

Cumberland Data in Your Backyard

Using Data to Monitor Child Well-Being:
Findings from the *2024 Rhode Island KIDS COUNT Factbook*

Presented by Paige Parks

Rhode Island KIDS COUNT

October 22, 2024



Special Thanks

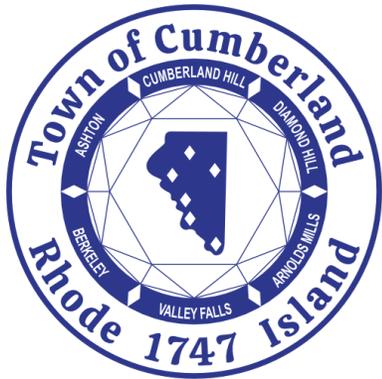
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A Children's Policy Organization that:

Provides Information on Children's
Well-Being

Stimulates Dialogue on Children's Issues

Promotes Accountability and Action



1994-2024

Rhode Island

KIDS COUNT

**Celebrating 30 Years
of Child Advocacy**

2024 Rhode Island KIDS COUNT Factbook

30th annual publication

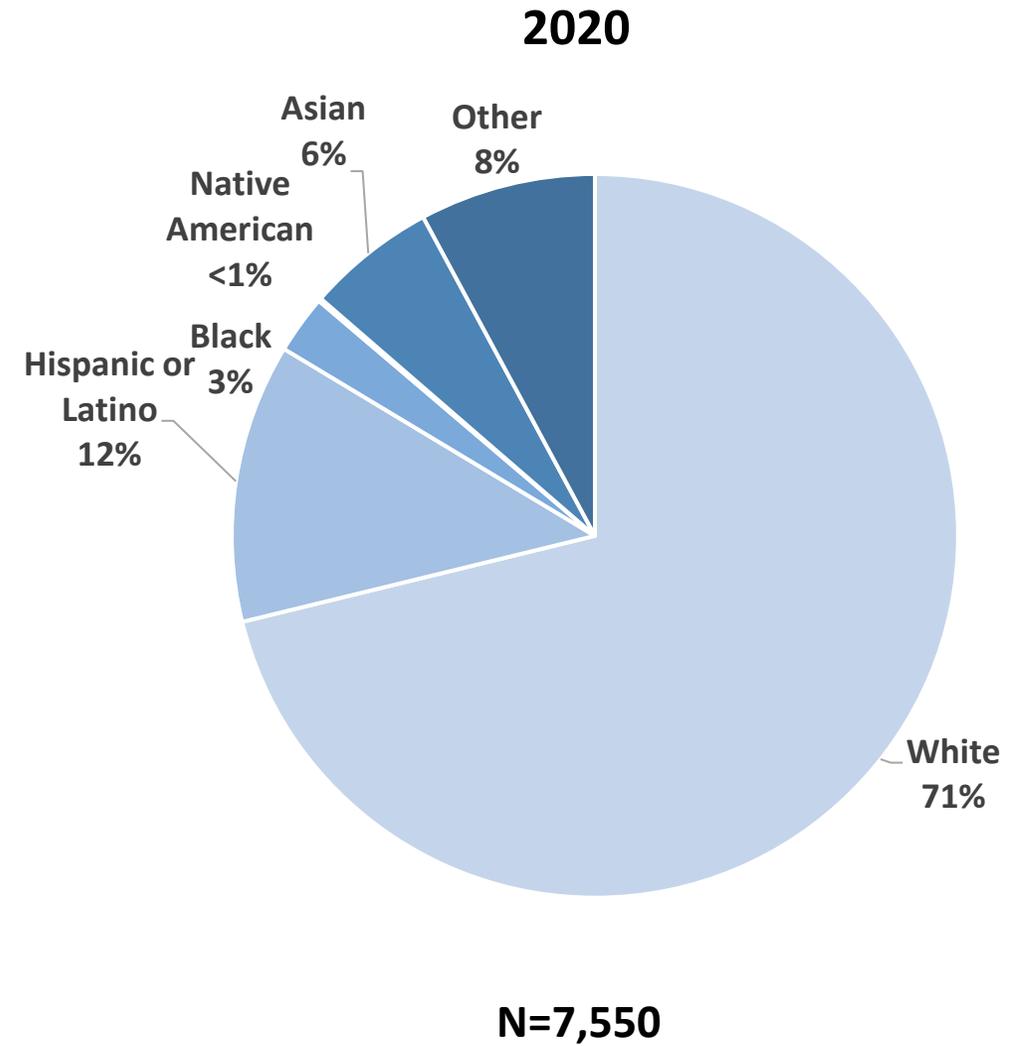
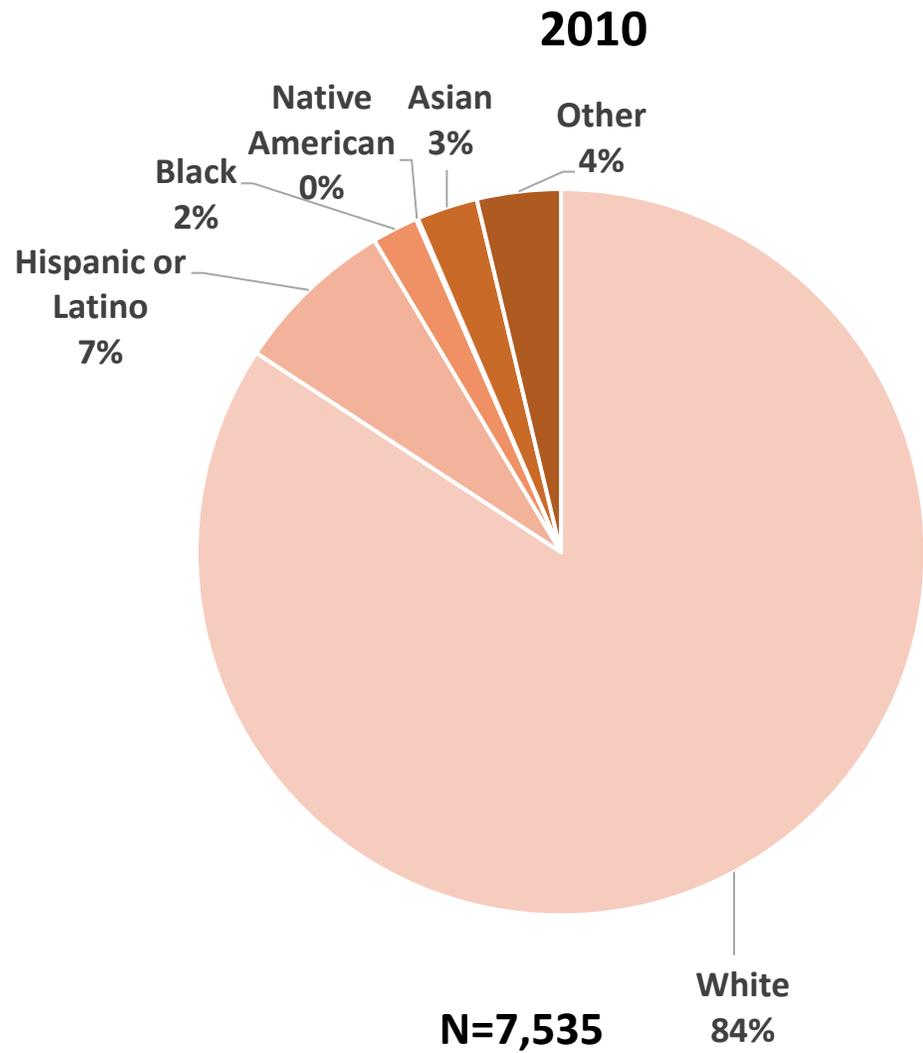
70 indicators across 5 areas

City and town-level information





Child Population by Race and Ethnicity: Cumberland





Economic Well-Being

How Do We Define Poverty?

