

Child Population

DEFINITION

Child population is the total number of children under age 18 and the percentage change between 2000 and 2010 in the total number of children under age 18.

SIGNIFICANCE

According to the American Community Survey conducted by the U.S. Census Bureau, there were 1,059,361 Rhode Island residents in 2019. Children under age 18 make up 19% of the population. Rhode Island's child population decreased from 247,822 in 2000 to 223,956 in 2010 and then further to an estimated 203,575 in 2019 (18% decrease from 2000 to 2019).^{1,2,3} Between 2015 and 2019, there were 116,683 households with children under age 18 in Rhode Island, representing 28% of all households.⁴ Twenty-six percent of Rhode Island children were under age five, 27% were ages five to nine, 29% were ages 10 to 14, and 18% were ages 15 to 17.⁵

In Rhode Island, between 2015 and 2019, 122,318 (59%) children under age 18 lived in married-couple households, 62,877 (30%) children lived in single-parent households, and 17,915 (9%) children lived with relatives, including grandparents. A total of 3,512 (2%) children lived with foster families or other non-relative heads of household.

There were 707 (<1%) children and youth under age 18 who lived in group quarters and 15 (<1%) youth who were householders or spouses.^{6,7,8}

Rhode Island's children are diverse in race, ethnicity, language, and country of origin. Mirroring the national trend, the Hispanic child population in Rhode Island has grown since 2000, both in numbers and as a percentage of the child population. Hispanics make up 25% of children under age 18 in the United States and 25% of children under age 18 in Rhode Island.^{9,10,11}

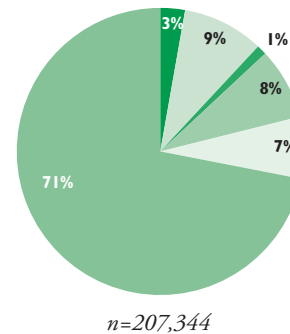
Between 2015 and 2019, there were 8,189 foreign-born children under the age of 18 living in Rhode Island, representing approximately 4% of the child population.¹² Of Rhode Island children ages five to 17, 77% speak only English at home, 17% speak Spanish, 4% speak other Indo-European languages, 2% speak Asian or Pacific Island languages, and 1% speak other languages at home.¹³

Sexual orientation and gender identity are other important facets of diversity among youth. According to the *2019 Youth Risk Behavior Survey*, 11% of high school students in Rhode Island described themselves as lesbian, gay, or bisexual. This does not include students who responded "not sure" (5%). Among high school students, 1.5% described themselves as transgender, and 0.9% said they were "not sure."¹⁴

Rhode Island Children Under Age 18, 2015-2019

By Race/Ethnicity*

3%	Asian
9%	Black
1%	Native American and Alaska Native
8%	Some Other Race
7%	Two or More Races
71%	White

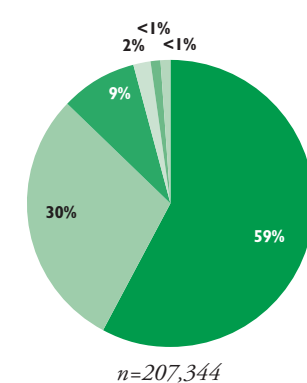


*Hispanic children may be included in any race category. Of Rhode Island's 207,344 children, 52,348 (25%) were Hispanic.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2015-2019. Tables B01001A, B01001B, B01001C, B01001D, B01001E, B01001F, B01001G, and B01001I.

By Family Structure

59%	Married-Couple**
30%	Single-Parent**
9%	Other Relatives
2%	Foster Family or Other Unrelated Household
<1%	Group Quarters
<1%	Child is Head of Household



**Only includes children who are related to the head of household by birth or adoption.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2015-2019. Tables B09001, B09002, and B09018.

Decennial Census 2020

◆ In 2020, the U.S. Census Bureau conducted its most recent decennial Census. When data are made available, the decennial Census count will be used to apportion the 435 members of the U.S. House of Representatives and to allocate federal program funding to each state for the following decade.¹⁵ These federal funds support a wide array of programs that improve outcomes for children and families in Rhode Island.¹⁶

◆ Certain populations have been historically undercounted in the decennial Census, including young children under age five, immigrants, low-income populations, People of Color, people experiencing homelessness, and people in non-traditional households.¹⁷

Table 1.

Child Population, Rhode Island, 2000 and 2010

CITY/TOWN	2000 TOTAL POPULATION UNDER AGE 18	2010 TOTAL POPULATION UNDER AGE 18	CHANGE IN POPULATION UNDER AGE 18	% CHANGE IN POPULATION UNDER AGE 18
Barrington	4,745	4,597	-148	-3.1%
Bristol	4,399	3,623	-776	-17.6%
Burrillville	4,043	3,576	-467	-11.6%
Central Falls	5,531	5,644	113	2.0%
Charlestown	1,712	1,506	-206	-12.0%
Coventry	8,389	7,770	-619	-7.4%
Cranston	17,098	16,414	-684	-4.0%
Cumberland	7,690	7,535	-155	-2.0%
East Greenwich	3,564	3,436	-128	-3.6%
East Providence	10,546	9,177	-1,369	-13.0%
Exeter	1,589	1,334	-255	-16.0%
Foster	1,105	986	-119	-10.8%
Glocester	2,664	2,098	-566	-21.2%
Hopkinton	2,011	1,845	-166	-8.3%
Jamestown	1,238	1,043	-195	-15.8%
Johnston	5,906	5,480	-426	-7.2%
Lincoln	5,157	4,751	-406	-7.9%
Little Compton	780	654	-126	-16.2%
Middletown	4,328	3,652	-676	-15.6%
Narragansett	2,833	2,269	-564	-19.9%
New Shoreham	185	163	-22	-11.9%
Newport	5,199	4,083	-1,116	-21.5%
North Kingstown	6,848	6,322	-526	-7.7%
North Providence	5,936	5,514	-422	-7.1%
North Smithfield	2,379	2,456	77	3.2%
Pawtucket	18,151	16,575	-1,576	-8.7%
Portsmouth	4,329	3,996	-333	-7.7%
Providence	45,277	41,634	-3,643	-8.0%
Richmond	2,014	1,849	-165	-8.2%
Scituate	2,635	2,272	-363	-13.8%
Smithfield	4,019	3,625	-394	-9.8%
South Kingstown	6,284	5,416	-868	-13.8%
Tiverton	3,367	2,998	-369	-11.0%
Warren	2,454	1,940	-514	-20.9%
Warwick	18,780	15,825	-2,955	-15.7%
West Greenwich	1,444	1,477	33	2.3%
West Warwick	6,632	5,746	-886	-13.4%
Westerly	5,406	4,787	-619	-11.5%
Woonsocket	11,155	9,888	-1,267	-11.4%
Four Core Cities	80,114	73,741	-6,373	-8.0%
Remainder of State	167,708	150,215	-17,493	-10.4%
Rhode Island	247,822	223,956	-23,866	-9.6%

Source of Data for Table/Methodology

U.S. Census Bureau, Census 2000, Summary File 1 and Census 2010, Summary File 1.

Core cities are Central Falls, Pawtucket, Providence, and Woonsocket.

