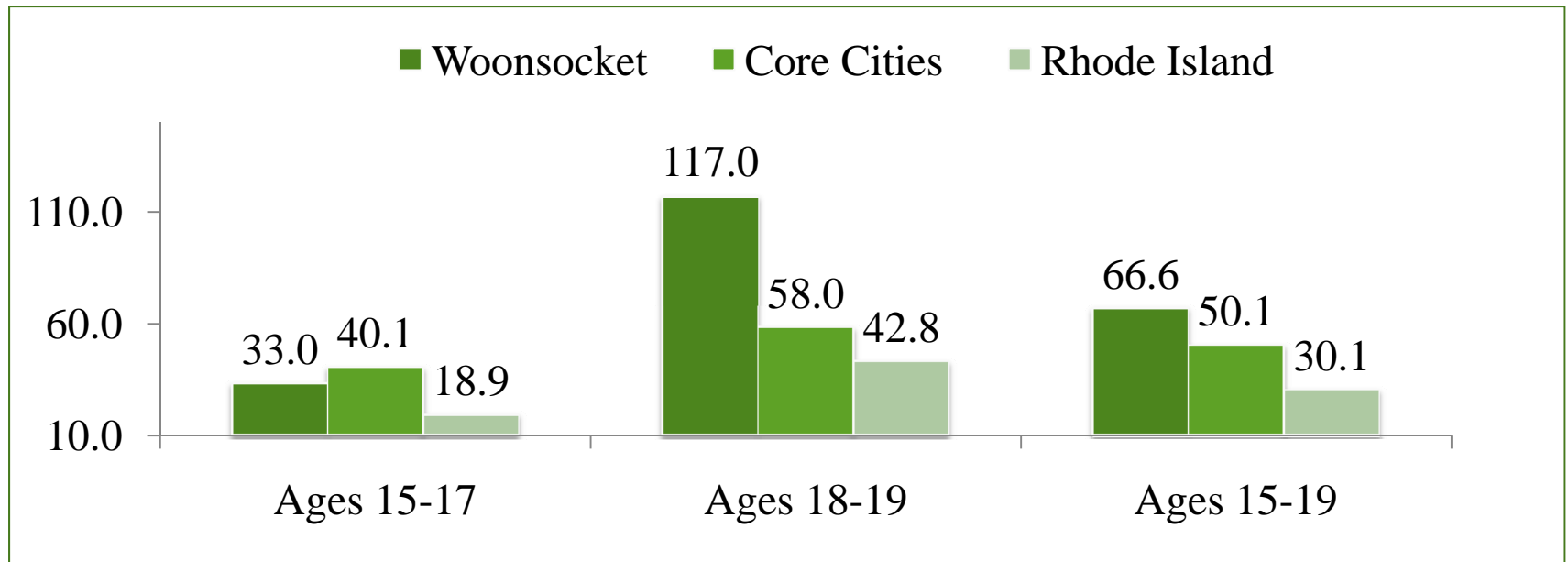


Source: Rhode Island Department of Health, Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention Program, Children entering kindergarten between 1998 and 2012.

- Despite overall declines in lead poisoning rates, kindergarten children living in Rhode Island's core cities have continued to be more likely to have a history of elevated blood lead levels (4.2%) than children in the remainder of the state (1.8%).
- However, of the 672 Woonsocket children who will enter kindergarten in the fall of 2012 who were screened for elevated blood lead levels:
 - 12 (1.8%) screened positive (finger prick test), lower than the state rate (3.0%).
 - 10 (1.5%) were confirmed positive for elevated blood lead levels ≥ 10 mcg/dL with a secondary blood test, lower than the state rate (2.2%).

Births to Teens

Births per 1,000 teen girls, 2005-2009



Source: Rhode Island Department of Health, 2005-2009.