- Poverty level in 2023
 - \$24,549 for a family of 3
 - \$30,900 for a family of 4

- *2024 Rhode Island Standard of Need*
 - Single-parent family with 2 children would need \$83,239 a year to meet its basic needs, which would require a pre-tax income of \$99,418 (or \$47.80 per hour) to meet this budget without governmental subsidies.

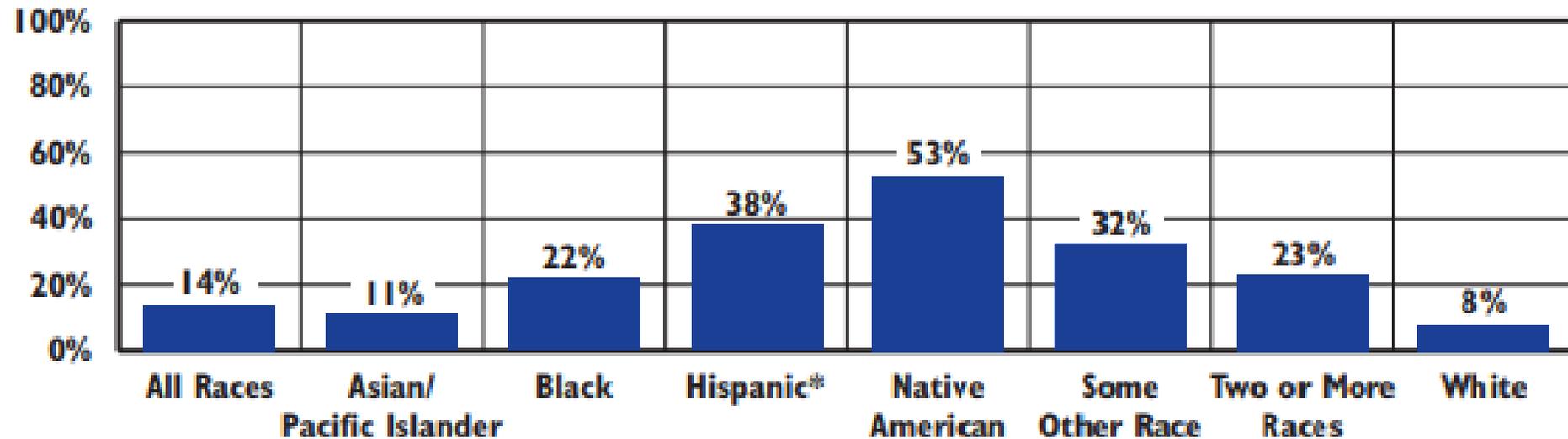


Child Poverty Rates in Cumberland

	Child Poverty 2018-2022	FRPL October 2023
Cumberland	6.6%	19%
Four Core Cities	26.8%	69%
Rhode Island	14.1%	44%