References

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- ² U.S. Census Bureau, Census 2000 Summary File 1. Table DP-1.
- ³ U.S. Census Bureau, Census 2010 Summary File 1. Table DP-1.
- ⁴ U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2015-2019. Table DP02.
- ⁵ U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2015-2019. Table B01001.
- ⁶ U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2015-2019. Table B09002.
- ⁷ U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2015-2019. Table B09018.
- ⁸ U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2015-2019. Table B09001.
- ⁹ U.S. Census Bureau, Census 2000 Redistricting Summary File. Table QT-PL.
- ¹⁰ O'Hare, W. (2011). *The changing child population of the United States: Analysis of data from the 2010 Census*. Baltimore, MD: The Annie E. Casey Foundation.
- ¹¹ U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2015-2019. Table B01001I.
- ¹² U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2015-2019. Table B05003.
- ¹³ U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2015-2019. Table B16007.
- ¹⁴ 2019 Youth Risk Behavior Survey, Rhode Island Department of Health.
- ^{15,17} U.S. Census Bureau. (2018). *2020 Census: Counting everyone once, only once, and in the right place*. Retrieved January 15, 2021, from www2.census.gov
- ¹⁶ U.S. Census Bureau. (2017). *Uses of Census Bureau data in federal funds distribution*. Retrieved January 13, 2021, from www.census.gov/library/working-papers/

Children in Single-Parent Families

DEFINITION

Children in single-parent families is the percentage of children under age 18 who live in families headed by a person – of any gender – who is unmarried, regardless of whether both parents live in the home but are unmarried or if only one parent lives in the home. These numbers include “own children” defined as never-married, under age 18, and related to the family head by birth, marriage, or adoption.

SIGNIFICANCE

According to the U.S. Census Bureau’s American Community Survey, there were 185,195 children living with one or more parents in Rhode Island between 2015 and 2019. Of these, 34% (62,877) were living with an unmarried parent, down from 36% of children between 2010 and 2014.^{1,2}

Between 2015 and 2019, 74% of children living in poverty in Rhode Island were living in single-parent families. Children in single-parent families in Rhode Island were more than five times more likely to be living in poverty than those in married-couple families. Between 2015 and 2019 in Rhode Island, 35% of children in single-parent families lived in poverty, compared to 7% of children in married-couple families.³

Single-parent families led by mothers were almost twice as likely to live in poverty as single-parent families led by fathers.⁴ Between 2015 and 2019, the

median family income for married two-parent families (\$109,110) was more than twice that of male-headed single-parent families (\$48,486) and more than three and a half times that of female-headed single-parent families (\$30,482).⁵

The financial hardship and time constraints experienced by many single parents explain some of the differences in well-being between children in single-parent households and those in two-parent households.^{6,7} Increasing parents’ education levels can make a significant difference in their earning power. One study found that single mothers with associate degrees earn an average of \$152,927 more over their lifetimes than those with high school diplomas, and single mothers with bachelor’s degrees earn \$296,044 more. Increasing the incomes of low-income families with young children under age six by \$3,000 per year can improve long-term outcomes for their children.⁸ Supports like child care assistance, paid family leave, and paid sick time are also vital supports for single parents and their children.⁹

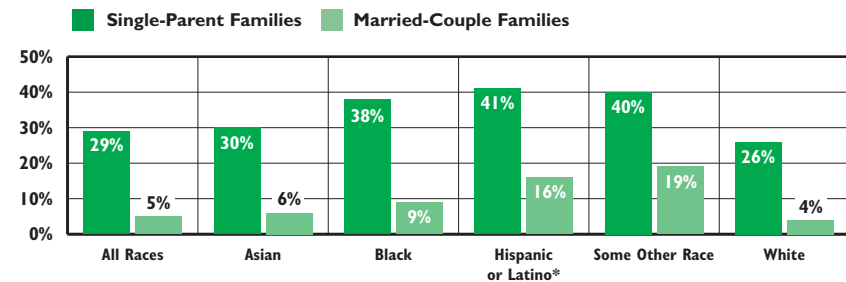
Single-Parent Families		
	2009	2019
RI	36%	38%
US	34%	34%
National Rank*		41st
New England Rank**		6th

*1st is best; 50th is worst

**1st is best; 6th is worst

The Annie E. Casey Foundation, KIDS COUNT Data Center, datacenter.kidscount.org


Families With Children Under Age 18 and Income Below the Poverty Threshold, by Race & Ethnicity, Rhode Island, 2015-2019



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2015-2019. Tables B17010, B17010A, B17010B, B17010D, B17010F, B17010I. *Hispanic or Latino may be in any race category.

◆ **Hispanic and Black single-parent families in Rhode Island are one and a half times as likely as white single-parent families to live in poverty. Hispanic and Black married-couple families and married-couple families of Some other race are more likely than white and Asian married-couple families in Rhode Island to live in poverty.**¹⁰

Family Structure and Child Well-Being

◆ **In the United States, one in four parents living with a child is unmarried (25%). This marks a dramatic change from 50 years ago, when fewer than one in 10 parents living with their children was unmarried (7%). At the same time, the profile of unmarried parents has shifted so that now 35% of all unmarried parents are living with a partner.**¹¹

◆ **Children in the U.S. live in a variety of family structures. Among those who live with at least one of their biological parents, 59% live in families with only biological parent(s) and full sibling(s), and 41% live in families with single parents, stepparents, stepsiblings, and/or half siblings.**¹²

◆ **After increasing for several decades, the proportion of births to unmarried families in the U.S. has leveled off and has been around 40% since 2009.^{13,14} Babies born to cohabiting couples comprise 25% of all births and 60% of nonmarital births in the U.S., and they account for nearly the entire increase in nonmarital births.**¹⁵

Children in Single-Parent Families

Table 2.

