

Woonsocket Data in Your Backyard

Findings from the *2021 Rhode Island Kids Count Factbook*

Presented by Stephanie Geller

Rhode Island KIDS COUNT

September 23, 2021



Special thanks to



For hosting today's presentation

2021 Rhode Island Kids Count Factbook

27th annual publication

70 indicators across 5 areas

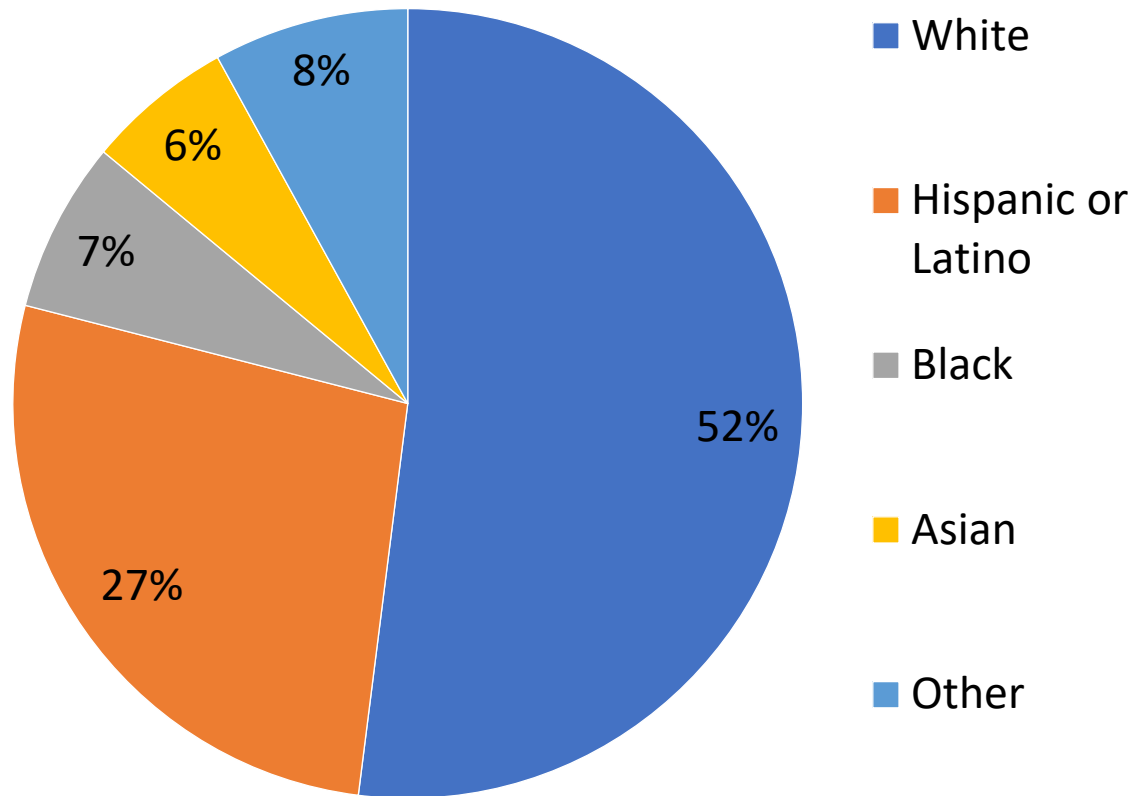
City and town-level information





Family and Community

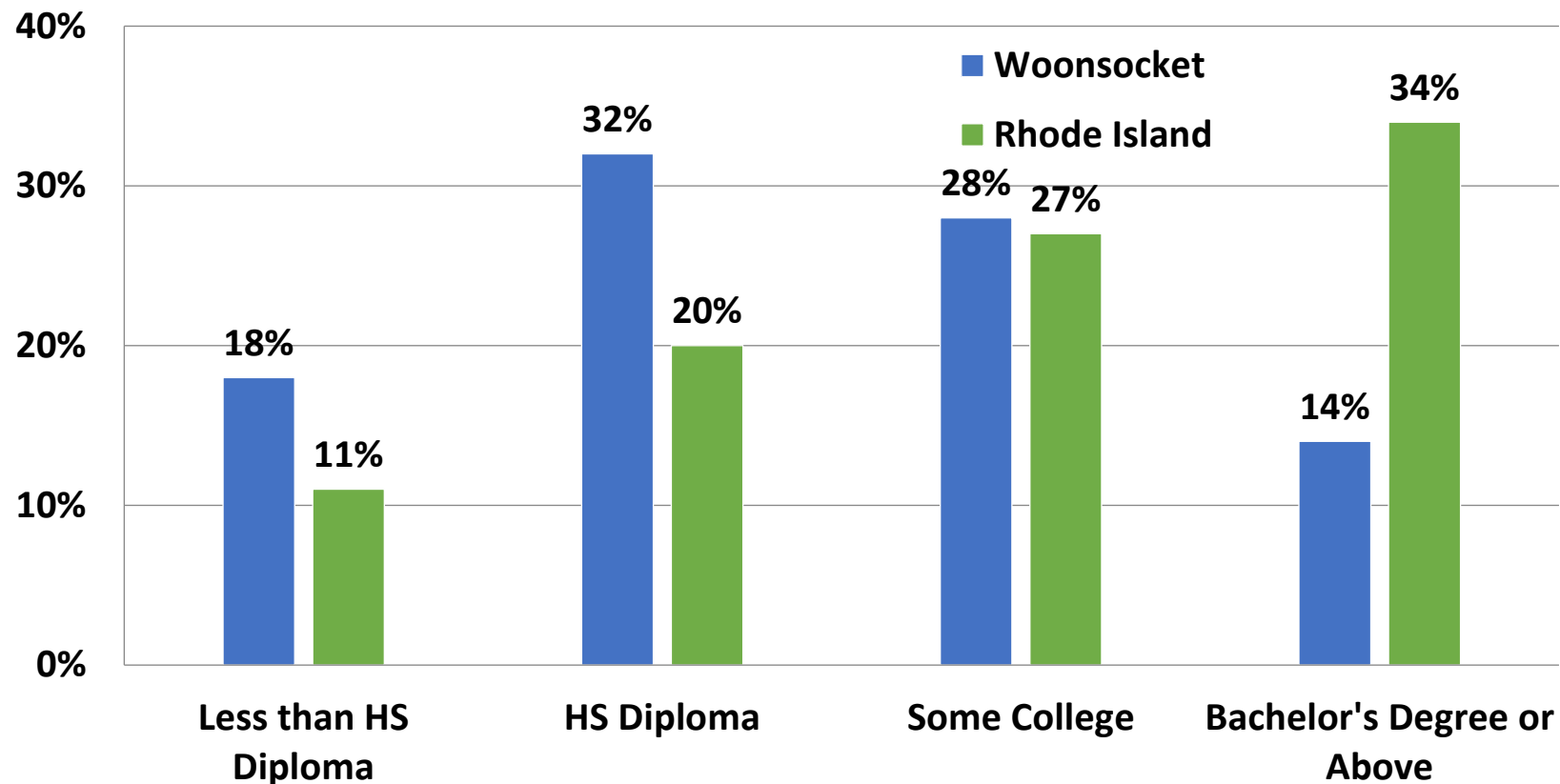
Woonsocket's Child Population, 2010



**2020 Census Data
on Children
Coming Soon**

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Census 2010, Summary File 1.

Mother's Education Level, 2015-2019



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



Economic Well-Being

Child Poverty Defined, 2020

Poverty level

- \$20,852 for a family of 3
- \$26,246 for a family of 4

Extreme poverty level

- \$10,426 for a family of 3
- \$13,123 for a family of 4

2020 Rhode Island Standard of Need

- Single-parent family with 2 children would need \$57,671 a year to meet its basic needs, which would require a pre-tax income of \$66,057 to meet this budget without governmental subsidies.

Concentrated Child Poverty



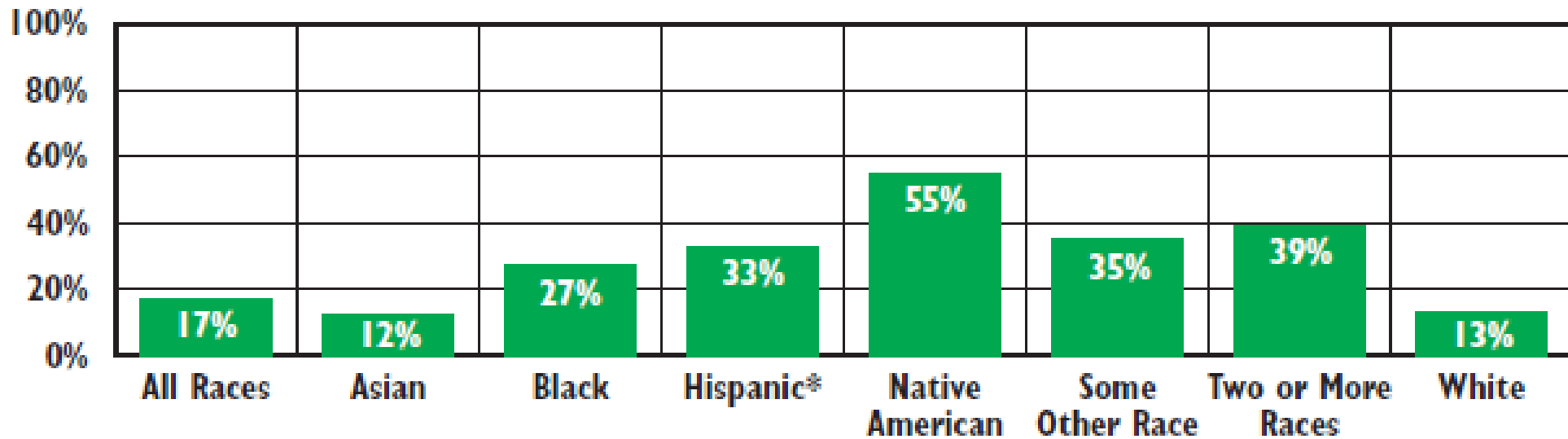
Child Poverty Concentrated in Four Core Cities, Rhode Island, 2015-2019

CITY/TOWN	NUMBER IN POVERTY	PERCENTAGE IN POVERTY	NUMBER IN EXTREME POVERTY	PERCENTAGE IN EXTREME POVERTY
Central Falls	2,144	39.8%	668	12.4%
Pawtucket	3,634	24.4%	1,128	7.6%
Providence	13,662	34.7%	5,809	14.8%
Woonsocket	3,076	35.2%	1,460	16.7%
<i>Rhode Island</i>	<i>34,766</i>	<i>17.0%</i>	<i>14,229</i>	<i>7.0%</i>

Source: Population Reference Bureau analysis of 2015-2019 American Community Survey data.

