

Gun Violence

- Between 2013 and 2017 in Rhode Island, nine (11%) of the 81 injury deaths of children and youth under age 20 were the result of firearms. There were three youth under age 20 who committed suicide using a firearm over this time period.
- In Rhode Island between 2013 and 2017, there were 162 emergency department visits and 44 hospitalizations of children and youth for gun-related injuries.

Youth Violence

- Juveniles made up 12% of all violent crime arrests in the U.S., a record low, in 2012. The Rhode Island juvenile arrest rate for serious violent crimes was 128 per 100,000 youth ages 10 to 17, compared to the U.S. rate of 187 per 100,000 youth ages 10 to 17 in 2012.
- In 2017 in Rhode Island, there were 535 juvenile arrests for assault offenses and 106 juvenile arrests for weapons offenses. In 2018, violent crimes made up 5% (234) of the 4,403 juvenile offenses referred to Rhode Island Family Court.
- In Rhode Island in 2017, 7% of high school students (6% of males and 7% of females) reported not going to school due to safety concerns.
- In 2017 in Rhode Island, 21% of middle school students (31% of females and 13% of males) and 14% of high school students (17% of females and 11% of males) reported being electronically bullied.

Teen Deaths

- Of the 94 teen deaths in Rhode Island between 2013 and 2017, 36 were due to unintentional injuries, 26 were due to intentional injuries (18 suicides and eight homicides), 21 were due to disease, and 11 were due to overdose.
- Two (17%) of the teen drivers who died in motor vehicle crashes in Rhode Island between 2013 and 2017 had been drinking, and two teen fatalities occurred with adult drivers who had been drinking.

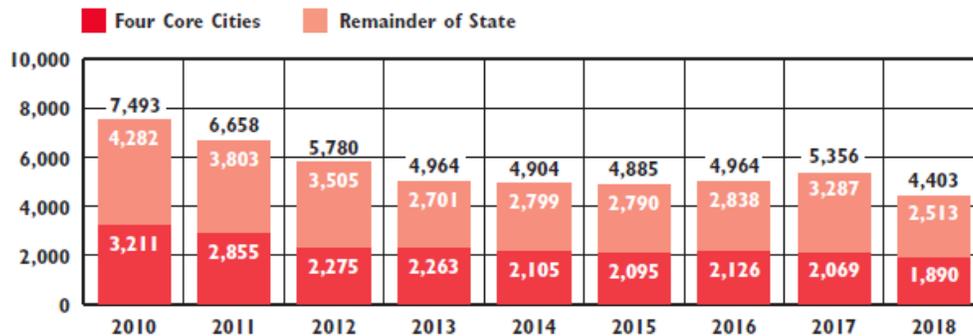
Child Deaths

- Between 2013 and 2017, 24 Rhode Island children ages one to 14 died as a result of injury. Motor vehicle crashes, suffocation, and drowning were the leading causes of child deaths in Rhode Island during this time period.

Youth Referred to Family Court

- The number of juvenile offenses has fallen by 41% since 2010, from 7,493 to a low of 4,403 in 2018. The number of children and youth referred to Family Court for wayward and delinquent offenses declined 40% between 2010 and 2018, from 4,288 to 2,565.

Juvenile Wayward/Delinquent Offenses Referred to Rhode Island Family Court, 2010- 2018



- In 2018 in Rhode Island, 20% of juvenile offenses referred to Family Court were committed by youth from Providence, 22% were committed by youth from the other three core cities, and 57% were committed by youth living in the remainder of the state.
- Most (65%) youth referred to Rhode Island Family Court in 2018 were referred for the first time, while 16% had been referred once before, and 19% had been referred at least twice before.
- Juvenile courts have a wide range of options for handling juvenile offenders, including restitution, community service, revocation of driving privileges, counseling, substance abuse treatment, and probation. In 2018 in Rhode Island, 43% of all cases referred to Family Court were diverted instead of proceeding to a formal court hearing, down from 45% in 2017.

Youth Referred to the Training School

- The Rhode Island Department of Children, Youth and Families (DCYF) operates the Rhode Island Training School for Youth, the state’s secure facility for adjudicated youth and youth in detention awaiting trial.
- A total of 283 youth (80% male and 20% female) were in the care or custody of the Training School at some point during 2018, down from 383 during 2017.
- Of the 283 youth who were in the care or custody of the Training School at some point during 2018, 17% were admitted at least twice in 2018, and 5% were admitted three or more times.
- On December 31, 2018, there were 95 youth in the care or custody of the Training School, 51 of whom were physically at the Training School.

Youth and Safety Indicators

- Of the youth discharged from the Training School in 2018, 56% stayed less than two weeks, 24% stayed two weeks to five months, 12% stayed six to eleven months, 8% stayed one to two years, and <1% stayed longer than two years.
- During 2018, the average age for youth at the Training School was 16 years. During 2018, there were no children age 11 or under held at the Training School, four children age 12, 36 youth ages 13 to 14, 136 youth ages 15 to 16, and 128 youth ages 17 to 18. Rhode Island is one of 12 states that has no statutory minimum age for holding children in secure confinement and no minimum age of delinquency jurisdiction.
- On January 2, 2019, there were 494 youth on the DCYF probation caseload (418 males and 76 females).