Children's Living Arrangements, Rhode Island, 2010

CITY/TOWN	CHILDREN LIVING IN HOUSEHOLDS	CHILDREN WHO ARE A HOUSEHOLDER OR SPOUSE		CHILDREN LIVING WITH NON-RELATIVES		CHILDREN LIVING WITH OTHER RELATIVES		CHILDREN LIVING IN MARRIED-COUPLE FAMILIES		CHILDREN LIVING WITH GRANDPARENTS		CHILDREN LIVING IN SINGLE-PARENT FAMILIES	
		N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%
Barrington	4,597	2	<1%	31	1%	15	0%	3,871	84%	85	2%	593	13%
Bristol	3,621	1	<1%	37	1%	51	1%	2,564	71%	225	6%	743	21%
Burrillville	3,548	0	0%	110	3%	26	1%	2,353	66%	232	7%	827	23%
Central Falls	5,634	3	<1%	90	2%	209	4%	2,159	38%	429	8%	2,744	49%
Charlestown	1,506	0	0%	15	1%	20	1%	1,059	70%	106	7%	306	20%
Coventry	7,762	2	<1%	148	2%	72	1%	5,343	69%	549	7%	1,648	21%
Cranston	16,262	5	<1%	226	1%	324	2%	10,462	64%	1,027	6%	4,218	26%
Cumberland	7,535	0	0%	97	1%	53	1%	5,651	75%	334	4%	1,400	19%
East Greenwich	3,436	0	0%	21	1%	13	0%	2,889	84%	71	2%	442	13%
East Providence	9,100	2	<1%	127	1%	154	2%	5,329	59%	675	7%	2,813	31%
Exeter	1,300	0	0%	23	2%	16	1%	996	77%	82	6%	183	14%
Foster	986	0	0%	24	2%	10	1%	741	75%	69	7%	142	14%
Glocester	2,098	0	0%	39	2%	26	1%	1,581	75%	137	7%	315	15%
Hopkinton	1,845	0	0%	46	2%	24	1%	1,327	72%	113	6%	335	18%
Jamestown	1,043	0	0%	3	0%	5	0%	799	77%	49	5%	187	18%
Johnston	5,473	2	<1%	90	2%	114	2%	3,591	66%	380	7%	1,296	24%
Lincoln	4,743	3	<1%	61	1%	52	1%	3,270	69%	211	4%	1,146	24%
Little Compton	654	0	0%	5	1%	1	0%	528	81%	42	6%	78	12%
Middletown	3,634	3	<1%	45	1%	38	1%	2,606	72%	166	5%	776	21%
Narragansett	2,240	2	<1%	35	2%	25	1%	1,533	68%	105	5%	540	24%
New Shoreham	163	0	0%	1	1%	1	1%	111	68%	4	2%	46	28%
Newport	4,060	2	<1%	66	2%	56	1%	2,034	50%	204	5%	1,698	42%
North Kingstown	6,322	1	<1%	57	1%	49	1%	4,639	73%	247	4%	1,329	21%
North Providence	5,481	0	0%	81	1%	131	2%	3,266	60%	378	7%	1,625	30%
North Smithfield	2,456	0	0%	40	2%	13	1%	1,831	75%	96	4%	476	19%
Pawtucket	16,550	17	<1%	239	1%	460	3%	7,488	45%	1,228	7%	7,118	43%
Portsmouth	3,940	2	<1%	47	1%	24	1%	2,977	76%	172	4%	718	18%
Providence	41,497	41	<1%	632	2%	1,663	4%	16,931	41%	3,094	7%	19,136	46%
Richmond	1,836	0	0%	32	2%	16	1%	1,437	78%	104	6%	247	13%
Scituate	2,272	0	0%	24	1%	22	1%	1,731	76%	139	6%	356	16%
Smithfield	3,615	2	<1%	46	1%	29	1%	2,802	78%	164	5%	572	16%
South Kingstown	5,364	0	0%	81	2%	31	1%	3,951	74%	248	5%	1,053	20%
Tiverton	2,998	1	<1%	41	1%	20	1%	2,109	70%	162	5%	665	22%
Warren	1,935	4	<1%	42	2%	19	1%	1,124	58%	136	7%	610	32%
Warwick	15,795	3	<1%	308	2%	223	1%	10,476	66%	1,109	7%	3,676	23%
West Greenwich	1,468	2	<1%	22	1%	13	1%	1,131	77%	79	5%	221	15%
West Warwick	5,746	1	<1%	151	3%	121	2%	3,118	54%	365	6%	1,990	35%
Westerly	4,787	4	<1%	82	2%	83	2%	3,012	63%	269	6%	1,337	28%
Woonsocket	9,842	10	<1%	203	2%	176	2%	4,237	43%	683	7%	4,533	46%
Four Core Cities	73,523	71	<1%	1,164	2%	2,508	3%	30,815	42%	5,434	7%	33,531	46%
Remainder of State	149,621	44	<1%	2,304	2%	1,890	1%	102,242	68%	8,534	6%	34,607	23%
Rhode Island	223,144	115	<1%	3,468	2%	4,398	2%	133,057	60%	13,968	6%	68,138	31%

Source of Data for Table/Methodology

U.S. Census Bureau, Census 2010.

The denominator is the number of children under age 18 living in family households according to Census 2010. A family household is defined by the U.S. Census Bureau as consisting of a householder and one or more people living together in the same household who are related to the householder by birth, marriage, or adoption – it may include others not related to the householder.

Core cities are Central Falls, Pawtucket, Providence, and Woonsocket.

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(continued on page 174)

Grandparents Caring for Grandchildren

DEFINITION

Grandparents caring for grandchildren is the percentage of family households in which a grandparent is financially responsible for food, shelter, clothing, child care, etc. for any or all grandchildren under age 18 living in the household.

SIGNIFICANCE

The number of grandparents raising grandchildren is on the rise. In the United States, eight million children live in households headed primarily by grandparents or other relatives, and 2.7 million of these children are in families where grandparents or other relatives serve as the primary caregiver through kinship foster care. Black and Native American children are more likely to be cared for by grandparents than other groups.¹

A grandparent caregiver reduces the trauma of separation when a child cannot remain with their parents and provides better outcomes for children than those who are placed with non-relatives. Children may be in a grandparent's care because of child abuse or neglect, unemployment, or incarceration. Increasingly, parental substance use is the reason a grandparent becomes the primary caregiver.^{2,3}

Twice as many grandmothers are involved in raising grandchildren than grandfathers. Forty percent of grandmother-only caregivers live below

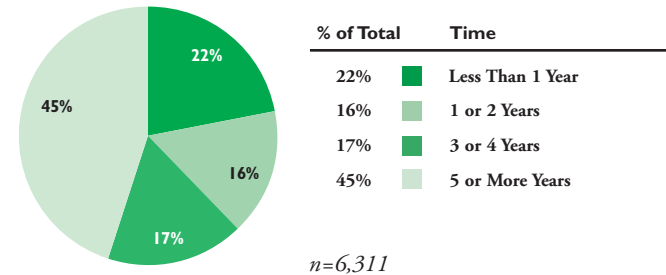
the poverty line, and 76% receive public assistance. Nearly one in five of all grandparent caregivers lives in poverty.^{4,5}

Many grandparents have informal custody arrangements and are not involved with child welfare agencies, often receiving fewer services than traditional foster parents.⁶ Compared to the general population, children in informal kinship care are more likely to live in poverty, less likely to be covered by health insurance, and are more likely to have physical and mental disabilities.⁷

Grandparents and other relative caregivers often lack information about the support services (such as training, respite, and peer support), resources, programs, and policies available to them. Nearly all children in kinship care are eligible for cash assistance through Temporary Assistance for Needy Families regardless of their household's income level, yet children in informal custody arrangements are much less likely to receive these payments.^{8,9}

Grandparent caregivers are at risk for poor physical and mental health. They may have difficulty enrolling children in school and/or seeking health insurance or medical care for the children in their care. Many caregivers do not pursue the legal process required for permanent status to avoid strain on family relationships and due to cost.^{10,11} Grandparents make up the largest percentage of relative caregivers, but other family members may face similar obstacles.¹²


Rhode Island Grandparents Financially Responsible for Their Grandchildren, by Length of Time Responsible, 2015-2019



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2015-2019. Table B10050..

- ◆ **Between 2015 and 2019, there were a total of 14,517 children in Rhode Island living in households headed by grandparents.¹³ During this time period, there were 6,311 grandparents who were financially responsible for their grandchildren, 62% of whom had been financially responsible for three or more years.¹⁴**
- ◆ **In the 2010 Census, 6% (13,968) of all children in Rhode Island lived with a grandparent caregiver and 2% (4,398) lived with other relatives.¹⁵**
- ◆ **Children in kinship foster care have better physical and mental health outcomes, more stability, and are more likely to have a permanent home.¹⁶ Rhode Island regulations state that the Department of Children, Youth and Families (DCYF) must give priority to relatives when placing a child in out-of-home care.¹⁷ On December 31, 2020, there were 830 children under age 19 in DCYF care who were in out-of-home placements with a grandparent or other relative. Children in kinship foster care made up 45% of all children in out-of-home placements in Rhode Island.¹⁸**
- ◆ **During the COVID-19 pandemic, grandfamilies are juggling distance learning, economic challenges, and difficulties accessing services for their grandchildren. They are also at increased risk of developing severe complications if they contract COVID-19 because they are more likely to be over age 60, have underlying health issues, and be People of Color. Support groups, kinship navigator programs, and case management can help grandparents access services for themselves and their grandchildren.¹⁹**

Grandparents Caring for Grandchildren

Table 3.