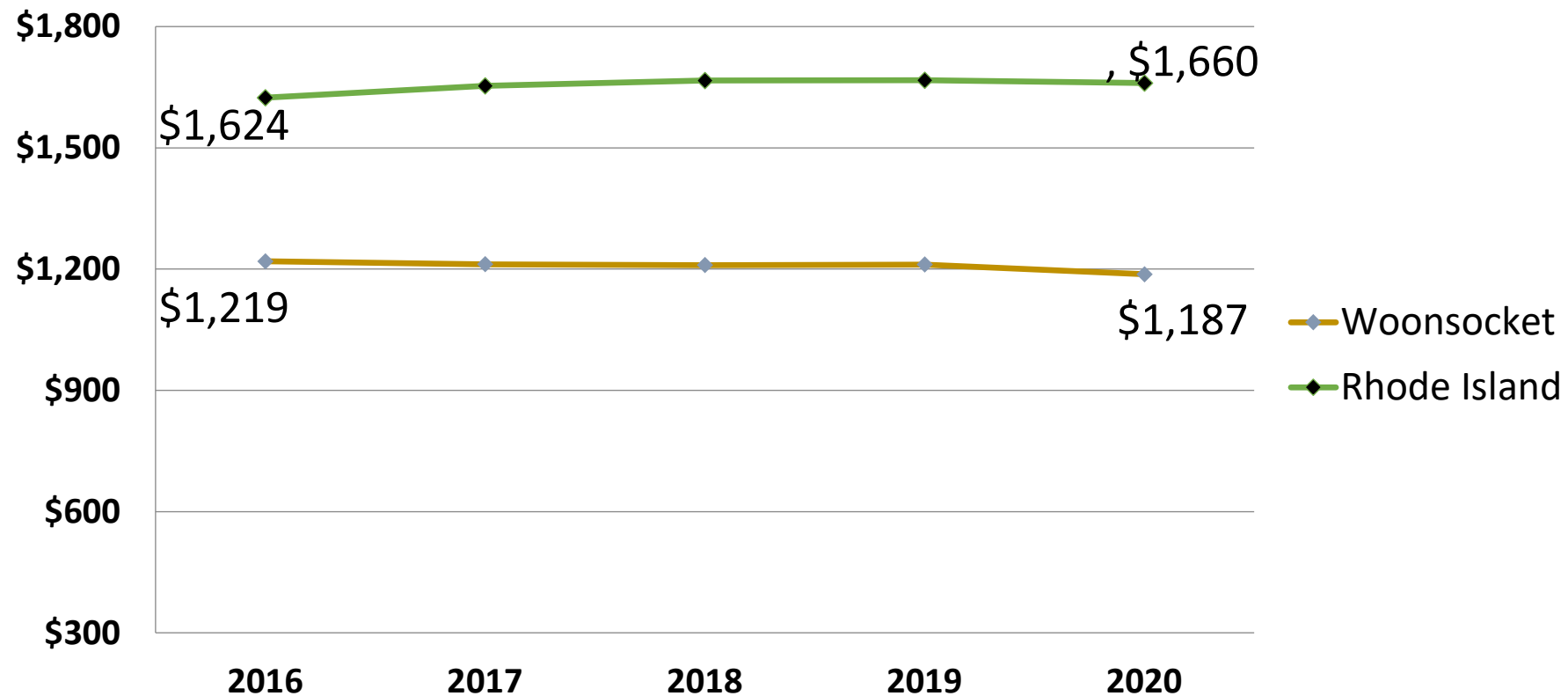
Poverty by Race/Ethnicity

Children in Poverty, by Race and Ethnicity, Rhode Island, 2015-2019



Cost of Housing

Average Cost of Rent of a Two-Bedroom Apartment, 2014-2018



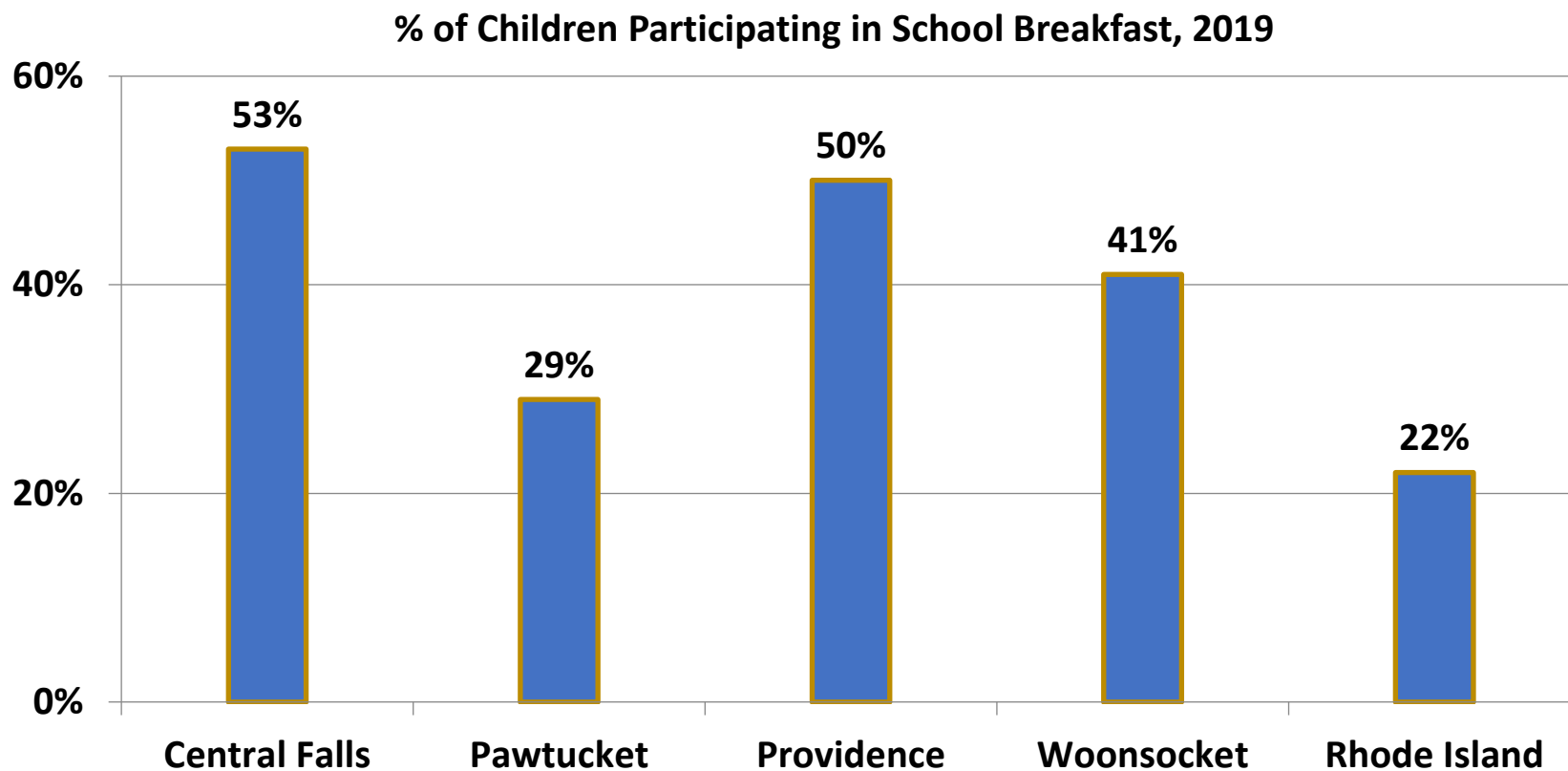
Source: Rhode Island Housing, Rhode Island Rent Surveys, 2014-2018. Rents include adjustments for the cost of heat, cooking fuel, electricity, and hot water.

Homeless Children

- In 2020, 323 families with 623 children stayed a homeless shelter or domestic violence shelter, in Rhode Island.
- During the 2019-2020 school year, Rhode Island public school personnel identified 1,531 children as homeless.
- **Woonsocket Public Schools personnel identified 194 children as homeless.**



School Breakfast Program

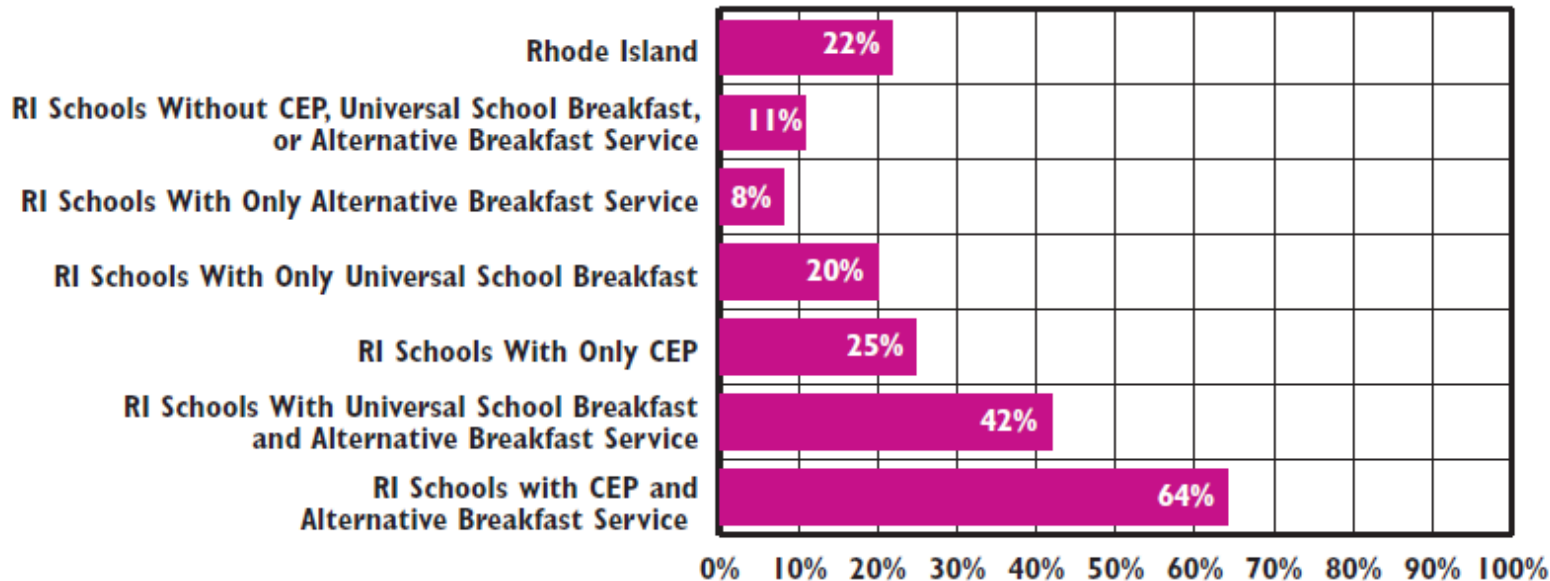


Source: Rhode Island Department of Education, Child Nutrition Programs, Office of Statewide Efficiencies, October 2018.

