



**RHODE ISLAND KIDS COUNT**  
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## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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# Number of Insured Children in Rhode Island Remains Steady

*Rhode Island Continues to Rank 10<sup>th</sup> Best in the Nation  
for Children's Health Insurance Coverage*

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Providence, RI (September 17, 2013) – Rhode Island KIDS COUNT released new data from the U.S. Census Bureau's 2012 Current Population Survey (CPS) today. According to the CPS, 94.0% of Rhode Island's children had health insurance coverage in the three-year period from 2010-2012. Data show that 6.0% of Rhode Island's children were uninsured during the same time period, virtually unchanged from the previous reporting period (5.9%). Rhode Island continues to be ranked 10<sup>th</sup> best in the nation for children's health insurance coverage and the number of uninsured children remains 13,000.

Comparable national data based on three-year averages from the CPS show that the U.S. rate of uninsured children was 9.4% in the period from 2010-2012, down from 9.6% from 2009-2011. The single year U.S. rate for uninsured children in 2012 was 8.9%, a historic low.

"Today's Census data is good news for Rhode Island children. Despite continued tough economic times, the percentage of Rhode Island children with health insurance coverage has remained steady," noted Elizabeth Burke Bryant, Executive Director of Rhode Island KIDS COUNT. "RIte Care has continued to help children have the coverage they need to keep them healthy, especially when families face unemployment and the lack of health insurance that comes with job loss."

The percentage of children in Rhode Island covered by their parents' employer-sponsored health coverage was 61.8% in 2010-2012. In Rhode Island between 2010 and 2012, there were an average of about 147,000 Rhode Island children under age 18 who were covered by private health insurance (including employer-sponsored coverage and direct purchase coverage) and an average of about 84,000 Rhode Island children who were covered by some form of public insurance (including Medicaid, RItE Care, Medicare and military insurance). Slightly over one-third of children in Rhode Island were covered through RItE Care, Rhode Island's Medicaid/Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP) during 2010-2012.

"For nearly two decades, Rhode Island has been a leader in making sure that our kids have health coverage. As Rhode Island implements the Affordable Care Act, it is critical to build upon the success of RItE Care, which provides our children and families with access to quality health care," added Bryant. "We also look forward to working with our Congressional Delegation and state leaders to make sure that the federal Children's Health Insurance Program continues to cover children in low-income working families."

Children who have health insurance coverage are healthier and have fewer preventable hospitalizations. They are more likely to receive preventive care, be screened for the achievement of developmental milestones, miss fewer days of school and get treatment for illnesses and chronic conditions. Uninsured children are less likely to have a medical home and have fewer visits to doctors or dentists.

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*Rhode Island KIDS COUNT is a statewide children's policy organization that works to improve the health, economic well-being, safety, education and development of Rhode Island children.*

**Children Under 18 Without Health Insurance: 2010, 2011, and 2012 [Individual Years and 3 Year Average]**

NOTE: The last column (3 year average) is most statistically reliable for a small state and should be reported/used for trends.