Children's Living Arrangements, Rhode Island, 2010

CITY/TOWN	CHILDREN LIVING IN HOUSEHOLDS	CHILDREN WHO ARE A HOUSEHOLDER OR SPOUSE		CHILDREN LIVING WITH NON-RELATIVES		CHILDREN LIVING WITH OTHER RELATIVES		CHILDREN LIVING IN MARRIED COUPLE FAMILIES		CHILDREN LIVING IN SINGLE PARENT FAMILIES		CHILDREN LIVING WITH GRANDPARENTS	
		N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%
Barrington	4,597	2	<1%	31	1%	15	0%	3,871	84%	593	13%	85	2%
Bristol	3,621	1	<1%	37	1%	51	1%	2,564	71%	743	21%	225	6%
Burrillville	3,548	0	0%	110	3%	26	1%	2,353	66%	827	23%	232	7%
Central Falls	5,634	3	<1%	90	2%	209	4%	2,159	38%	2,744	49%	429	8%
Charlestown	1,506	0	0%	15	1%	20	1%	1,059	70%	306	20%	106	7%
Coventry	7,762	2	<1%	148	2%	72	1%	5,343	69%	1,648	21%	549	7%
Cranston	16,262	5	<1%	226	1%	324	2%	10,462	64%	4,218	26%	1,027	6%
Cumberland	7,535	0	0%	97	1%	53	1%	5,651	75%	1,400	19%	334	4%
East Greenwich	3,436	0	0%	21	1%	13	0%	2,889	84%	442	13%	71	2%
East Providence	9,100	2	<1%	127	1%	154	2%	5,329	59%	2,813	31%	675	7%
Exeter	1,300	0	0%	23	2%	16	1%	996	77%	183	14%	82	6%
Foster	986	0	0%	24	2%	10	1%	741	75%	142	14%	69	7%
Glocester	2,098	0	0%	39	2%	26	1%	1,581	75%	315	15%	137	7%
Hopkinton	1,845	0	0%	46	2%	24	1%	1,327	72%	335	18%	113	6%
Jamestown	1,043	0	0%	3	0%	5	0%	799	77%	187	18%	49	5%
Johnston	5,473	2	<1%	90	2%	114	2%	3,591	66%	1,296	24%	380	7%
Lincoln	4,743	3	<1%	61	1%	52	1%	3,270	69%	1,146	24%	211	4%
Little Compton	654	0	0%	5	1%	1	0%	528	81%	78	12%	42	6%
Middletown	3,634	3	<1%	45	1%	38	1%	2,606	72%	776	21%	166	5%
Narragansett	2,240	2	<1%	35	2%	25	1%	1,533	68%	540	24%	105	5%
New Shoreham	163	0	0%	1	1%	1	1%	111	68%	46	28%	4	2%
Newport	4,060	2	<1%	66	2%	56	1%	2,034	50%	1,698	42%	204	5%
North Kingstown	6,322	1	<1%	57	1%	49	1%	4,639	73%	1,329	21%	247	4%
North Providence	5,481	0	0%	81	1%	131	2%	3,266	60%	1,625	30%	378	7%
North Smithfield	2,456	0	0%	40	2%	13	1%	1,831	75%	476	19%	96	4%
Pawtucket	16,550	17	<1%	239	1%	460	3%	7,488	45%	7,118	43%	1,228	7%
Portsmouth	3,940	2	<1%	47	1%	24	1%	2,977	76%	718	18%	172	4%
Providence	41,497	41	<1%	632	2%	1,663	4%	16,931	41%	19,136	46%	3,094	7%
Richmond	1,836	0	0%	32	2%	16	1%	1,437	78%	247	13%	104	6%
Scituate	2,272	0	0%	24	1%	22	1%	1,731	76%	356	16%	139	6%
Smithfield	3,615	2	<1%	46	1%	29	1%	2,802	78%	572	16%	164	5%
South Kingstown	5,364	0	0%	81	2%	31	1%	3,951	74%	1,053	20%	248	5%
Tiverton	2,998	1	<1%	41	1%	20	1%	2,109	70%	665	22%	162	5%
Warren	1,935	4	<1%	42	2%	19	1%	1,124	58%	610	32%	136	7%
Warwick	15,795	3	<1%	308	2%	223	1%	10,476	66%	3,676	23%	1,109	7%
West Greenwich	1,468	2	<1%	22	1%	13	1%	1,131	77%	221	15%	79	5%
West Warwick	5,746	1	<1%	151	3%	121	2%	3,118	54%	1,990	35%	365	6%
Westerly	4,787	4	<1%	82	2%	83	2%	3,012	63%	1,337	28%	269	6%
Woonsocket	9,842	10	<1%	203	2%	176	2%	4,237	43%	4,533	46%	683	7%
Four Core Cities	73,523	71	<1%	1,164	2%	2,508	3%	30,815	42%	33,531	46%	5,434	7%
Remainder of State	149,621	44	<1%	2,304	2%	1,890	1%	102,242	68%	34,607	23%	8,534	6%
Rhode Island	223,144	115	<1%	3,468	2%	4,398	2%	133,057	60%	68,138	31%	13,968	6%

Source of Data for Table/Methodology

U.S. Census Bureau, Census 2010.

The denominator is the number of children under age 18 living in family households according to Census 2010. A family household is defined by the U.S. Census Bureau as consisting of a householder and one or more people living together in the same household who are related to the householder by birth, marriage, or adoption – it may include others not related to the householder.

Core cities are Central Falls, Pawtucket, Providence, and Woonsocket.

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(continued on page 174)

Mother's Education Level

DEFINITION

Mother's education level is the percentage of total births to women with less than a high school diploma. Data are self-reported at the time of the infant's birth.

SIGNIFICANCE

Parental educational attainment can have an impact on many aspects of child well-being, including children's health and health-related behaviors, school readiness, educational achievement, and involvement in pro-social activities.¹ Children of parents without high school degrees are more likely to struggle in school, including receiving lower achievement scores, repeating grades, and failing to graduate from high school.²

Infant mortality rates increase as mother's education levels decrease.³ In Rhode Island between 2015-2019, babies born to mothers with a high school degree or less had a higher infant mortality rate (6.0 per 1,000) than babies born to mothers with more advanced education (3.6 per 1,000 births).⁴

Children of more educated parents participate in early learning programs and home literacy activities more frequently and enter school with higher levels of academic skills. Increasing maternal education can improve children's school readiness, language and academic skills, health, and educational

attainment. Higher levels of parental education can decrease the likelihood that a child will live in poverty.^{5,6,7,8} Between 2015 and 2019, women with bachelor's degrees in Rhode Island earned 2.3 times more than those with less than a high school diploma and 1.6 times more than women with a high school diploma.⁹

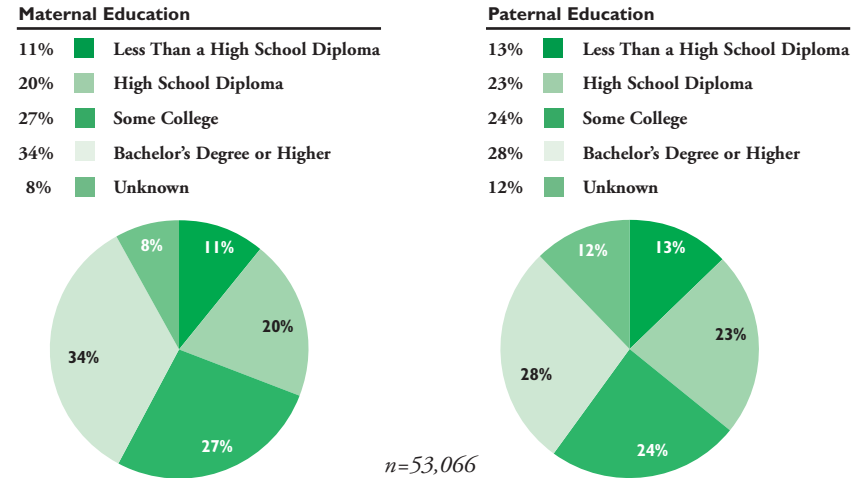
Between 2015 and 2019, 11% of Rhode Island births were to mothers with less than a high school diploma and 61% were to mothers with at least some college education.¹⁰ Nationally in 2019, 12% of children under 18 lived in families in which the head of household had less than a high school diploma, and 45% lived in families in which the head of household had an associate degree or higher.¹¹

Births to Mothers With Less Than a High School Diploma, Rhode Island, 2015-2019

CITY/TOWN	% OF BIRTHS
Central Falls	33%
Pawtucket	15%
Providence	21%
Woonsocket	18%
Four Core Cities	21%
Remainder of State	5%
Rhode Island	11%

Source: Rhode Island Department of Health, Center for Health Data and Analysis, Maternal Child Health Database, 2015-2019.