School Breakfast Program



Children Participating in the School Breakfast Program,
Rhode Island, October 2019



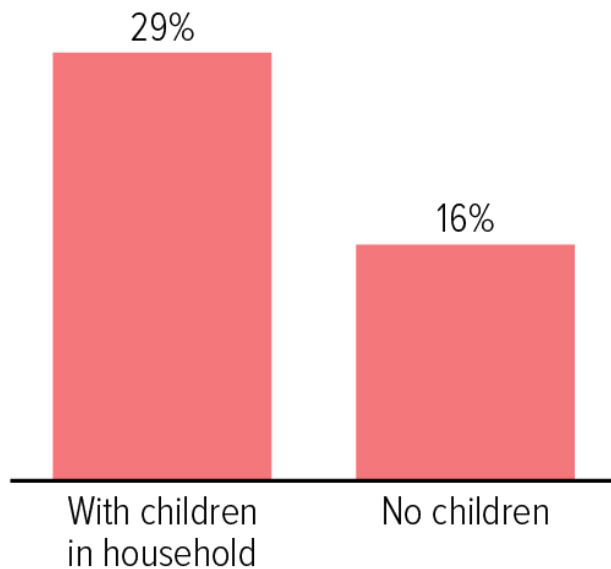
In 2019, **41%** of all children and **44%** of low-income children in **Woonsocket** participated in the School Breakfast Program.

Source: Rhode Island Department of Education, Child Nutrition Programs, Office of Statewide Efficiencies, October 2019.

Effects of COVID-19 on Families with Children

Households With Children Nearly Twice as Likely to Be Behind on Rent

Share of adult renters saying they are behind on last month's rent, as of week ending July 21

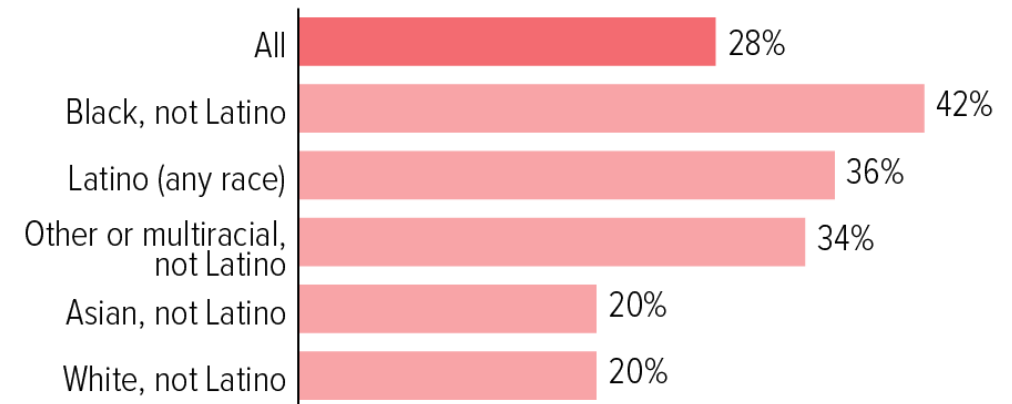


Note: Behind on rent = did not pay on time or deferred rent. Chart excludes renters who did not respond to question.

Source: CBPP analysis of Census Bureau Household Pulse Survey

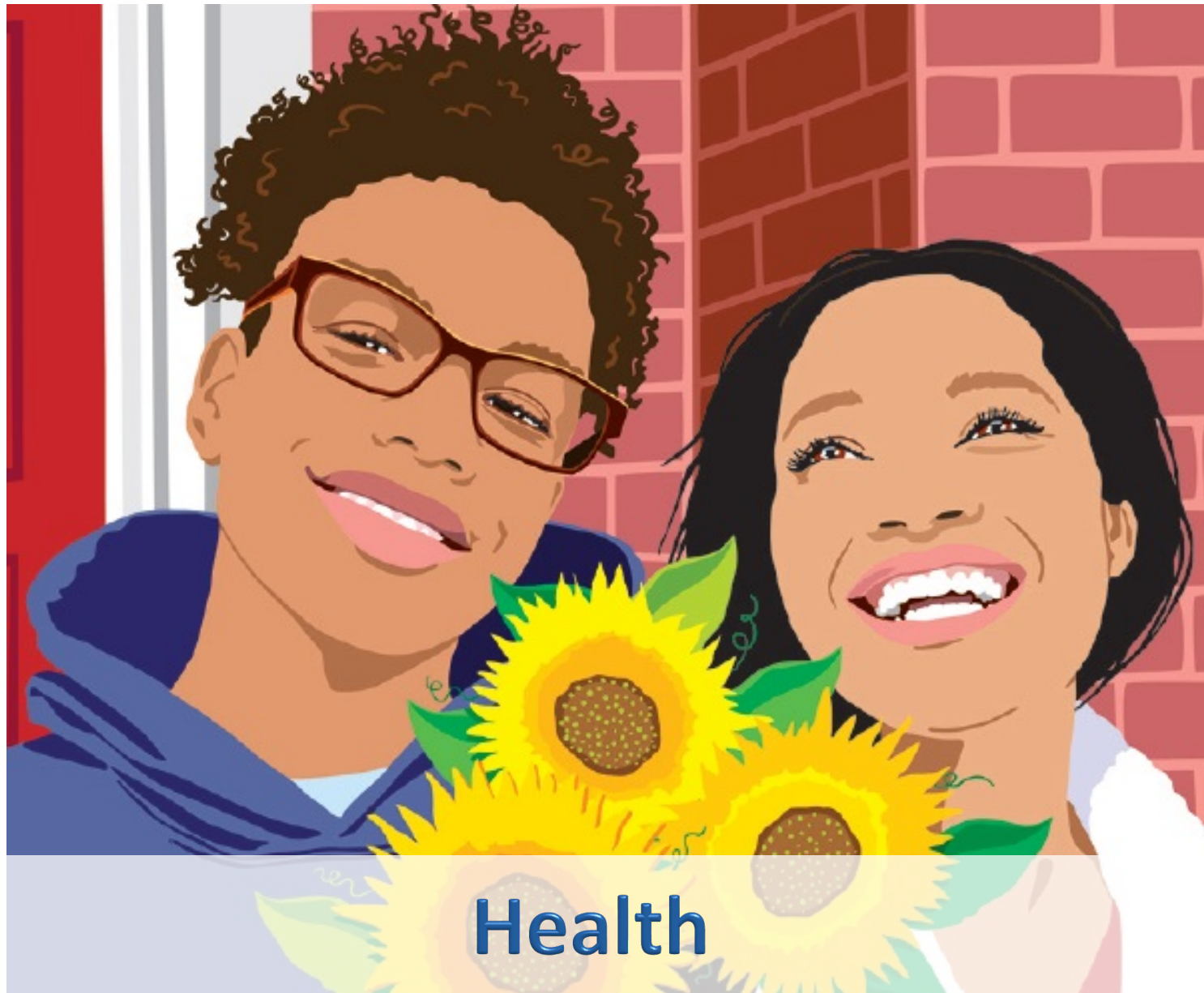
Children Facing Significant Hardship, With Wide Racial and Ethnic Gaps

Percent of children in a household that's behind on rent or mortgage and/or didn't get enough to eat, by race/ethnicity



Note: Behind on rent or mortgage = did not pay on time or deferred payment. Didn't get enough to eat = household had "not enough to eat" sometimes or often in the last 7 days. Other or multiracial, not Latino = people identifying as American Indian, Alaska Native, Native Hawaiian, or Pacific Islander, or more than one race. Chart excludes those who did not respond to one or both hardship questions. Listed household races/ethnicities are based on that of the adult responding to survey. Survey does not collect data on children directly; figures for children are estimated based on number of children in each household. For children in households that neither have a mortgage nor pay cash rent, such as those living in employer-provided housing, hardship is determined based only on whether these households had enough to eat.

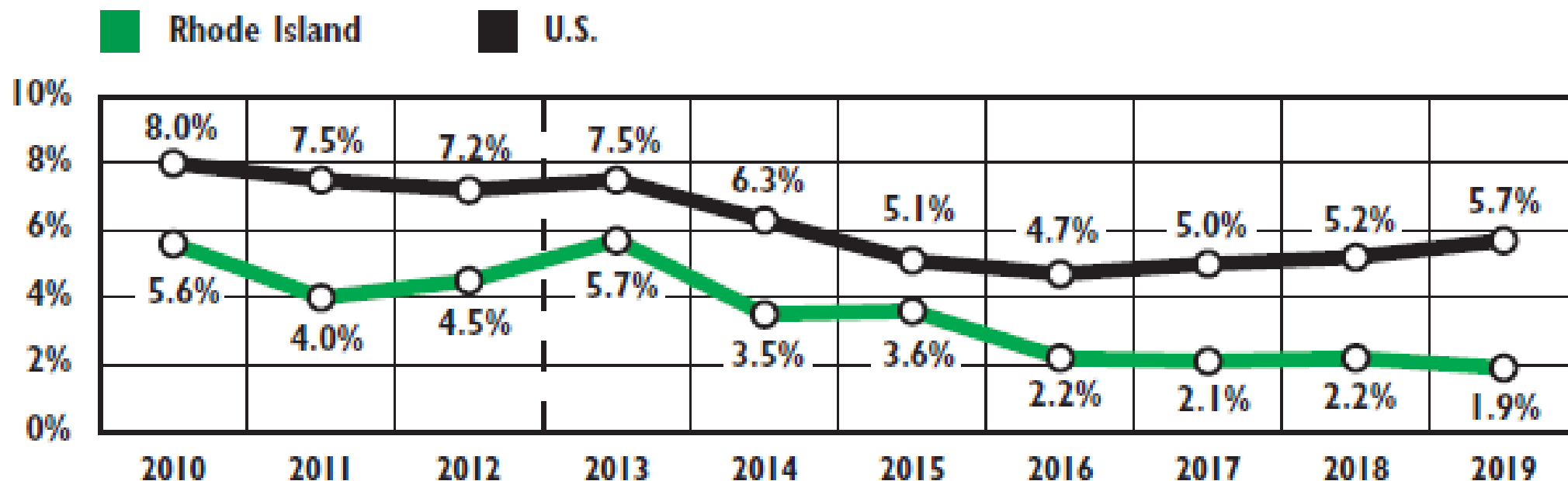
Source: CBPP analysis of Census Bureau's Household Pulse Survey public use file for June 18 to July 21.