- The teen birth rate per 1,000 teen girls ages 15 to 17 is higher in Woonsocket (33.0) than the state as a whole (18.9), but lower than the core city rate (40.1).
- The teen birth rate for teens ages 18-19 in Woonsocket is the second highest in the state at 117.0, more than twice the state rate of 42.8.
- In Woonsocket between 2005 and 2009, 87 births were repeat teen births, making up 18.5% of the 470 total teen births in Woonsocket during that period.

Safety



Juveniles Referred to Family Court and at the RI Training School

- In 2010, 4,288 youth were referred to Family Court for 7,493 wayward and delinquent offenses, down from 4,825 youth and 7,829 offenses in 2009, and continuing a downward trend over the past 3 years.

By Type of Offense			
25%	Property Crimes	5%	Traffic Offenses
20%	Disorderly Conduct	5%	Violent Crimes
17%	Status Offenses*	3%	Weapons Offenses
11%	Simple Assault	6%	Other**
9%	Alcohol and Drug Offenses		

n = 7,493

**Status offenses are age-related acts that would not be punishable if the offender were an adult, such as truancy and disobedient conduct.*

***Other includes offenses such as conspiracy, crank/obscene phone calls and computer crimes. Probation violations, contempt of court and other violations of court orders are not included in the offenses above.*

Source: Rhode Island Family Court, 2010 *Juvenile Offense Report*. Percentages may not sum to 100% due to rounding.

- In 2010, 39 youth from Woonsocket passed through the Training School out of a total of 821 youth who passed through to the Training School in 2010, and down from 47 Woonsocket youth in 2009.
- Of the 39 youth from Woonsocket who passed through the Training School in 2010, 5 were detained only and did not receive a sentence to the Training School or a community-based placement.

Children of Incarcerated Parents, 2010

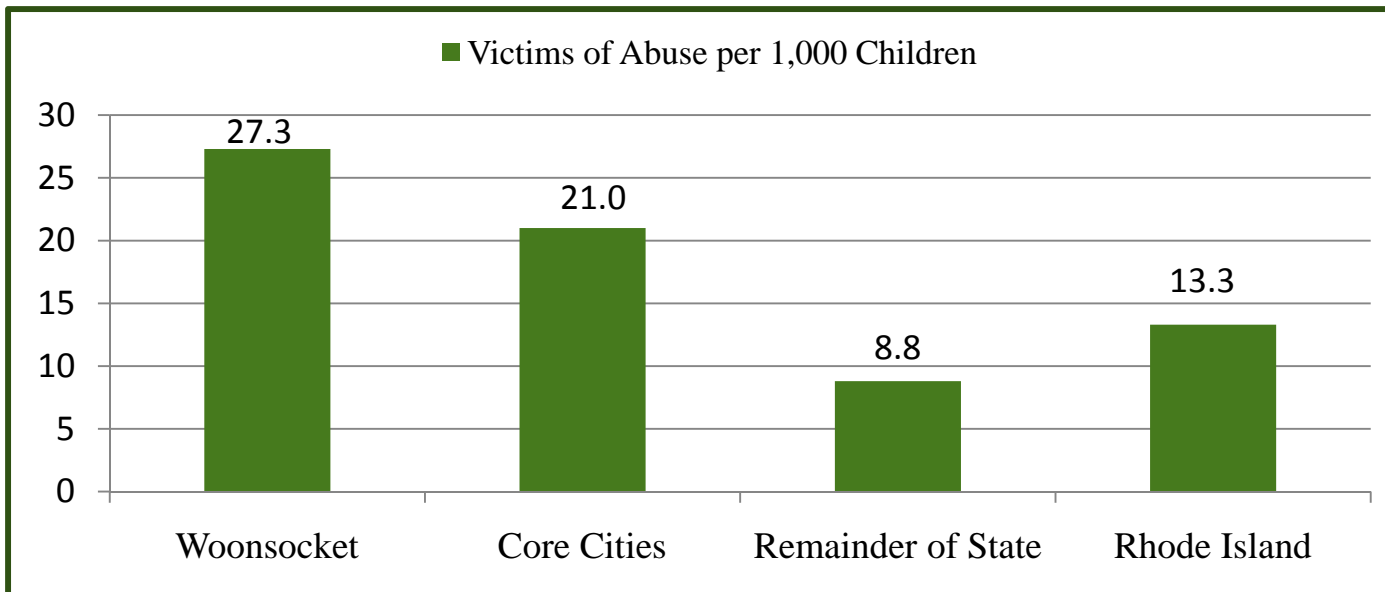
	# of Parents	# of Children Reported	Rate per 1,000 Children
Central Falls	49	107	19.3
Newport	31	72	13.8
Pawtucket	123	231	12.7
Providence	435	984	21.7
West Warwick	53	86	13.0
Woonsocket	91	219	19.6
Rhode Island	1,212	2,582	10.4