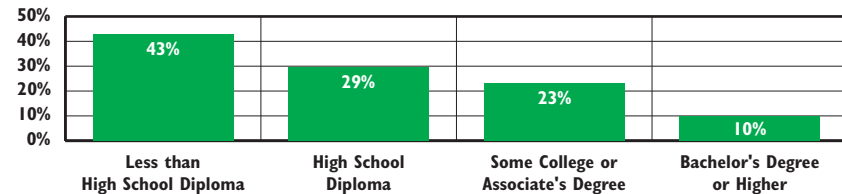
Births by Parental Education Levels, Rhode Island, 2015-2019



Source: Rhode Island Department of Health, Center for Health Data and Analysis, Maternal Child Health Database, 2015-2019.

◆ In Rhode Island between 2015 and 2019, 31% of all infants were born to mothers with a high school diploma or less, and 35% were born to fathers with a high school diploma or less.¹²

Poverty Rates for Families Headed by Single Women by Educational Attainment, Rhode Island, 2015-2019



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2015-2019. Table S1702.

◆ In Rhode Island between 2015 and 2019, 43% of families headed by single women with less than a high school diploma lived in poverty, compared with 10% of those with a bachelor's degree or higher.¹³

Table 4.

Births by Education Level of Mother, Rhode Island, 2015-2019

CITY/TOWN	TOTAL # OF BIRTHS	BACHELOR'S DEGREE OR ABOVE		SOME COLLEGE		HIGH SCHOOL DIPLOMA		LESS THAN A HIGH SCHOOL DIPLOMA	
		N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%
Barrington	558	419	75%	59	11%	30	5%	9	*
Bristol	672	316	47%	194	29%	100	15%	35	5%
Burrillville	635	210	33%	224	35%	128	20%	31	5%
Central Falls	1,567	101	6%	334	21%	441	28%	513	33%
Charlestown	255	104	41%	66	26%	52	20%	14	5% [^]
Coventry	1,521	611	40%	502	33%	264	17%	63	4%
Cranston	3,920	1,584	40%	1,117	28%	675	17%	275	7%
Cumberland	1,708	956	56%	387	23%	193	11%	60	4%
East Greenwich	529	383	72%	69	13%	28	5%	9	*
East Providence	2,284	870	38%	640	28%	445	19%	186	8%
Exeter	244	134	55%	57	23%	27	11%	14	6% [^]
Foster	180	67	37%	66	37%	28	16%	9	*
Glocester	350	150	43%	131	37%	44	13%	6	*
Hopkinton	332	143	43%	84	25%	63	19%	19	6% [^]
Jamestown	126	87	69%	23	18%	4	*	1	*
Johnston	1,328	478	36%	433	33%	262	20%	67	5%
Lincoln	923	470	51%	245	27%	117	13%	39	4%
Little Compton	79	40	51%	24	30%	4	*	1	*
Middletown	815	398	49%	211	26%	117	14%	45	6%
Narragansett	273	161	59%	62	23%	28	10%	8	*
New Shoreham	38	13	34% [^]	15	39% [^]	2	*	2	*
Newport	1,226	535	44%	220	18%	226	18%	159	13%
North Kingstown	1,106	618	56%	241	22%	139	13%	48	4%
North Providence	1,567	579	37%	508	32%	281	18%	94	6%
North Smithfield	457	198	43%	144	32%	58	13%	19	4% [^]
Pawtucket	4,680	898	19%	1,406	30%	1,217	26%	708	15%
Portsmouth	664	392	59%	164	25%	50	8%	12	2% [^]
Providence	12,184	2,373	19%	2,985	24%	2,913	24%	2,616	21%
Richmond	279	135	48%	71	25%	51	18%	6	*
Scituate	432	208	48%	119	28%	61	14%	12	3% [^]
Smithfield	713	383	54%	209	29%	79	11%	8	1% [^]
South Kingstown	880	520	59%	167	19%	90	10%	42	5%
Tiverton	574	245	43%	185	32%	86	15%	25	4%
Warren	414	174	42%	134	32%	66	16%	20	5% [^]
Warwick	3,785	1,637	43%	1,159	31%	646	17%	150	4%
West Greenwich	229	124	54%	52	23%	36	16%	7	*
West Warwick	1,645	401	24%	586	36%	425	26%	145	9%
Westerly	979	388	40%	277	28%	197	20%	67	7%
Woonsocket	2,765	378	14%	761	28%	884	32%	510	18%
Unknown**	150	40	27%	54	36%	33	22%	17	11% [^]
Four Core Cities	21,196	3,750	18%	5,486	26%	5,455	26%	4,347	21%
Remainder of State	31,720	14,131	45%	8,845	28%	5,102	16%	1,707	5%
Rhode Island	53,066	17,921	34%	14,385	27%	10,590	20%	6,071	11%

Source of Data for Table/Methodology

Rhode Island Department of Health, Center for Health Data and Analysis, Maternal Child Health Database, 2015-2019. Data are self-reported and reported by the mother's place of residence, not the place of the infant's birth.

Percentages may not sum to 100% for all communities and the state because the number and percentage of births with unknown parental education levels are not included in this table. Between 2015 and 2019, maternal education levels were unknown for 4,099 births (8%).

*The data are statistically unreliable, and rates are not reported and should not be calculated.

[^]The data are statistically unstable, and rates or percentages should be interpreted with caution.

**Unknown births have missing maternal residence data.

Core cities are Central Falls, Pawtucket, Providence, and Woonsocket.

References

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(continued on page 174)

Racial and Ethnic Diversity

DEFINITION

Racial and ethnic diversity is the percentage of children under age 18 by racial and ethnic categories as defined by the U.S. Census. Racial and ethnic categories are chosen by the head of household or person completing the Census form.