Health

Children's Health Insurance

Children Without Health Insurance, Rhode Island, 2010-2019



Infants Born at Highest Risk

Mother:

Under Age 20

Unmarried

Without High School Degree



Child:

9 times 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

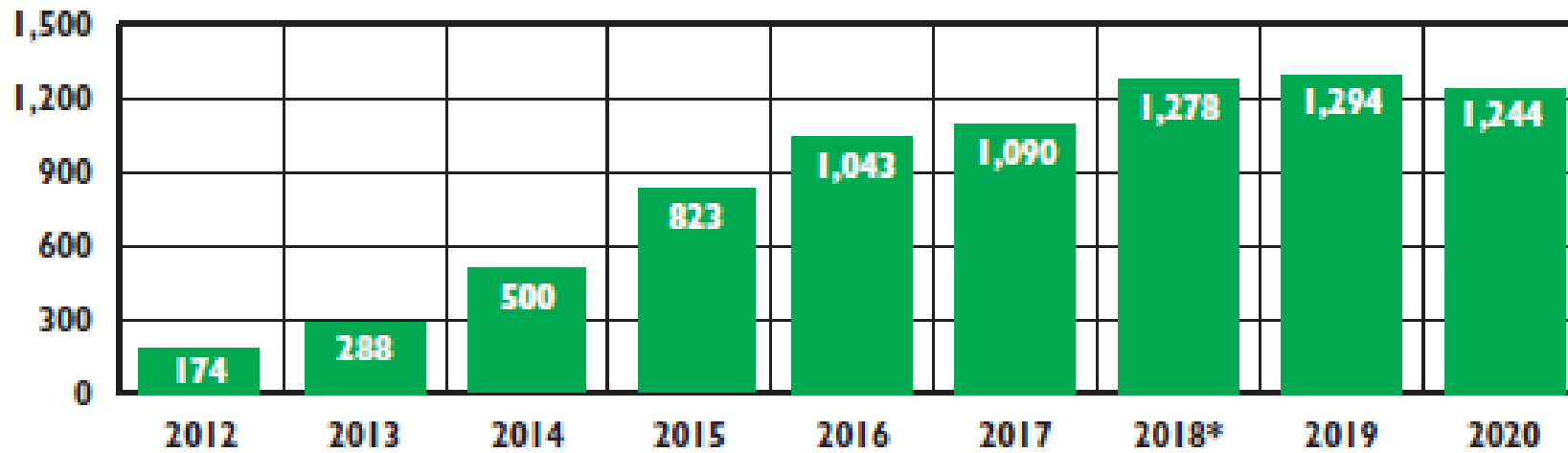
In 2020, 463 babies were born in Woonsocket.

- 27 were born to teen mothers.
- 103 were born to mothers without a high school diploma.
- 303 were born to single mothers.
- 326 were born in low-income families.

Evidence-Based Family Home Visiting



Families Enrolled in Evidence-Based Family Home Visiting Coordinated by the Rhode Island Department of Health, Rhode Island, 2012-2020



69 families in Woonsocket were enrolled in Healthy Families America, Parents as Teachers, and Nurse-Family Partnership home visiting programs in 2020.

Infant Health Outcomes, 2015-2019

	Delayed Prenatal Care	Pre-term Births	Low Birthweight Infants	Infant Mortality Rate/1,000 Births
Central Falls	21.2%	11.0%	8.7%	*
Pawtucket	19.4%	9.7%	8.8%	7.5
Providence	20.7%	9.7%	8.7%	7.7
Woonsocket	21.2%	10.0%	9.2%	6.5^
Four Core Cities	20.5%	9.8%	8.8%	5.4
Remainder of State	13.2%	8.2%	6.9%	7.4
Rhode Island	16.1%	8.9%	7.7%	4.1

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

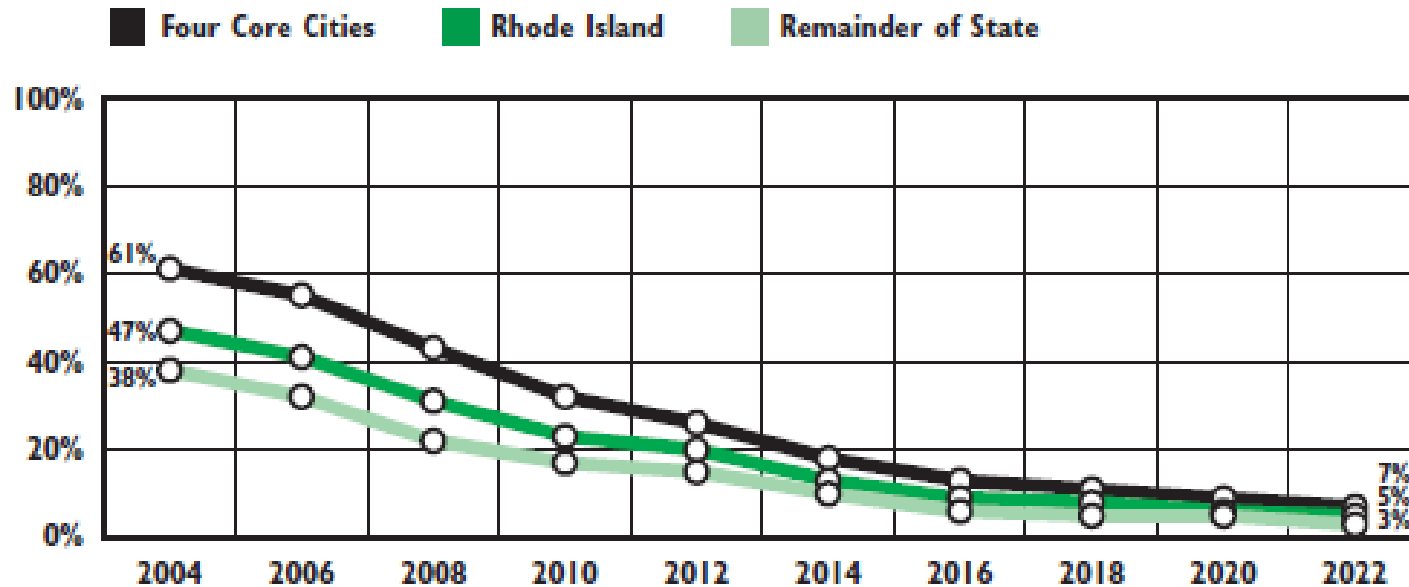
*The data are statistically unstable and rates should not be calculated.

^The data are statistically unstable and should be interpreted with caution.

Children with Lead Poisoning



Children Entering Kindergarten with History of Elevated* Blood Lead Level Screening (≥ 5 $\mu\text{g}/\text{dL}$), Rhode Island, Four Core Cities, and Remainder of State, 2004-2022



- 561 Woonsocket children due to enter kindergarten in the fall of 2022 were tested.
- 27 (4.8%) were confirmed positive for ≥ 5 mcg/dL.

Prevalence of Overweight and Obesity in Rhode Island Children Ages 2 to 17, 2019

Core Cities

OVERWEIGHT

15%

OBESSE

21%

COMBINED

36%

Remainder of State

OVERWEIGHT

15%

OBESSE

13%

COMBINED

28%

Rhode Island

OVERWEIGHT

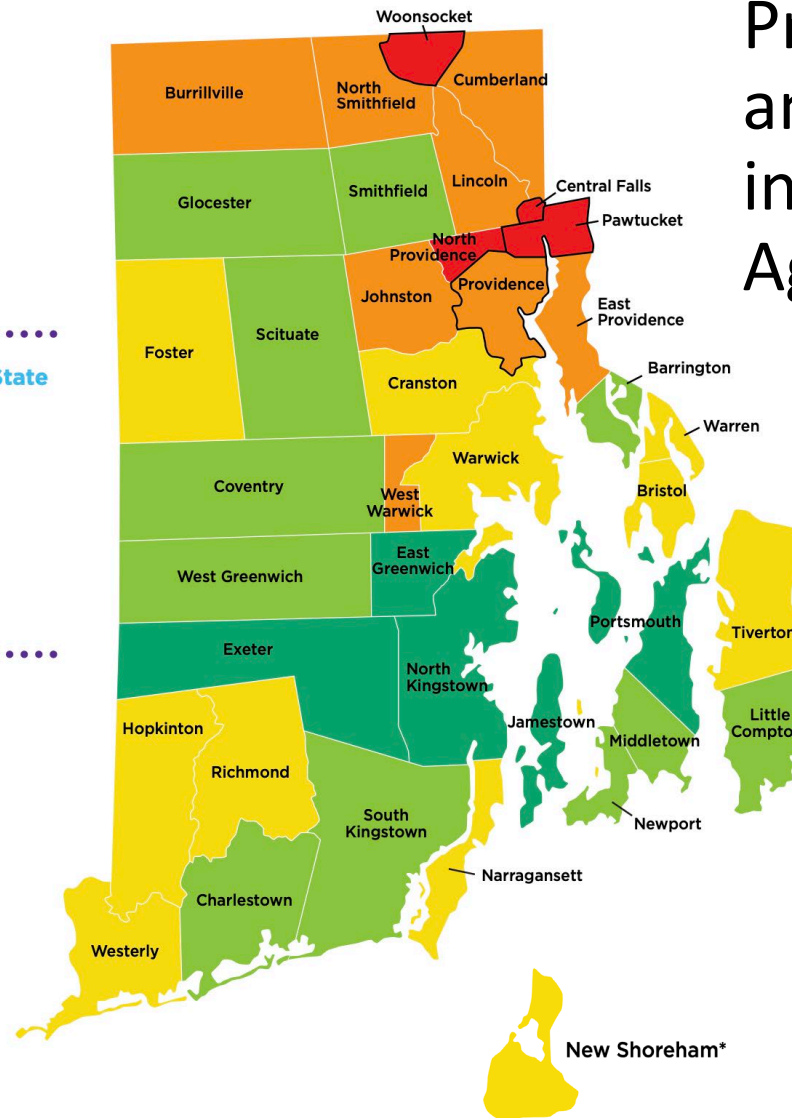
15%

OBESSE

16%

COMBINED

31%



Legend

PERCENT OVERWEIGHT
AND OBESSE COMBINED

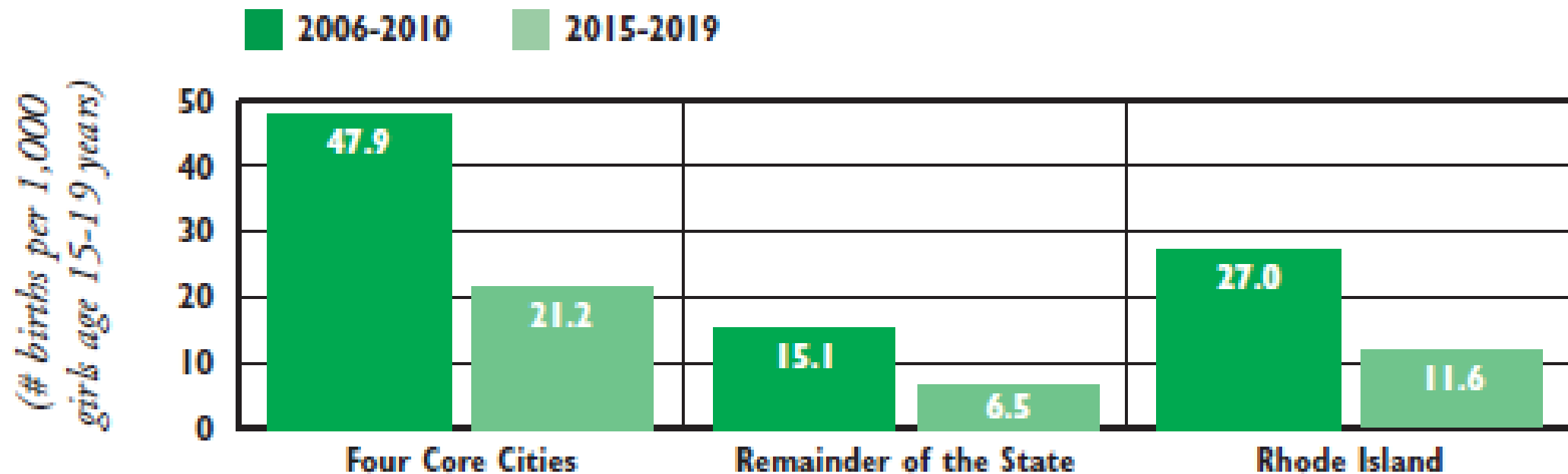
- 15%-20%
- 21%-25%
- 26%-30%
- 31%-35%
- 36%+
- Core City