Source: Rhode Island Department of Corrections, September 30, 2010.

- In 2010, 1,212 adults incarcerated in Rhode Island reported having 2,582 children, a rate of 10.4 per 1,000 children.
- In 2010, 91 adults incarcerated in Rhode Island whose last known residence was Woonsocket reported having 219 children, a rate of 19.6 per 1,000 children. Woonsocket's rate is among the highest in the state.

Child Abuse & Neglect

*Victims of Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 children,
Woonsocket, Core Cities, Remainder of State and Rhode Island, 2010*



Source: Rhode Island Department of Children, Youth and Families, RICHIST, 2010.

- In 2010 in Woonsocket, there were 304 victims of child abuse and neglect, a rate of 27.3 per 1,000 children, the second highest rate in the state and more than double the state rate of 13.3 per 1,000 children.
- Child abuse and neglect victim rates in the core cities ranged from a low of 17.2 victims per 1,000 children in Pawtucket to a high of 28.3 in Newport.
- In 2010, the vast majority (79%) of child abuse and neglect victims were victims of neglect.

Education



Children Enrolled in Early Head Start, 2010

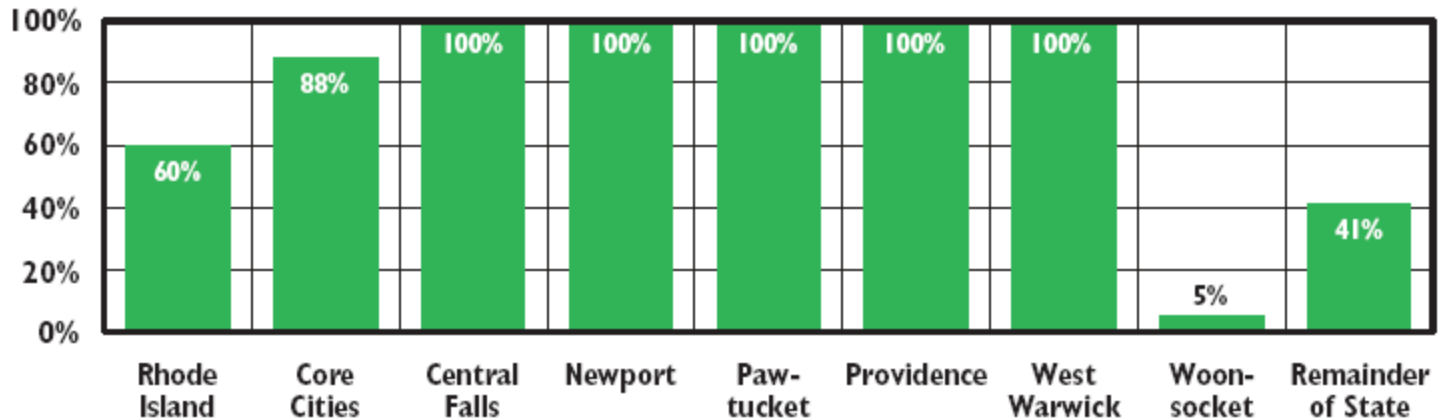
- According to Census 2000, an estimated 889 Woonsocket children under age three were income-eligible for enrollment in the Early Head Start program. *In 2010, Early Head Start served only 2 Woonsocket children, up from 0 in 2009.*
- In 2010, Early Head Start served 5% of the estimated 9,365 eligible children under age three in Rhode Island.