SIGNIFICANCE

Racial and ethnic diversity has increased in the United States over the last several decades and is projected to rise in the future. Since 2000, all of the growth in the child population in the U.S. has been among Children of Color.^{1,2} In 2019, 50% of all U.S. children were Children of Color.³ In Rhode Island between 2000 and 2010, the Hispanic child population grew by 31% while the non-Hispanic white child population declined by 21%.⁴

In 2010, 36% of children in Rhode Island were Children of Color, up from 27% in 2000. The number of Children of Color in Rhode Island grew by about 13,000 between 2000 and 2010, and the number of non-Hispanic white children decreased by over 37,000 during the same period.^{5,6}

Including Hispanics in each race category, in 2010 in Rhode Island, less than 1% of children under age 18 were American Indian or Alaska Native, 3% of were Asian, 8% were Black or

African American, 9% identified as Some other race, 7% were Two or more races, and 72% were white. In 2010, 21% of children living in Rhode Island were Hispanic.⁷

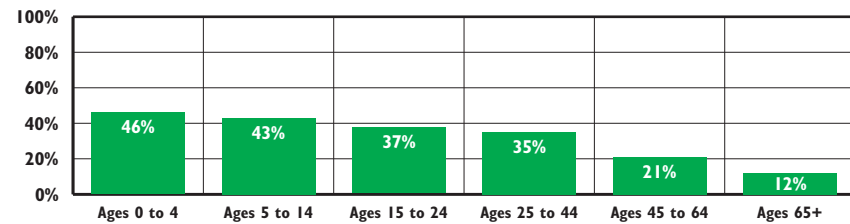
In 2010, two-thirds (67%) of all Children of Color in Rhode Island lived in the four core cities of Central Falls, Pawtucket, Providence, and Woonsocket. Almost three-quarters (74%) of children living in the four core cities were Children of Color.⁸

Between 2015 and 2019, there were 8,189 foreign-born children living in Rhode Island, 30% of whom were naturalized U.S. citizens.⁹ Of Rhode Island's immigrant children, 31% were born in the Caribbean, 24% were born in Asia, 22% were born in Central or South America, 13% were born in Africa, 6% were born in Europe, and 3% were born in North America (Canada, Bermuda, or Mexico).¹⁰

Between 2015 and 2019, 23% of children between the ages of five and 17 living in Rhode Island spoke a language other than English at home, 95% of whom spoke English well or very well.¹¹

Many schools, child care providers, health care providers, social service agencies, and other community organizations are working to adapt their practices to be more culturally competent and better serve this increasingly diverse child population.¹²


Percentage of Population Identified as People of Color by Age, Rhode Island, 2019



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Population Estimates, 2019.

- ◆ **Young children in Rhode Island are more likely to be identified as People of Color than any other age group. In 2019 in Rhode Island, 46% of children under age five were People of Color, compared with 35% of adults ages 25 to 44 and 12% of people age 65 or over.**¹³
- ◆ **In 2019, 95% of children in Rhode Island were born in the U.S. Twenty-seven percent of children in Rhode Island in 2019 lived in immigrant families (either they are foreign-born, or they have at least one parent who is foreign-born), which is almost the same as the U.S. rate of 25%. Nearly all (97%) Rhode Island children in immigrant families had parents who have been in the United States for more than five years.**¹⁴
- ◆ **In Rhode Island in 2019, the median family income for children in immigrant families was \$71,500, compared to \$83,500 for children in non-immigrant families.**¹⁵ **Between 2015 and 2019, 67% of Rhode Island's children living in poverty lived in families with U.S.-born parents.**¹⁶
- ◆ **Limited English proficiency can be a barrier to employment opportunities, higher earnings, access to health care, and parental engagement with education.**¹⁷ **In 2019, 12% of Rhode Island children in immigrant families lived in linguistically-isolated households, meaning no one age 14 or older speaks only English and no one age 14 or older who speaks a language other than English speaks English "very well."**¹⁸

Table 5.

Child Population, by Race and Ethnicity, Rhode Island, 2010

CITY/TOWN	UNDER AGE 18 BY RACE AND ETHNICITY									2010 POPULATION UNDER AGE 18
	AMERICAN INDIAN AND ALASKA NATIVE	ASIAN	BLACK	HISPANIC OR LATINO	NATIVE HAWAIIAN AND OTHER PACIFIC ISLANDER	SOME OTHER RACE	TWO OR MORE RACES	WHITE		
Barrington	8	163	22	154	0	13	141	4,096	4,597	
Bristol	4	40	43	130	0	3	105	3,298	3,623	
Burrillville	2	12	32	115	0	4	101	3,310	3,576	
Central Falls	17	20	492	3,950	2	179	237	747	5,644	
Charlestown	50	16	8	46	0	1	54	1,331	1,506	
Coventry	19	77	64	312	0	14	219	7,065	7,770	
Cranston	48	1,075	693	2,966	15	73	725	10,819	16,414	
Cumberland	7	204	154	542	3	31	246	6,348	7,535	
East Greenwich	5	174	26	106	0	6	105	3,014	3,436	
East Providence	42	142	619	799	1	281	674	6,619	9,177	
Exeter	7	10	7	66	0	3	25	1,216	1,334	
Foster	1	16	14	24	0	0	18	913	986	
Glocester	2	24	13	63	0	7	47	1,942	2,098	
Hopkinton	15	16	7	48	0	3	66	1,690	1,845	
Jamestown	1	8	4	36	0	2	45	947	1,043	
Johnston	1	135	148	640	0	22	170	4,364	5,480	
Lincoln	7	164	114	353	0	25	203	3,885	4,751	
Little Compton	1	6	8	18	3	2	10	606	654	
Middletown	10	124	159	295	3	20	262	2,779	3,652	
Narragansett	32	16	30	91	0	9	93	1,998	2,269	
New Shoreham	0	0	1	10	0	0	3	149	163	
Newport	37	39	337	703	1	33	528	2,405	4,083	
North Kingstown	31	85	75	289	2	6	236	5,598	6,322	
North Providence	15	158	397	796	0	74	241	3,833	5,514	
North Smithfield	2	33	15	114	0	4	47	2,241	2,456	
Pawtucket	83	256	2,727	4,785	7	1,004	1,200	6,513	16,575	
Portsmouth	11	58	53	157	1	13	166	3,537	3,996	
Providence	375	2,095	6,682	23,166	15	494	2,070	6,737	41,634	
Richmond	7	15	12	44	0	0	42	1,729	1,849	
Scituate	4	29	8	54	0	3	29	2,145	2,272	
Smithfield	6	41	46	117	0	9	69	3,337	3,625	
South Kingstown	81	115	80	192	1	18	242	4,687	5,416	
Tiverton	3	34	31	84	2	9	94	2,741	2,998	
Warren	10	11	38	75	0	4	66	1,736	1,940	
Warwick	38	457	275	1,048	2	39	601	13,365	15,825	
West Greenwich	5	16	15	60	0	1	27	1,353	1,477	
West Warwick	11	128	142	590	3	20	298	4,554	5,746	
Westerly	52	127	68	252	2	10	208	4,068	4,787	
Woonsocket	37	592	676	2,650	2	35	749	5,147	9,888	
Four Core Cities	512	2,963	10,577	34,551	26	1,712	4,256	19,144	73,741	
Remainder of State	575	3,768	3,758	11,389	39	762	6,206	123,718	150,215	
Rhode Island	1,087	6,731	14,335	45,940	65	2,474	10,462	142,862	223,956	

Source of Data for Table/Methodology

U.S. Census Bureau, Census 2010 Redistricting File. All categories are mutually exclusive. If Hispanic was selected as ethnicity, individuals are not included in other racial categories. Likewise, if more than one race was selected, individuals are included in Two or more races and not in their individual race categories.

Core cities are Central Falls, Pawtucket, Providence, and Woonsocket.

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- ⁴ U.S. Census Bureau, Census 2000 and Census 2010.
- ⁵ U.S. Census Bureau, Census 2000 Redistricting Data Summary File. Table QT-PL.
- ^{6,7,8} U.S. Census Bureau, Census 2010 Redistricting Data Summary File. Table QT-PL.
- ⁹ U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates, 2015-2019. Table B05003.
- ¹⁰ Population Reference Bureau analysis of 2015-2019 American Community Survey PUMS data.
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Racial and Ethnic Disparities

DEFINITION

Racial and ethnic disparities is the gap that exists in outcomes for children of different racial and ethnic groups in Rhode Island. Child well-being outcome areas include economic well-being, health, safety, and education.