Children's Mental Health

- **Concerns about increased mental health needs of children and youth.**
 - Nationally, even before the COVID-19 pandemic, mental health issues and suicide among adolescents had increased.
 - On the 2019 *YRBS*, 15% of RI high school students reported attempting suicide one or more times in the previous 12 mos.
 - In 2019, 294 RI teens were admitted to the ER after a suicide attempt, nearly double the number in 2014.
 - In 2019, 174 teens were hospitalized after a suicide attempt, nearly double the number in 2014.
 - In 2020, there were 4,849 calls to Kids Link RI, up 22% from 2019.

Births to Teens

Teen Birth Rates, Rhode Island, Five-Year Average Comparisons: 2006-2010, 2015-2019



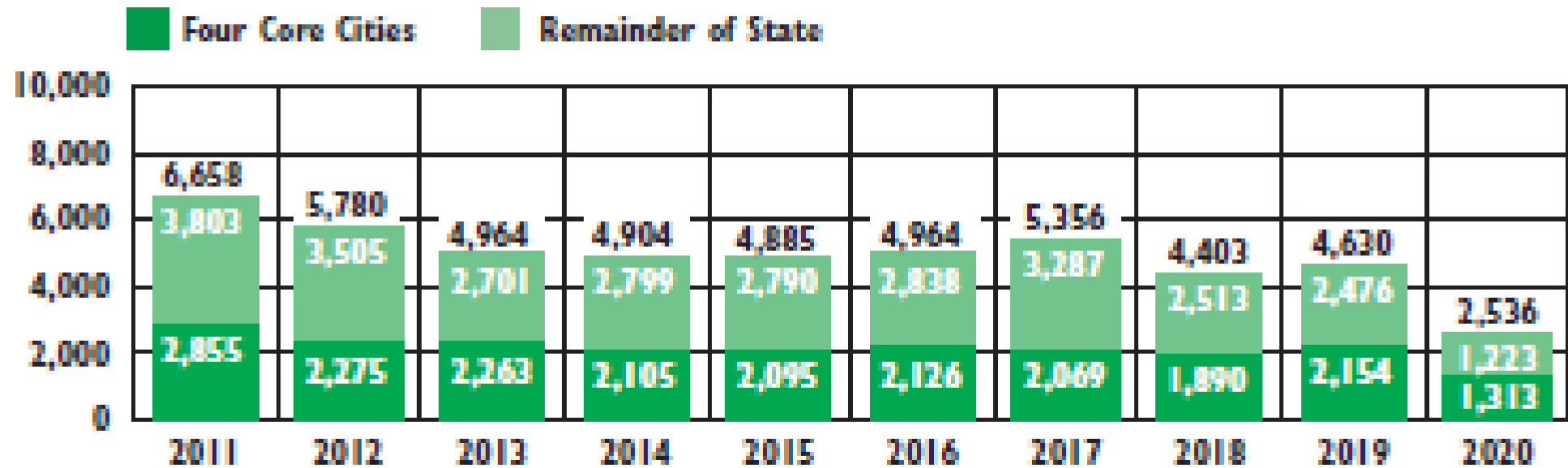
- 35.7 teen births per 1,000 girls ages 15-19 in Woonsocket, second highest rate in the state.



Safety

Youth Referred to Family Court

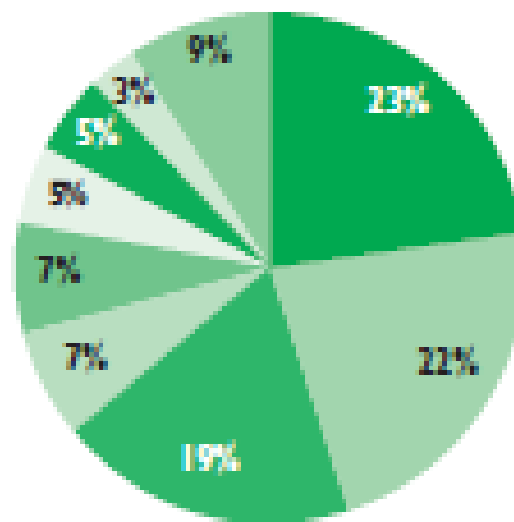
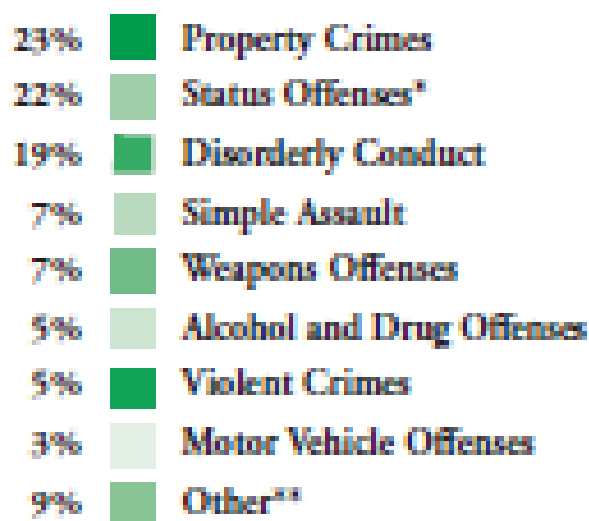
Juvenile Wayward/Delinquent Offenses Referred to Rhode Island Family Court, 2011-2020



The number of juvenile offenses has been falling steadily since 2011 and fell by 45% from 2019 to 2020, primarily due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Youth Referred to Family Court

Juvenile Offenses, By Type of Offense, Rhode Island, 2020



n=2,536

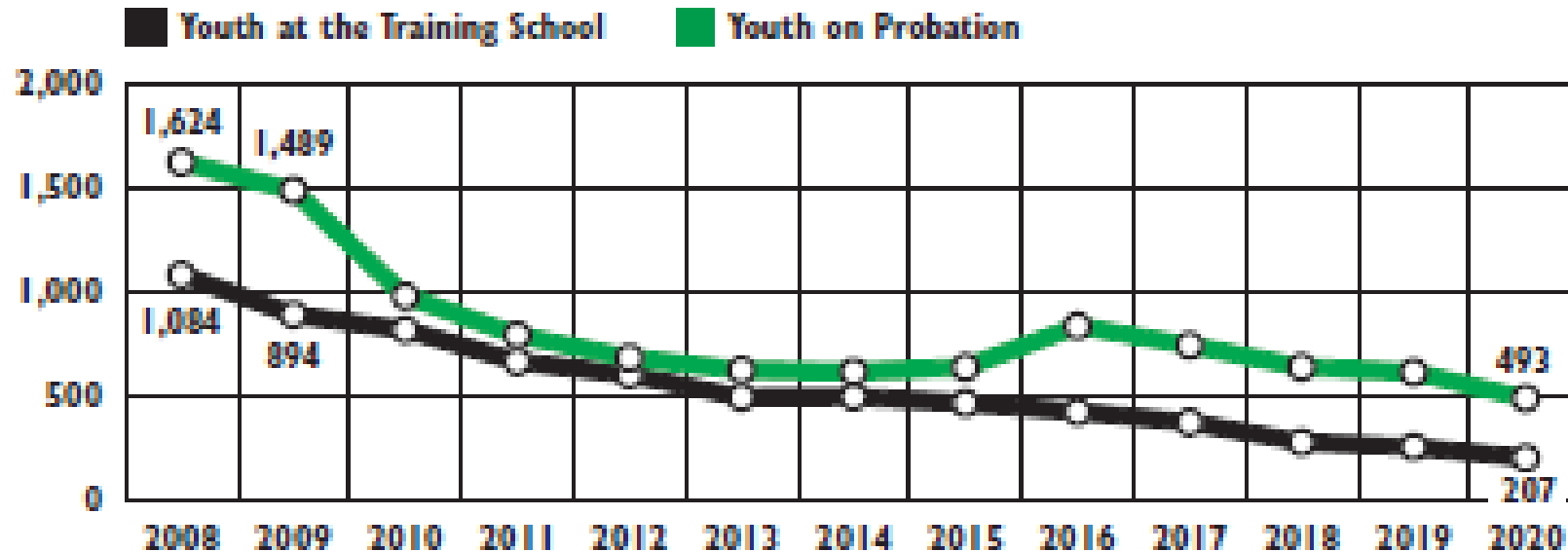
**Status offenses are age-related acts that would not be punishable if the offender were an adult, such as truancy and disobedient conduct.*

***Other includes offenses such as conspiracy, sex offenses, escape from custody, computer crimes, etc. Probation violations, contempt of court, and other violations of court orders are not included in the offenses above.*

Of the 2,536 wayward and delinquent offenses for which youth were referred to Family Court in 2020, 5% were for violent crimes.