| Rank      |                      | 2010       | 2011       | 2012       | 2010-2012 average |
|-----------|----------------------|------------|------------|------------|-------------------|
|           | <b>United States</b> | <b>9.8</b> | <b>9.4</b> | <b>8.9</b> | <b>9.4</b>        |
| 1         | Hawaii               | 2.2        | 4.1        | 3.6        | <b>3.3</b>        |
| 1         | Massachusetts        | 3.8        | 2.5        | 3.8        | <b>3.3</b>        |
| 3         | District of Columbia | 5.3        | 4.3        | 2.1        | <b>3.7</b>        |
| 4         | Vermont              | 4.2        | 4.0        | 4.6        | <b>4.3</b>        |
| 5         | Michigan             | 5.2        | 5.4        | 3.5        | <b>4.7</b>        |
| 6         | Maine                | 4.3        | 6.3        | 3.8        | <b>4.9</b>        |
| 7         | Connecticut          | 6.2        | 5.3        | 3.6        | <b>5.0</b>        |
| 8         | Wisconsin            | 4.7        | 5.8        | 4.9        | <b>5.1</b>        |
| 9         | Iowa                 | 7.4        | 4.9        | 5.2        | <b>5.9</b>        |
| <b>10</b> | <b>Rhode Island</b>  | <b>5.4</b> | <b>5.8</b> | <b>6.7</b> | <b>6.0</b>        |
| 11        | New Hampshire        | 5.4        | 7.4        | 5.6        | <b>6.1</b>        |
| 12        | Minnesota            | 5.9        | 6.4        | 6.2        | <b>6.2</b>        |
| 13        | Washington           | 6.0        | 8.8        | 4.9        | <b>6.6</b>        |
| 14        | Virginia             | 8.4        | 5.9        | 5.7        | <b>6.7</b>        |
| 15        | New York             | 8.1        | 6.6        | 5.6        | <b>6.8</b>        |
| 16        | Illinois             | 7.7        | 6.2        | 6.9        | <b>6.9</b>        |
| 16        | Kentucky             | 6.8        | 4.6        | 9.2        | <b>6.9</b>        |
| 16        | West Virginia        | 2.7        | 9.7        | 8.4        | <b>6.9</b>        |
| 19        | Indiana              | 6.0        | 5.6        | 9.6        | <b>7.1</b>        |
| 19        | Tennessee            | 8.0        | 5.9        | 7.3        | <b>7.1</b>        |
| 21        | North Dakota         | 11.3       | 4.7        | 5.5        | <b>7.3</b>        |
| 21        | South Dakota         | 6.7        | 7.5        | 7.9        | <b>7.3</b>        |
| 23        | Delaware             | 5.8        | 6.4        | 10.0       | <b>7.4</b>        |
| 24        | Kansas               | 7.5        | 9.4        | 6.1        | <b>7.7</b>        |
| 24        | Oregon               | 10.2       | 7.4        | 5.6        | <b>7.7</b>        |
| 26        | Arkansas             | 7.3        | 8.1        | 8.3        | <b>7.9</b>        |
| 26        | Colorado             | 7.8        | 10.4       | 5.5        | <b>7.9</b>        |
| 26        | Ohio                 | 8.2        | 8.7        | 6.7        | <b>7.9</b>        |
| 26        | Pennsylvania         | 8.3        | 7.6        | 7.7        | <b>7.9</b>        |
| 30        | New Jersey           | 9.3        | 9.4        | 5.6        | <b>8.1</b>        |
| 31        | Alabama              | 9.0        | 7.3        | 8.2        | <b>8.2</b>        |
| 32        | Maryland             | 9.2        | 10.0       | 7.5        | <b>8.9</b>        |
| 32        | North Carolina       | 9.1        | 9.3        | 8.4        | <b>8.9</b>        |
| 34        | Nebraska             | 10.5       | 8.2        | 9.5        | <b>9.5</b>        |
| 35        | Louisiana            | 9.0        | 11.6       | 8.3        | <b>9.6</b>        |
| 35        | Oklahoma             | 12.5       | 6.4        | 9.9        | <b>9.6</b>        |
| 37        | Wyoming              | 10.4       | 10.0       | 9.5        | <b>9.9</b>        |
| 38        | Idaho                | 9.3        | 11.3       | 9.5        | <b>10.0</b>       |
| 39        | Utah                 | 11.4       | 10.7       | 8.5        | <b>10.2</b>       |
| 40        | California           | 10.7       | 10.8       | 9.6        | <b>10.4</b>       |
| 40        | Mississippi          | 13.4       | 9.0        | 8.9        | <b>10.4</b>       |
| 40        | Missouri             | 8.9        | 11.5       | 10.7       | <b>10.4</b>       |
| 43        | Montana              | 9.2        | 12.3       | 11.5       | <b>11.0</b>       |
| 44        | Georgia              | 10.0       | 10.9       | 12.8       | <b>11.2</b>       |
| 45        | South Carolina       | 14.5       | 13.3       | 9.6        | <b>12.4</b>       |
| 46        | New Mexico           | 14.0       | 9.9        | 15.0       | <b>13.0</b>       |
| 47        | Florida              | 14.3       | 13.0       | 13.1       | <b>13.4</b>       |
| 48        | Alaska               | 14.0       | 10.7       | 16.5       | <b>13.7</b>       |
| 49        | Arizona              | 15.3       | 13.5       | 13.7       | <b>14.1</b>       |
| 50        | Texas                | 16.3       | 15.4       | 15.6       | <b>15.8</b>       |
| 51        | Nevada               | 17.5       | 21.0       | 18.3       | <b>18.9</b>       |

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Current Population Survey, 2010, 2011 and 2012. Annual Social and Economic Supplement. Table HIA05. Health Insurance Coverage Status and Type of Coverage by State and Age for All People: 2010, 2011, 2012. **Compiled by Rhode Island KIDS COUNT, Sept. 17, 2013**