Children Enrolled in Head Start, 2010

- According to Census 2000, an estimated 537 Woonsocket children ages three to four were eligible for enrollment in the Head Start preschool program. *In 2010, 204 (38%) of these children were enrolled in Head Start.*
- In 2010, Head Start served 40% of the estimated 6,200 eligible children ages three to four in Rhode Island.
- Woonsocket Head Start was one of Rhode Island's seven original Pre-K demonstration sites, but did not receive funding for the continuation of the program for the 2011-2012 school year.

Children in Full-Day Kindergarten

**Children in Full-Day Public Kindergarten Programs,
Core Cities and Rhode Island, 2010-2011 School Year**

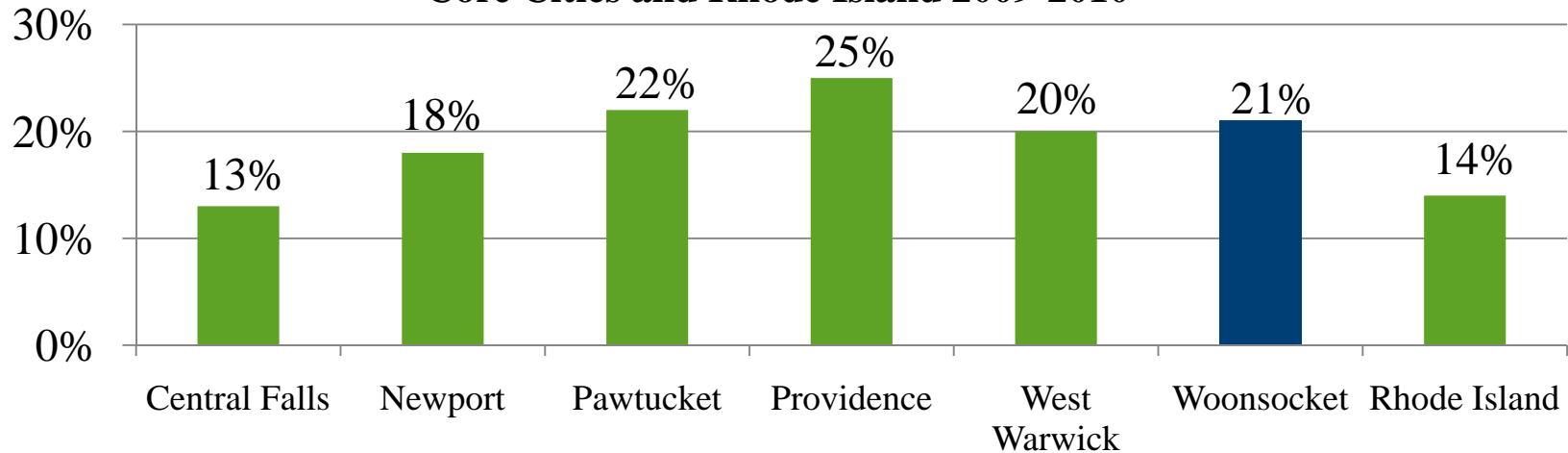


Source: Rhode Island Department of Elementary and Secondary Education, October 1, 2010.

- In Rhode Island in 2010-2011, 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 2010-2011 school year, 17 school districts offered universal access to full-day kindergarten classrooms. Another six school districts operated at least one full-day kindergarten classroom.
- As of the 2010-2011 school year, Woonsocket eliminated all but one full-day kindergarten classroom and is now the only core city with less than 100% participation in full-day public kindergarten.