Youth in the Juvenile Justice System

Youth in the Juvenile Justice System, 2008-2020



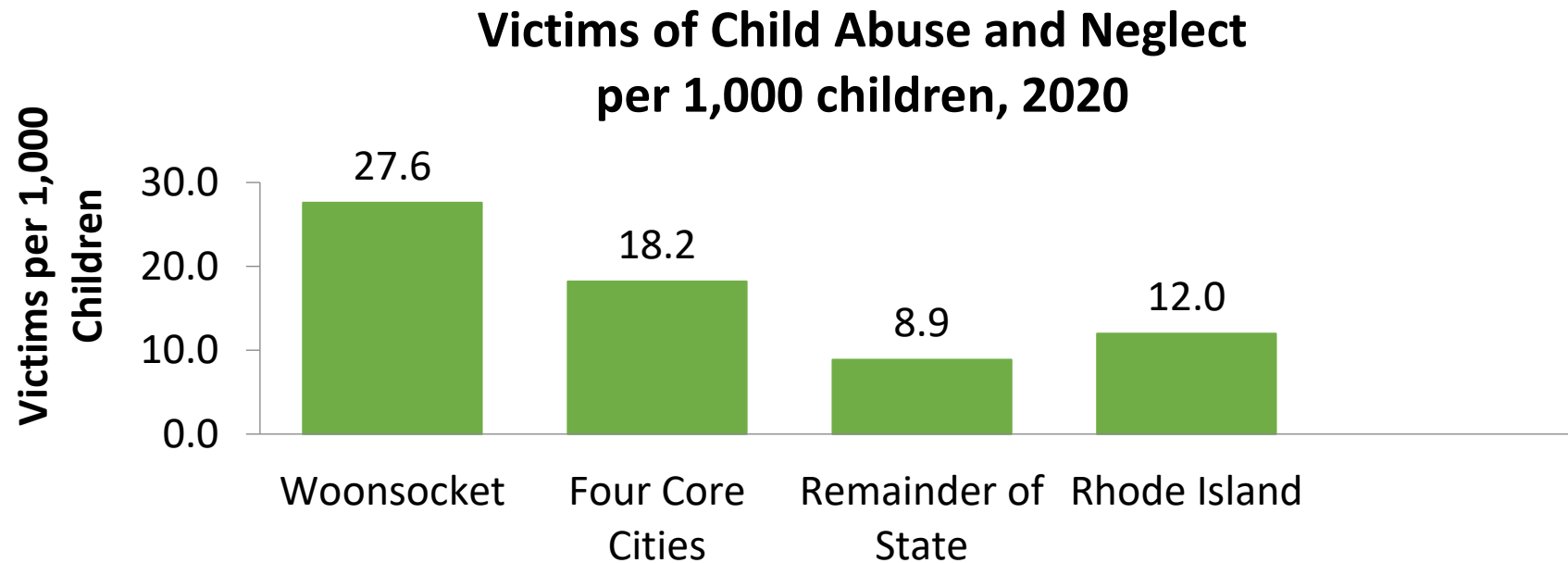
- Between 2008 and 2020, the annual total number of youth at the Training School at any point during the year declined by 81% and the total number of youth on probation declined by 70%.
- 17 youth** in the care and custody of the Training School in 2020 were **from Woonsocket**.

Youth in the Juvenile Justice System

Racial and Ethnic Disparities in Rhode Island

	% OF TOTAL CHILD POPULATION, 2010	% OF YOUTH AT THE RITS, 2020	% OF YOUTH ON PROBATION, 2020
American Indian	<1%	<1%	1%
Asian	3%	0%	<1%
Black	6%	28%	23%
Hispanic	21%	35%	30%
Multiracial	5%	6%	6%
White	64%	27%	32%
Unknown	NA	3%	7%
TOTAL	223,956	207	493

Child Neglect and Abuse

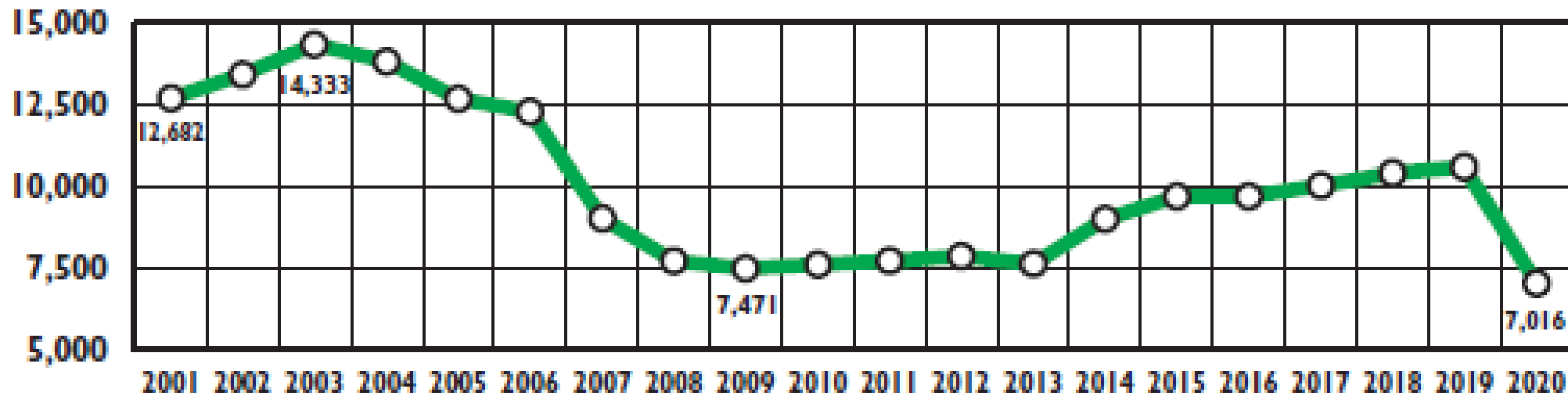


- Woonsocket's child abuse and neglect victim rate is the highest in the state.
- In Rhode Island in 2020, the vast majority (81%) of child abuse and neglect victims experience neglect.



Child Care Subsidies

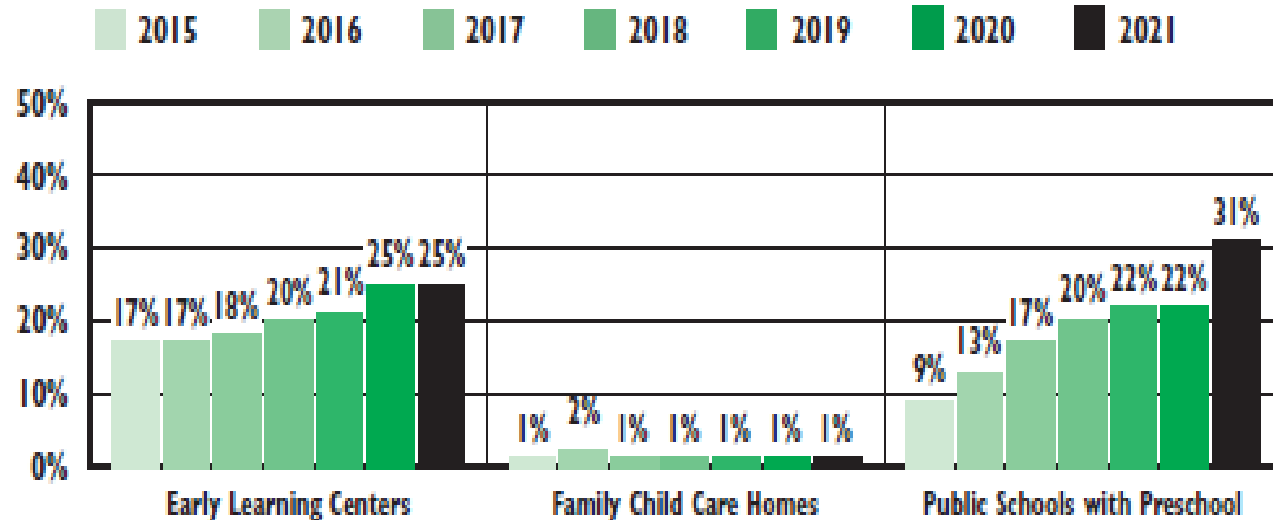
Child Care Subsidies, Rhode Island, 2001-2020



- In December 2020, there were 7,016 child care subsidies in Rhode Island, down 34% from December 2019 (pre-pandemic) and down 51% from the 2003 peak.
- **475 Woonsocket children** from ages birth to 12 receive a subsidy for child care.

High Quality Early Learning Programs

Percentage of Early Learning Centers, Family Child Care Programs, and Public Schools with a High-Quality BrightStars Rating (4 or 5 Stars), Rhode Island, 2015-2021

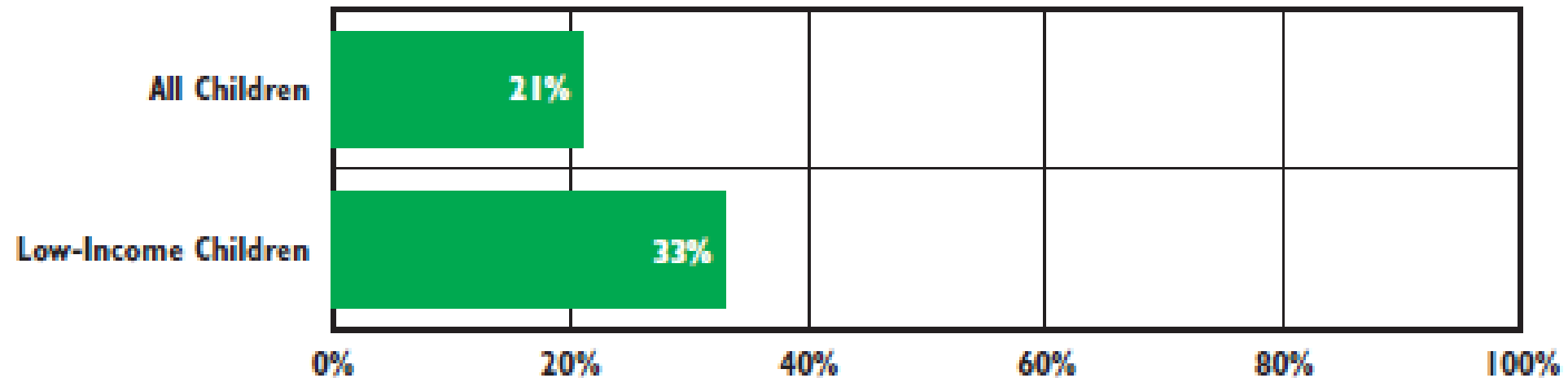


In Woonsocket:

- 91% of the **11 child care centers** and preschools participate in BrightStars.
 - ✓ **55%** (6 of 11) have a **high-quality rating** of 4 or 5 stars
- All 6 family child care homes** participate in BrightStars.
 - ✓ So far, none have a high-quality rating of 4 or 5 stars
- The 2 public schools with preschool programs** do not participate in BrightStars.