Racial and Ethnic Disparities

Safety Outcomes, by Race and Ethnicity, Rhode Island

	WHITE	HISPANIC	BLACK	ASIAN	NATIVE AMERICAN	ALL RACES
Youth at the Training School (per 1,000 youth ages 13-18)	1.4	6.6	13.1	1.1	14.9	3.3
Children of Incarcerated Parents (per 1,000 children)	8.3	15.6	49.9	3.1	37.7	13.8
Children in Out-of-Home Placement (per 1,000 children)	6.2	13.4	16.6	1.7	10.1	7.1

Sources: *Youth at the Training School* data are from the Rhode Island Department of Children, Youth and Families, Rhode Island Training School, Calendar Year 2018. *Children of Incarcerated Parents* data are from the Rhode Island Department of Corrections, September 30, 2018 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, 2018. Population denominators used for *Youth at the Training School* are youth ages 13-18 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.

Children Witnessing Domestic Violence

- In Rhode Island in 2016, there were 5,673 domestic violence incidents that resulted in arrests, up 2% from 5,553 incidents in 2015. Children were reported present in 27% (1,513) of incidents in 2016.
- During 2018, Rhode Island's statewide network of five domestic violence shelters and advocacy programs provided services to 8,514 individuals, including 556 children (down from 8,758 and 604, respectively, in 2017).
- In 2018, 151 children and 235 adults spent a total of 21,376 nights in domestic violence shelters. During 2018, 71 children and 62 adults lived in domestic violence transitional

housing (longer-term private apartments for victims of domestic violence) for a total of 29,679 nights.

Child Abuse and Neglect

- In 2018, Rhode Island had 14.6 child victims of abuse and neglect per 1,000 children, the same rate as in 2017. Woonsocket (35.7 victims per 1,000 children) had the highest rate of child victims of abuse and neglect in the state. Other cities and towns with rates higher than 20 victims per 1,000 children were Central Falls (23.4), Newport (22.8), North Providence (22.7), Pawtucket (24.7), and West Warwick (23.1).

DCYF Child Protective Services (CPS) Hotline Calls for Reports of Abuse and/or Neglect, Investigations,* and Indicated Investigations, Rhode Island, 2008-2018

YEAR	TOTAL # UNDUPLICATED CHILD MALTREATMENT REPORTS	% AND # OF REPORTS WITH COMPLETED INVESTIGATIONS	# OF INDICATED INVESTIGATIONS
2008	12,204	51% (6,214)	1,913
2009	12,189	52% (6,362)	2,075
2010	13,069	53% (6,956)	2,392
2011	13,382	49% (6,520)	2,225
2012	13,540	50% (6,784)	2,266
2013	13,905	50% (6,975)	2,294
2014	14,735	51% (7,573)	2,413
2015	14,402	45% (6,470)	2,227
2016	14,942	40% (5,935)	2,074
2017	15,945	42% (6,628)	2,404
2018	21,837	38% (8,296)	2,430

Source: Rhode Island Department of Children, Youth and Families, RIC HIST, 2008-2018.

**One investigation can be generated by multiple hotline calls. Investigations can result in a finding of indicated, unfounded, or unable to complete (as when essential party cannot be found).*

Children in Out-of-Home Placement

- The total DCYF caseload on December 31, 2018 was 6,907, including 2,008 children living in their homes under DCYF supervision and 2,642 children living in adoption settings.
- On December 31, 2018, 303 children were living in a residential facility or group home, an increase from 293 children on December 31, 2017. The percentage of children in out-of-home placement who were in a relative foster care home (40%) remained the same on December 31, 2018 as it was on December 31, 2017.

Permanency for Children in DCYF Care

- Of the 1,156 Rhode Island children in entry cohort FY 2017, 35% (402) children in

Youth and Safety Indicators

out-of-home placement in Rhode Island exited foster care to permanency (reunification, guardianship, living with other relatives, or adoption) within 12 months of entering out-of-home placement. Children who were over age 12 when they were removed were more likely to exit care without achieving permanency.

- During Calendar Year 2018, 255 children in the care of DCYF were adopted in Rhode Island, similar to the 261 children adopted in 2017. Of these children, 67% were White, 22% were multiracial, 11% were Black, and 1% were of Unknown race. Thirty-three percent of children adopted in 2018 were Hispanic (belonging to any race category).

Homeless and Runaway Youth

- In 2018, Rhode Island conducted the second annual *Youth Point in Time Count* to assess the number and characteristics of youth with experiences of current, former, or potential housing instability or homelessness. The *2018 Youth Point in Time Count* identified 173 young adults ages 14 to 24 experiencing current, former, or potential housing instability, 67 of whom were currently homeless.
- In 2018, 256 single youth ages 18 to 24 received emergency shelter services through the adult emergency shelter system in Rhode Island, compared to 188 18 to 24-year-olds in 2017.
- In 2017, the National Runaway Safeline handled 64 crisis phone calls and online crisis chats regarding youth ages 21 and under who were homeless, runaways, or at risk of homelessness in Rhode Island, down from 75 in 2016.
- On December 31, 2018, there were 35 youth in the care of the Rhode Island Department of Children, Youth and Families between the ages of 13 and 20 who were classified as unauthorized absences/runaways (AWOL), 15 females and 20 males. These youth were AWOL from either foster care or juvenile justice placements.

Teens Not in School and Not Working

- Between 2013 and 2017, an estimated 3,479 (5.7%) youth ages 16 to 19 in Rhode Island were not in school and not working. Of the youth who were not in school and not working, 54% were males, and 46% were females. Fifty-eight percent of these youth were high school graduates, and 42% had not graduated from high school.
- Education has a positive impact on the likelihood of finding and maintaining employment. Between 2013 and 2017, the unemployment rate for Rhode Island adults ages 25 to 64 with a bachelor's degree or higher was 2.9%, compared with 8.7% for high school graduates and 10.6% for those with less than a high school diploma.