SIGNIFICANCE

Rhode Island's children are diverse in racial and ethnic background. In 2010 in Rhode Island, 1% of children under 18 were American Indian or Native Alaskan, 3% were Asian, 8% were Black or African American, 9% were identified as Some other race, 7% were Two or more races, and 72% were white. In 2010, 21% of children living in Rhode Island were Hispanic.¹

Children who live in poverty, especially those who experience deep poverty in early childhood, are more likely to have health, behavioral, educational, economic, and social problems.^{2,3} Between 2015 and 2019, 17% of all Rhode Island children lived in poverty, 72% of whom were Children of Color.⁴

Black, Latino, and Native American children are more likely than Asian and white children to live in neighborhoods of concentrated poverty and face challenges above and beyond the burdens of individual poverty.⁵ In Rhode Island, almost one-third (31%) of Hispanic children live in

concentrated poverty, higher than in any other state.⁶

In 2010, two-thirds (67%) of Rhode Island's Children of Color lived in one of the four core cities (those cities with the highest percentage of children living in poverty), and more than three quarters of the children in Central Falls (87%) and Providence (84%) were Children of Color.⁷

Black-white neighborhood segregation has decreased in the U.S. over the past 50 years, but high levels still exist. Asian and Latino residents also experience high levels of neighborhood segregation, but lower than the rates for Black residents. The Providence-Warwick metropolitan area was the second most segregated metropolitan area in the nation for Latino residents between 2015 and 2019.⁸

Long-standing disparities in wealth continue to persist between families in different racial and ethnic groups. In 2019 in the U.S., the median net worth of non-Hispanic white households was eight times higher than that of non-Hispanic Black families and five times higher than that of Hispanic families.⁹ In Rhode Island, Black and Latino families have higher rates of unemployment and earn lower wages than white families.¹⁰ Nationally, Black and Latino households have reported the highest levels of economic hardship due to the COVID-19 pandemic.¹¹

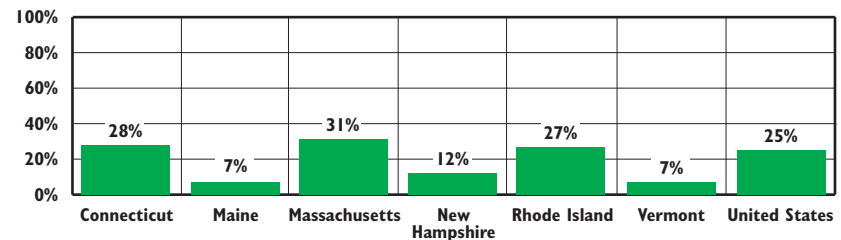


Residential Segregation and Its Impact on Education

- ◆ In the U.S., Black and Latino students have become increasingly segregated from white students over the last 30 years. Black and Latino students generally attend schools in which students are disproportionately Students of Color and high-poverty, while white students attend schools in which students are disproportionately white and low-poverty.^{12,13}
- ◆ Students in schools with high concentrations of low-income students and Students of Color have unequal educational opportunities, with classmates who generally have more absences and lower graduation rates and teachers who have less teaching experience and are more likely to teach outside their subject area of expertise. Students living in poverty often face a host of challenges outside the classroom that can negatively impact academic performance, including inadequate housing, less access to health care, lower parental educational levels, and fewer opportunities for enriching after-school and summer activities.^{14,15}



Percentage of Children Living in Immigrant Families*, New England and United States, 2018-2019



Source: The Urban Institute Children of Immigrants Data Tool, Data from 2018-2019, www.urban.org
 *Percentage reported represents children living in a family with at least one foreign-born parent.

- ◆ Children in immigrant families are defined as children under age 18 living in a family with at least one foreign-born parent. In 2018-2019, 27% (54,000) of Rhode Island children were living in immigrant families.¹⁶
- ◆ Half (50%) of Rhode Island's Hispanic children live in an immigrant family.¹⁷



Economic Well-Being Outcomes, by Race and Ethnicity, Rhode Island

	ALL RACES	ASIAN	BLACK	HISPANIC	NATIVE AMERICAN	WHITE
Children in Poverty	17%	12%	27%	33%	55%	13%
Births to Mothers with <12 Years Education	11%	7%	12%	25%	22%	5%
Unemployment Rate	9.3%	NA	9.4%	15.2%	NA	8.6%
Median Family Income	\$86,258	\$85,378	\$56,681	\$44,704	\$36,447	\$92,986
Homeownership	61%	48%	34%	30%	20%	66%

Sources: *Children in Poverty* data are from the U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2015-2019, Tables S1701, B17020A, B17020B, B17020C, B17020D & B17020I. *Maternal Education* data are from the Rhode Island Department of Health, Center for Health Data and Analysis, Maternal and Child Health Database, 2015-2019 (race data is non-Hispanic). *Unemployment Rate* data are from the Bureau of Labor Statistics, Local Area Unemployment Statistics, 2020. *Median Family Income* data are from the U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2015-2019, Tables B19113, B19113A, B19113B, B19113C, B19113D & B19113I. *Homeownership* data are from the U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2015-2019, Tables B25003, B25003A, B25003B, B25003C, B25003D & B25003I. For U.S. Census Bureau data, Hispanics may be included in any of the race categories. All Census data refer only to those individuals who selected one race. NA indicates that the rate was suppressed because the number was too small to calculate a reliable rate.

- ◆ Between 2015 and 2019 in Rhode Island, 17% of all children, 55% of Native American children, 33% of Hispanic children, 27% of Black children, 13% of white children, and 12% of Asian children in Rhode Island lived in families with incomes below the federal poverty threshold.¹⁸
- ◆ Between 2015 and 2019 in Rhode Island, Native American, Black, and Hispanic households were the most likely to live in rental units, while white households were the most likely to own their homes.¹⁹
- ◆ In 2020 in Rhode Island, the unemployment rate was 15.2% for Hispanic workers, 9.4% for Black workers, and 8.6% for white workers. Nationally, the unemployment rate was 11.4% for Black workers, 10.4% for Hispanic workers, and 7.3% for white workers.²⁰
- ◆ Education is essential for economic success. Adults with less than a high school diploma are at particular risk of living in poverty and other negative outcomes.²¹ Native American, Black, and Hispanic children in Rhode Island are all more likely than Asian and white children to be born to mothers with less than a high school diploma.²²



Health Outcomes, by Race and Ethnicity, Rhode Island

	ALL RACES	ASIAN	BLACK	HISPANIC	NATIVE AMERICAN	WHITE
Children Without Health Insurance	1.9%	2.0%	4.9%	3.1%	*	1.4%
Women With Delayed or No Prenatal Care	16.1%	17.8%	23.5%	19.0%	21.3%	13.1%
Preterm Births	8.9%	7.7%	11.5%	9.6%	13.7%	8.2%
Low Birthweight Infants	7.7%	7.6%	11.7%	8.1%	11%	6.6%
Infant Mortality (per 1,000 live births)	5.4	4.8 [^]	12	6.3	*	3.5
Births to Teens Ages 15-19 (per 1,000 teens)	12.4	3.3	14.9	29.5	27.9	6.4

Sources: All data are from the Rhode Island Department of Health, Center for Health Data and Analysis, Maternal and Child Health Database, 2015-2019 unless otherwise specified. Race and ethnicity is self-reported. Race data is non-Hispanic, except for *Infant Mortality* where Hispanic can be of any race. *Children Without Health Insurance* data are from the U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2018, Tables B27001, B27001A, B27001B, B27001D & B27001I. For U.S. Census Bureau data, Hispanic also may be included in any of the race categories. For *Births to Teens* the denominator is the female population ages 15 to 19 by race and ethnicity from CDC Wonder. Note that the All Races total for *Births to Teens* does not match the Rhode Island total presented by city and town in the *Births to Teens* indicator, which uses American Community Survey data by city and town as the denominator.