Head Start or RI Pre-K

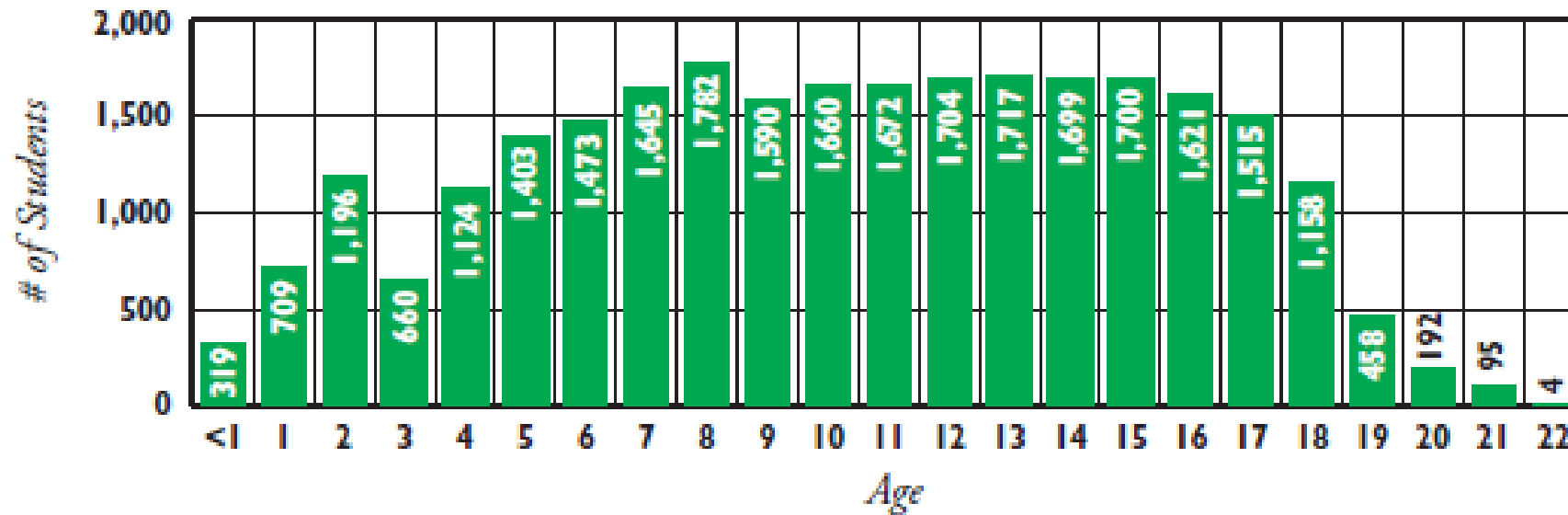
Percentage of Children Enrolled in Head Start or RI Pre-K the Year Before Kindergarten, Rhode Island, 2020-2021



43% of all children and 45% of low-income children in Woonsocket were enrolled in either Head Start or RI Pre-K during the year before kindergarten, much higher than the state rate.

K-12 Students Receiving Special Education Services

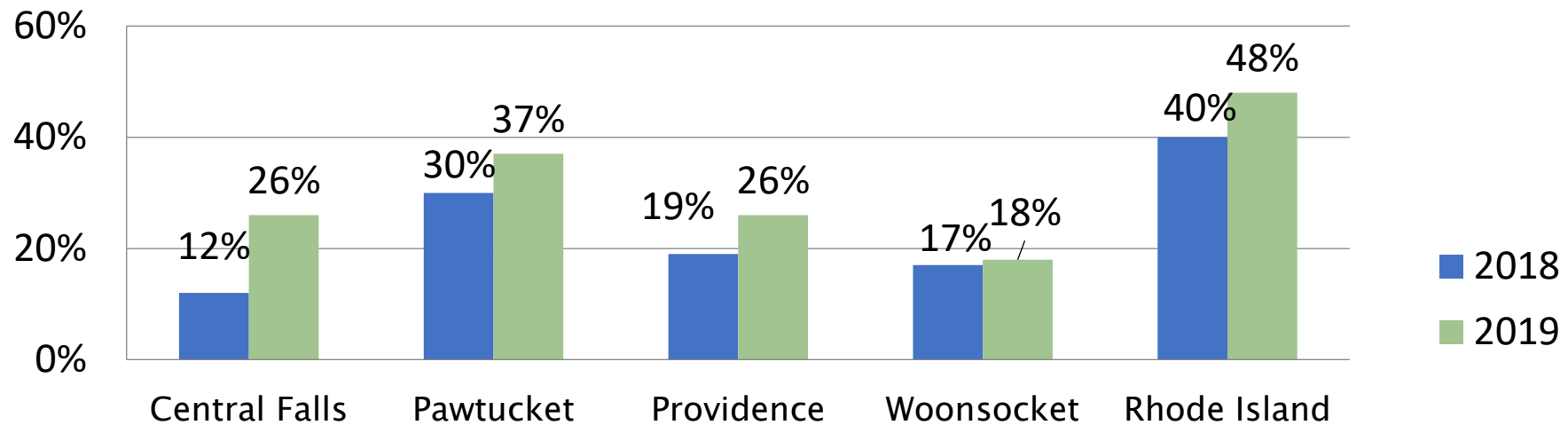
Students Ages Birth to 22 Receiving Early Intervention and Special Education Services, Rhode Island, June 2020



- In Woonsocket, 26% of children in grades K-12 are receiving special education services, the highest rate in the state.
- In Woonsocket, 12% of children ages 3 to 5 receive preschool special education services, higher than the state rate of 8%.

Third-Grade Reading Skills

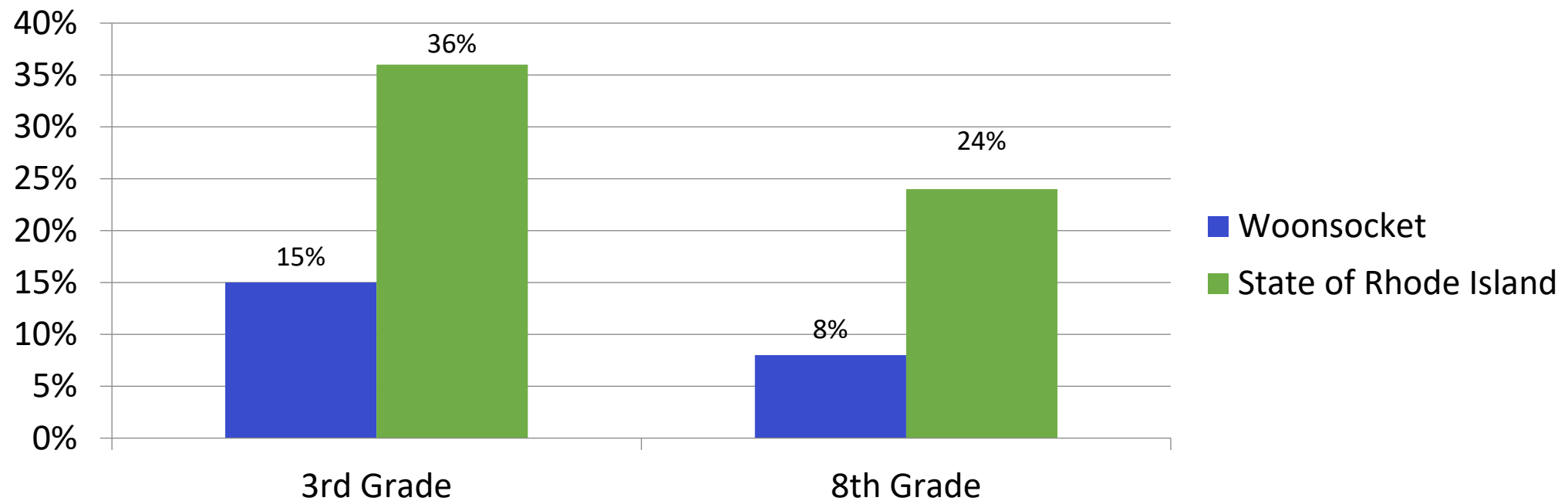
Third-Graders Meeting Expectations in English Language Arts



Source: Rhode Island Department of Education, *Rhode Island Comprehensive Assessment Program (RICAS)*, 2018.

Math Skills

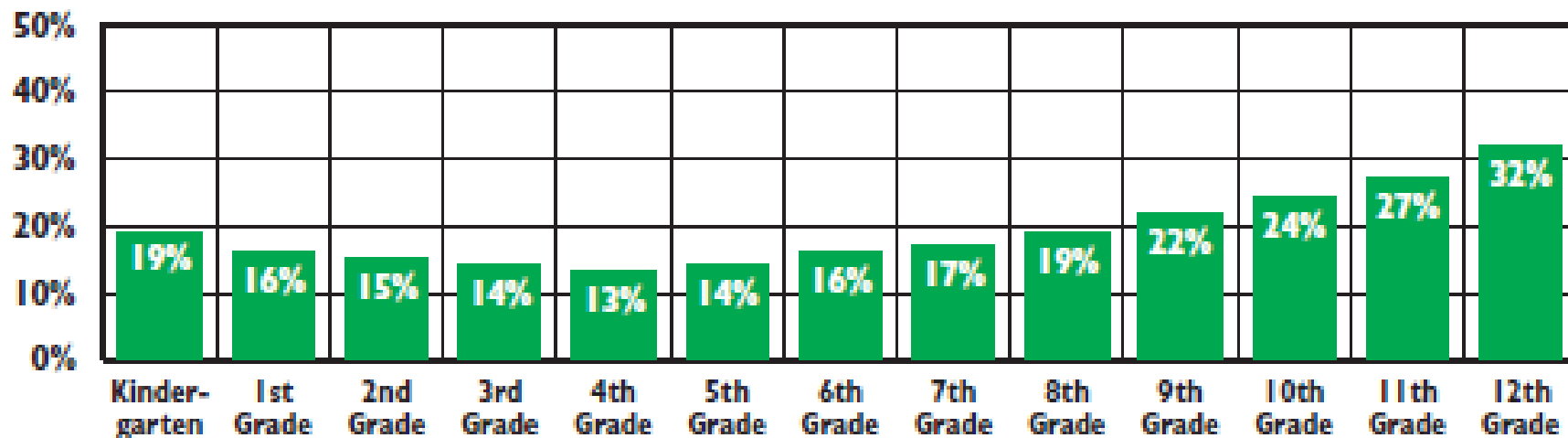
Math Proficiency, Woonsocket & State of Rhode Island, 2019



Source: Rhode Island Department of Education, *Rhode Island Common Assessment System (RICAS)*, 2018-2019.