Student Mobility

Student Mobility Rate*
Core Cities and Rhode Island 2009-2010



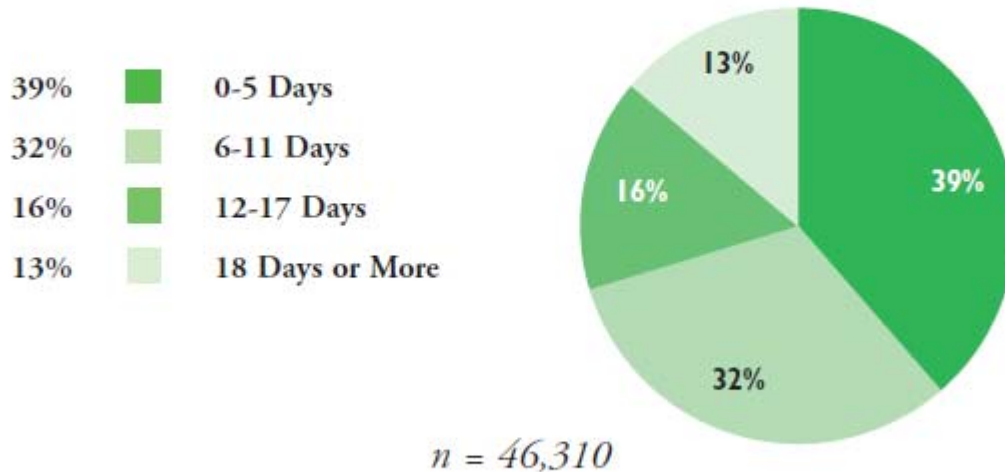
Source: Rhode Island Department of Elementary and Secondary Education, 2009-2010.

- 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.
- More than 1 in 5 students in Woonsocket (21%) changed schools mid-year, a considerably higher percentage than in the state as a whole (14%).