*The data are statistically unreliable and rates are not reported and should not be calculated.
[^]The data are statistically unstable and rates or percentages should be interpreted with caution.

- ◆ Although progress has been made on many health indicators across racial and ethnic populations, disparities still exist for a number of maternal and infant health outcomes in Rhode Island. Women of Color are more likely than white women to receive delayed or no prenatal care and to have infants with low birthweight. Native American, Black, and Hispanic women are also more likely to have preterm births than white and Asian women. Black children are more likely to die in infancy than white, Hispanic, or Asian children. Hispanic, Native American, and Black youth are more likely than white and Asian youth to give birth as teenagers.²³
- ◆ Black and Hispanic children in Rhode Island are more likely to go to the Emergency Department as a result of asthma than white children.²⁴ Nationally, children of two or more races and Black children are the most likely of all racial and ethnic groups to have asthma.²⁵
- ◆ In 2019, 96% of U.S. children had health insurance coverage. Hispanic (91%) and Native American (86%) children had the lowest rates of coverage.²⁶

Racial and Ethnic Disparities



Safety Outcomes, by Race and Ethnicity, Rhode Island

	ALL RACES	ASIAN	BLACK	HISPANIC	NATIVE AMERICAN	WHITE
Youth at the Training School (per 1,000 youth ages 13-18)	2.4	0.0	10.7	4.7	2.5	1.0
Children of Incarcerated Parents (per 1,000 children)	9.6	1.6	42.2	14.1	35.0	5.6
Children in Out-of-Home Placement (per 1,000 children)	9.1	2.1	19.7	11.8	5.5	6.7

Sources: *Youth at the Training School* data are from the Rhode Island Department of Children, Youth and Families, Rhode Island Training School, Calendar Year 2020. *Children of Incarcerated Parents* data are from the Rhode Island Department of Corrections, September 30, 2020 and reflect the race of the incarcerated parent (includes only the sentenced population). *Children in Out-of-Home Placement* data are from the Rhode Island Department of Children, Youth and Families, RICHIST Database, December 31, 2020. Population denominators used for *Youth at the Training School* are youth ages 13 to 18 by race from the U.S. Census Bureau, Census 2010, SF1. Population denominators used for *Children of Incarcerated Parents* and *Children in Out-of-Home Placement* are the populations under age 18 by race from the U.S. Census Bureau, Census 2010, SF1.

◆ Nationally, racial and ethnic disproportionality in the juvenile justice, adult corrections, and child welfare systems is well-documented with disproportionality occurring at multiple steps within each system. While we do not know the exact causes of this disproportionality, structural racism (e.g., policies that concentrate policing in Communities of Color), institutional racism (e.g., policies that disproportionately place Children of Color out of their homes), and racial bias and discrimination (e.g., beliefs held by workers about people from different racial or ethnic groups) all contribute to worse outcomes for Children of Color who come in contact with these systems.^{27,28,29}

◆ During 2020 in Rhode Island, Black youth were four times more likely to be at the Rhode Island Training School compared to youth of all races and almost 11 times more likely compared to white youth. Hispanic and Native American youth were also more likely to be at the Training School compared to white youth.³⁰

◆ In Rhode Island on December 31, 2020, Black and Hispanic children were both more likely than youth of all races to be placed in out-of-home placements through the child welfare system. Asian, Native American, and white children were less likely to be placed out-of-home.³¹



Education Outcomes, by Race and Ethnicity, Rhode Island

	ALL RACES	ASIAN+	BLACK	HISPANIC	NATIVE AMERICAN	WHITE
3rd Grade Students Meeting Expectations in Reading	48%	58%	33%	33%	23%	57%
3rd Grade Students Meeting Expectations in Math	36%	52%	24%	21%	17%	45%
Four-Year High School Graduation Rates	84%	92%	80%	76%	69%	88%
Immediate College Enrollment Rates	67%	76%	61%	56%	48%	72%
% of Adults Over Age 25 With a Bachelor's Degree or Higher	34%	52%	21%	14%	15%	36%

Sources: *Third Grade Students Meeting Expectations in Reading and Math* data are from the Rhode Island Department of Education, *Rhode Island Comprehensive Assessment System (RICAS)*, 2019. *Four-Year High School Graduation Rates* data are from the Rhode Island Department of Education, Class of 2020. *Immediate College Enrollment Rates* data are from the Rhode Island Department of Education, Class of 2019. *Adult Educational Attainment* data are from the U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2015-2019, Tables B15003, C15002A, C15002B, C15002C, C15002D & C15002I. All Census data refer only to those individuals who selected one race and Hispanic or Latino also may be included in any of the race categories. +Data for Asian students is not disaggregated by ethnic group. National research shows large academic disparities across Asian ethnic groups.

◆ In Rhode Island, Native American, Black, and Hispanic children are less likely to meet expectations in reading and mathematics in third grade than white or Asian children.³²

◆ Nationally and in Rhode Island, Native American, Hispanic, and Black students are less likely to graduate from high school within four years and are less likely to immediately enroll in college than white or Asian students. Gaps in college enrollment are particularly large for four-year college enrollment.^{33,34}

◆ Nationally, Black, Hispanic, and Native American students are more likely than white and Asian students to be disciplined in school. Schools' disproportionate use of disciplinary techniques that remove children from the classroom, such as out-of-school suspension or expulsion, may contribute to racial and ethnic gaps in academic outcomes and drop-out rates.^{35,36} In Rhode Island during the 2019-2020 school year, Students of Color received 54% of all disciplinary actions, although they made up only 45% of the student population.³⁷



Rhode Island's Hispanic Children and Youth

◆ In 2010, there were 45,940 Hispanic children under age 18 living in Rhode Island, up from 35,326 in 2000. Hispanic children made up 21% of Rhode Island's child population in 2010, compared with 14% in 2000.³⁸

◆ In 2010, three-quarters (75%) of the Hispanic children in Rhode Island lived in the four core cities of Central Falls, Pawtucket, Providence, and Woonsocket. While Providence has the largest Hispanic child population overall, Central Falls has the highest percentage of Hispanic children.³⁹

◆ Rhode Island's Latino children are ranked lowest in the nation on the Race for Results Opportunity Index that measures indicators of child opportunity, including health, education, and economic well-being.⁴⁰

Economic Well-Being

◆ Between 2015 and 2019, 33% of Rhode Island's Hispanic children were living in poverty, compared to 27% of Hispanic children nationally. During that same time period, the median family income for Hispanics in Rhode Island was \$44,704, compared to \$86,258 overall in Rhode Island.⁴¹

Health

◆ In Rhode Island between 2015 and 2019, 19.0% of Hispanic babies were born to women who received delayed or no prenatal care, compared with 16.1% of all babies in the state.⁴²

◆ Between 2015 and 2019, Hispanic teens ages 15 to 19 in Rhode Island had a birth rate that was more than twice as high as the overall teen birth rate (29.5 per 1,000 Hispanic teens ages 15 to 19 compared to 12.4 per 1,000 for all teens).⁴³

Education

◆ The four-year high school graduation rate among Hispanic youth in the class of 2020 was 76%, compared to Rhode Island's four-year high school graduation rate for all students of 84%.⁴⁴

◆ The gap between Latino and white students in Rhode Island is among the largest in the U.S.⁴⁵

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