Chronic Early Absence

Chronic Absence Rates in Rhode Island by Grade,
2019-2020 School Year*



During the 2019-2020 school year in Woonsocket:

- 35% of K-3 students were chronically absent
- 36% of middle school students were chronically absent
- 47% of high school students were chronically absent

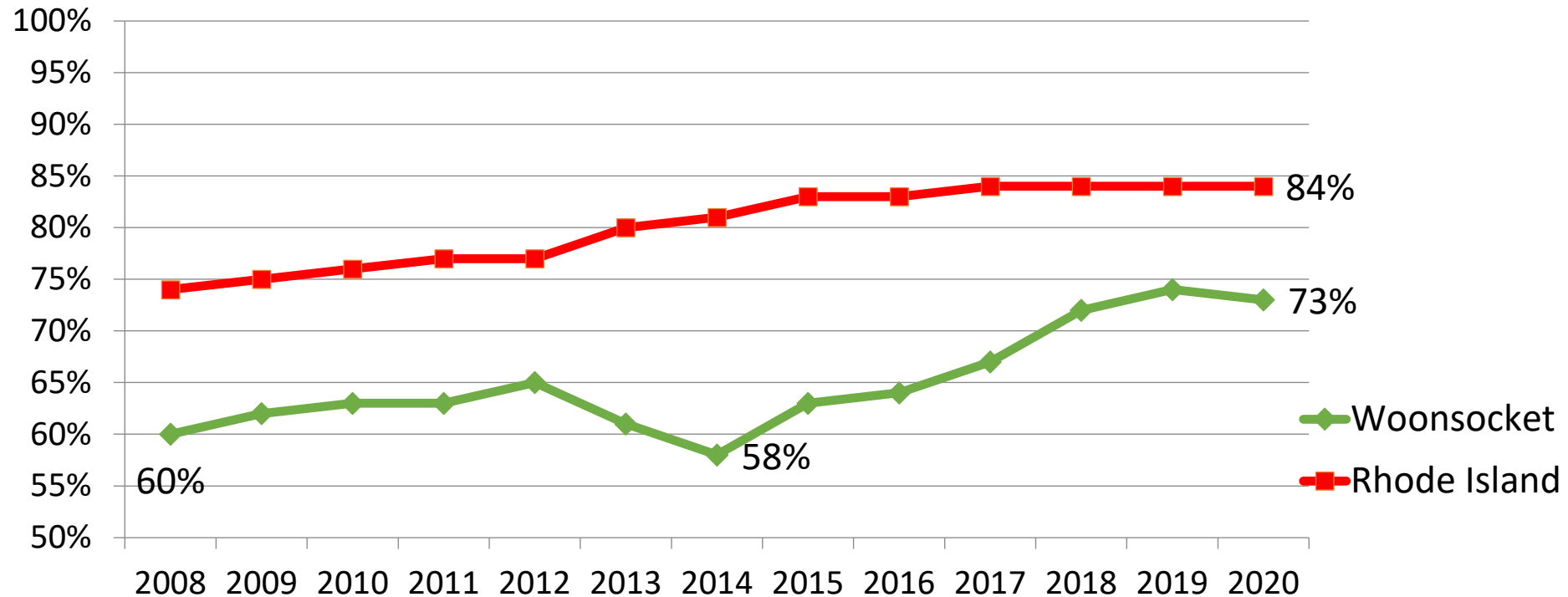
School Suspensions

Out-of-School Suspensions by Infraction, Rhode Island, 2019-2020

TYPE OF INFRACTION*	#	%	TYPE OF INFRACTION	#	%
Fighting	1,328	22%	Obscene/Abusive Language	266	4%
Insubordination/Disrespect	1,020	17%	Arson/Larceny/Robbery/Vandalism	163	3%
Assault of Student or Teacher	941	15%	Weapon Possession	146	2%
Disorderly Conduct	834	14%	Other Offenses	93	2%
Harassment/Intimidation/Threat	646	11%	Electronic Devices/Technology	52	1%
Alcohol/Drug/Tobacco Offenses	587	10%	Attendance Offenses	0	0%
			<i>Total</i>	<i>6,076</i>	

- **Woonsocket's suspension rate has declined** from 55 suspensions per 100 students in 2018-2019 to 41 suspensions per 100 students in 2019-2020 but is 4 times higher than the statewide rate.

High School Graduation Rate, 2008-2020



Source: Rhode Island Department of Education, Class of 2008-2020.

- Woonsocket has the highest dropout rate and lowest 4-year graduation rate in the state, but the district has seen dramatic improvements in recent years.

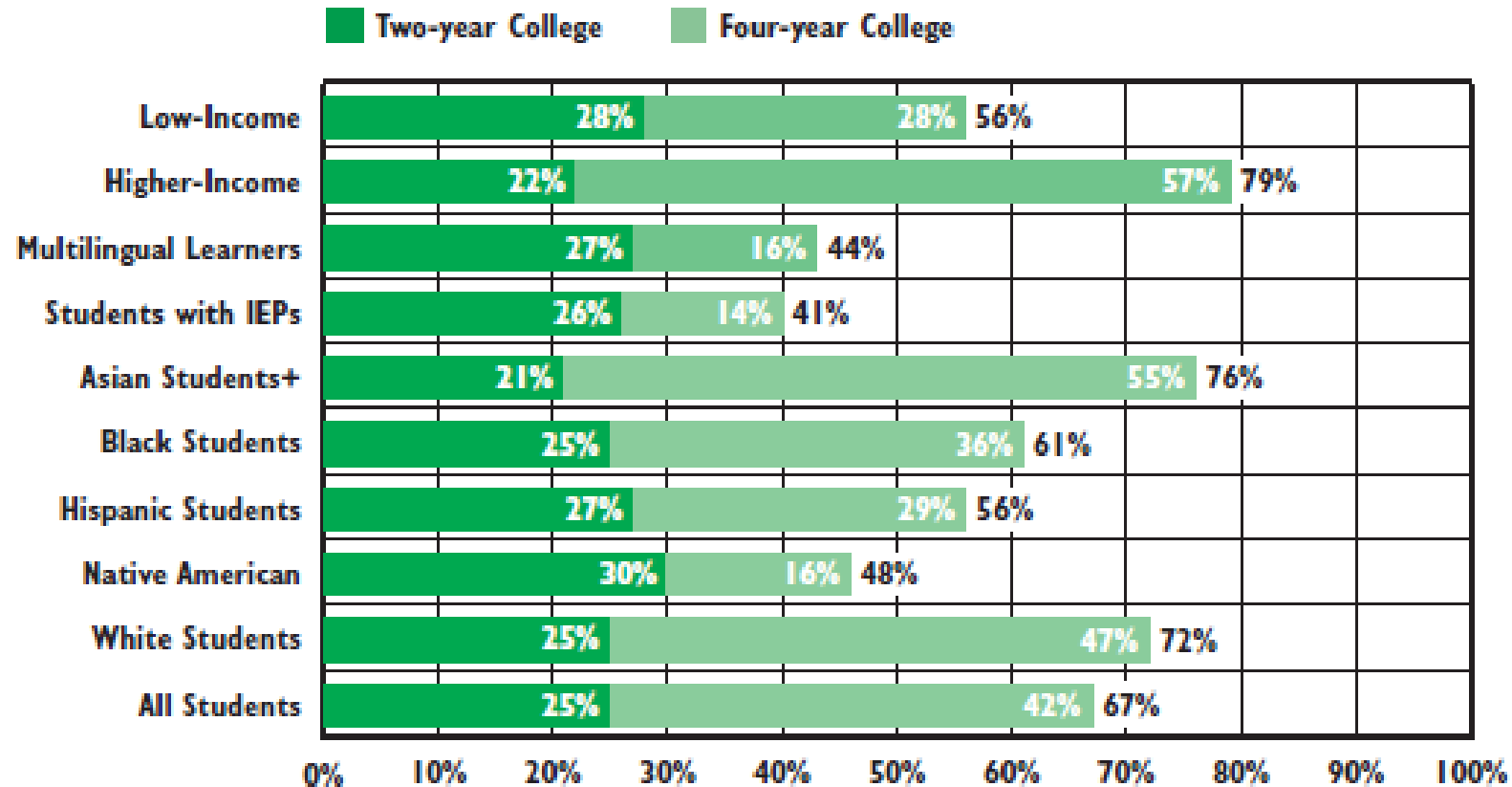
High School Graduation Rate, 2020

All Woonsocket Students	73%
CTE Concentrators	97%
Non-CTE Concentrators	57%
Students Receiving Special Education Services	50%
Students Not Receiving Special Education Services	82%
Multilingual Learners	83%
Low-Income Students	69%
Higher-Income Students	83%
White Students	73%
Black Students	68%
Hispanic Students	74%
Asian Students	88%



College Preparation and Access

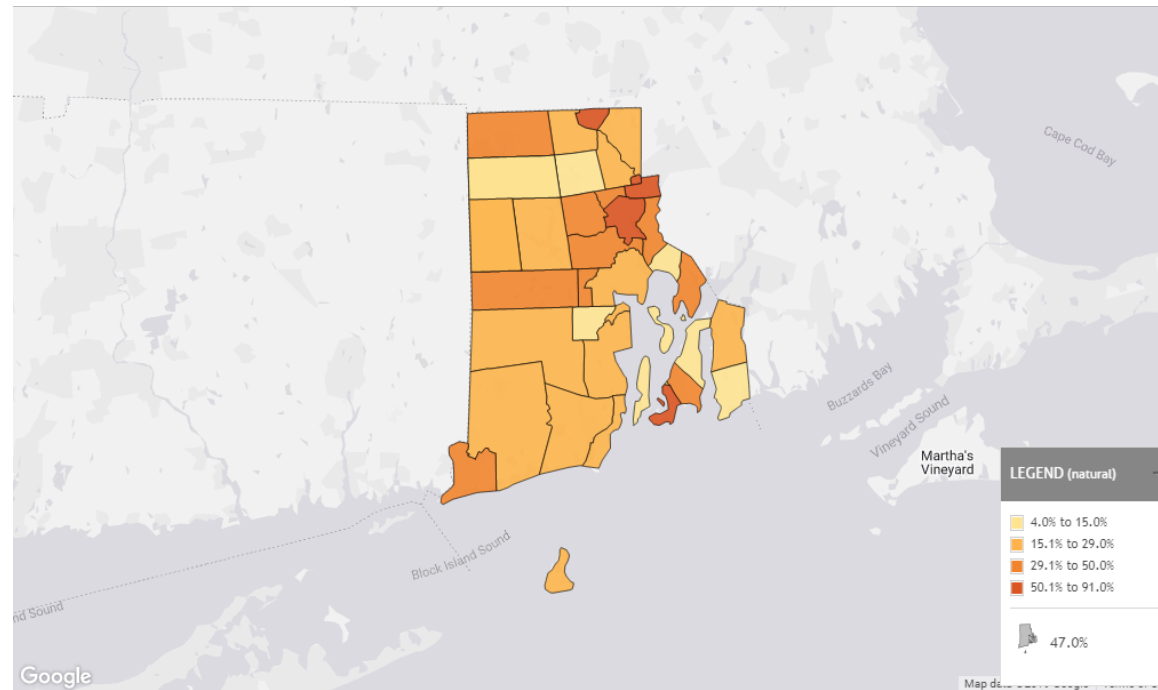
Immediate College Enrollment by Family Income, Race, Ethnicity, and Type of College, Class of 2019, Rhode Island



52% of Woonsocket students who graduated from high school in the Class of 2019 immediately enrolled in college, up from 50% for the Class of 2018.

KIDS COUNT Data Center: A Helpful Resource

<https://datacenter.kidscount.org/>



Public School Enrollment Of Low Income Students
(Percent) - 2018

Rhode Island KIDS COUNT
KIDS COUNT Data Center, datacenter.kidscount.org
A project of the Annie E. Casey Foundation

Rhode Island KIDS COUNT
One Union Station
Providence, RI 02903

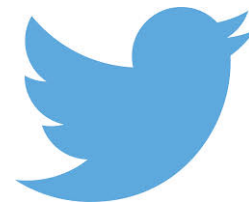
(401) 351-9400

www.rikidscount.org
rikids@rikidscount.org

Find us on Facebook & Twitter!



Rhode Island
KIDS COUNT



@RIKidsCount