*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, 2009-2010 School Year

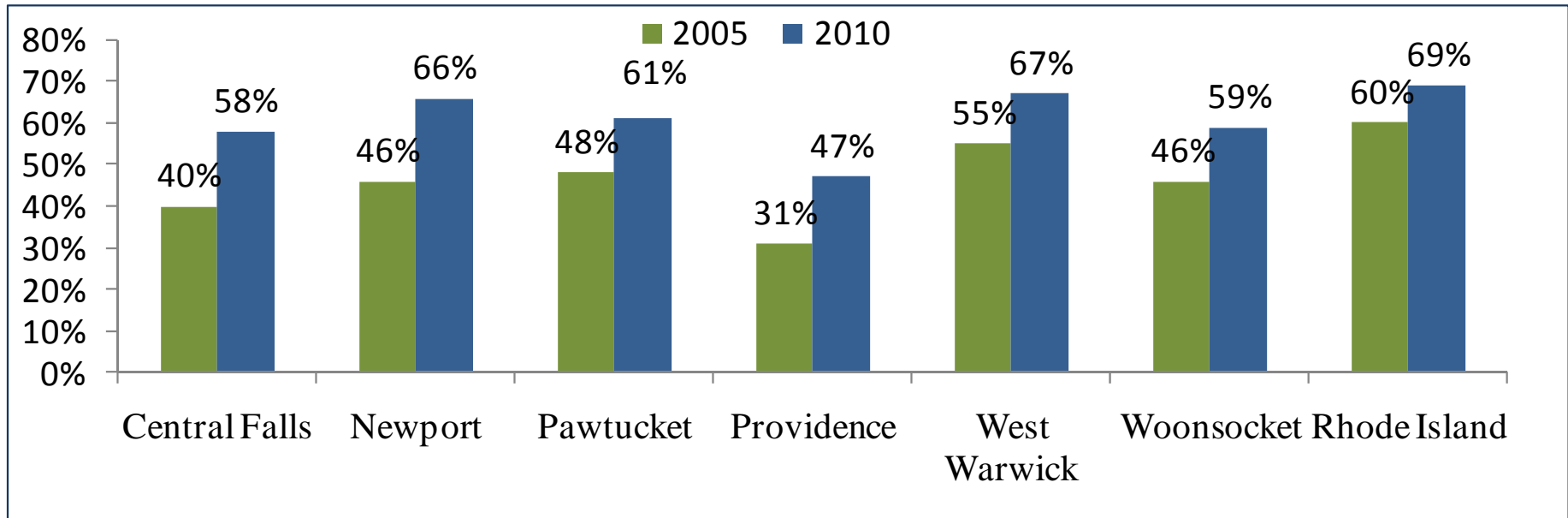


Source: Rhode Island Department of Elementary and Secondary Education, 2009-2010 school year. Totals may not sum to 100% due to rounding.

- *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 2009-2010 school year, 23% of Woonsocket children (536 children) in grades K-3 were chronically absent (i.e., absent 18 days or more), the highest in the state.

Fourth-Grade Reading Skills

% at or Above the Proficiency Level on the NECAP
Core Cities and Rhode Island, 2005 & 2010



Source: Rhode Island Department of Elementary and Secondary Education, 2005 & 2010.

- Between 2005 and 2010, the percentage of fourth grade students in Woonsocket public schools who were proficient in reading rose from 46% to 59%.
- Between 2005 and 2010, eighth-grade reading proficiency rates in Woonsocket increased even more dramatically from 28% to 60%.

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 & 2010

	4 th Grade 2005	4 th Grade 2010	8 th Grade 2005	8 th Grade 2010
Woonsocket	41%	56%	29%	33%
Core Cities	32%	48%	27%	33%
Remainder of State	63%	71%	57%	64%
Rhode Island	52%	63%	47%	54%

Source: Rhode Island Department of Elementary and Secondary Education, *New England Common Assessment Program* (NECAP), October 2005 & October 2010.

- Woonsocket has seen improvements in 4th and 8th grade mathematics proficiency since 2005, but both the 4th and 8th grade math proficiency rates continue to be among the lowest in the state.

Suspensions

- During the 2009-2010 school year, Woonsocket had the highest suspension rate in the state with 83 disciplinary actions per 100 students compared to 30 for the state and 49 for the core cities.
- Disciplinary actions include out-of-school suspensions, in-school suspensions, and alternate program placements (which make up 46% of disciplinary actions).
- 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 2010

	Graduation Rate	Dropout Rate	% Received GED	% Still in School
Central Falls	51%	34%	3%	12%
Newport	78%	12%	4%	6%
Pawtucket	58%	24%	6%	12%
Providence	68%	23%	3%	5%
West Warwick	65%	18%	3%	14%
Woonsocket	63%	17%	3%	17%
Rhode Island	76%	14%	3%	7%

Source: Rhode Island Department of Elementary and Secondary Education, Class of 2010.

- This chart shows the percentage of students who matriculated as freshmen in 2006-2007 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 Woonsocket in 2010, 63% of students graduated from high school on-time, compared to the state rate of 76%.
- Among 9th graders in the 2005-2006 cohort, 65% graduated on-time in 2009 and an additional 4% graduated in 5 years in 2010.

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

College Preparation and Access

- **Two-thirds (67%) of Rhode Island seniors who graduated from high school in 2008 went directly on to a two or four-year college the next fall, compared with 63% nationally. Rhode Island ranks 13th in the U.S. on this measure.**
- In Woonsocket, 54% of 11th graders scored at or above proficiency in reading on the NECAP while 15% scored at or above proficiency in mathematics.
- 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 2010 only 33% of Woonsocket high school seniors took the SATs, compared to 55% statewide.
- 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. In 2009, only 17% of Rhode Island public school seniors took at least 1 AP exam, compared with the national rate of 27%.



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