Large Racial and Ethnic Disparities in Child Poverty

Children in Poverty, by Race and Ethnicity, Rhode Island, 2018-2022

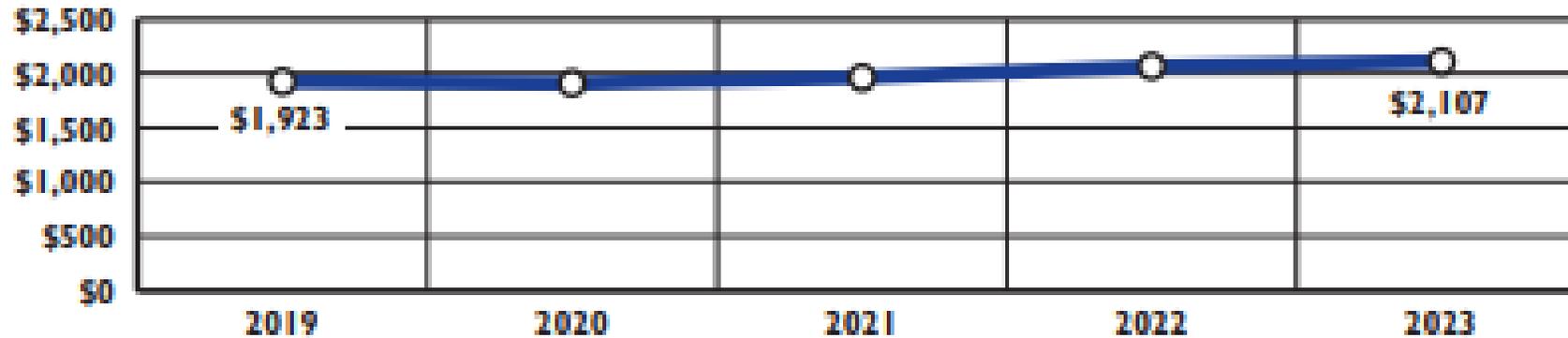


Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2018-2022. Tables B17020, B17020A, B17020B, B17020C, B17020D, B17020E, B17020F, B17020G and B17020I. *Hispanic children may be included in any race category.

Note: Hispanic children may be included in any race category.

Cost of Housing

Average Rent, Two-Bedroom Apartment, Rhode Island, 2019-2023



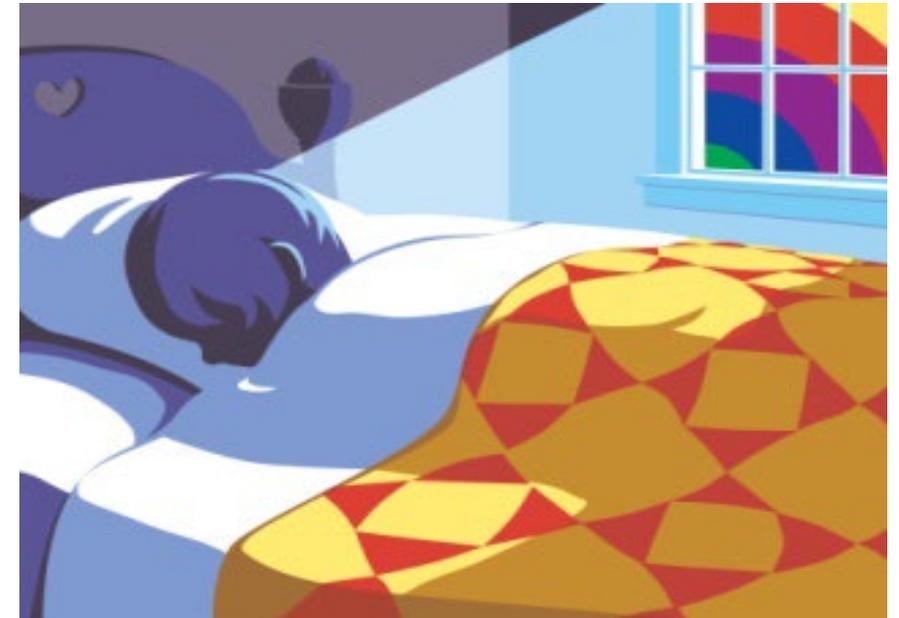
Source: Rhode Island Housing, Rhode Island Rent Survey, 2019-2023. Rents are adjusted to 2023 dollars and include adjustments for the cost of gas, fuel, water, and electricity. Adjustments for utilities for each year vary according to U.S. Census American Community Survey's (ACS) annual one-year estimates. Due to a change in methodology, data cannot be compared to Factbooks prior to 2019.

- In 2023, the average cost of rent for a two-bedroom apartment in Rhode Island was \$2,107.
 - In Cumberland it was \$2,498.

- In 2023, a worker would have to earn \$48.04 an hour and work 40 hours a week year-round to be able to afford the average rent in Cumberland without a cost burden. This hourly wage was almost four times the minimum wage of \$13.00 per hour in 2023.

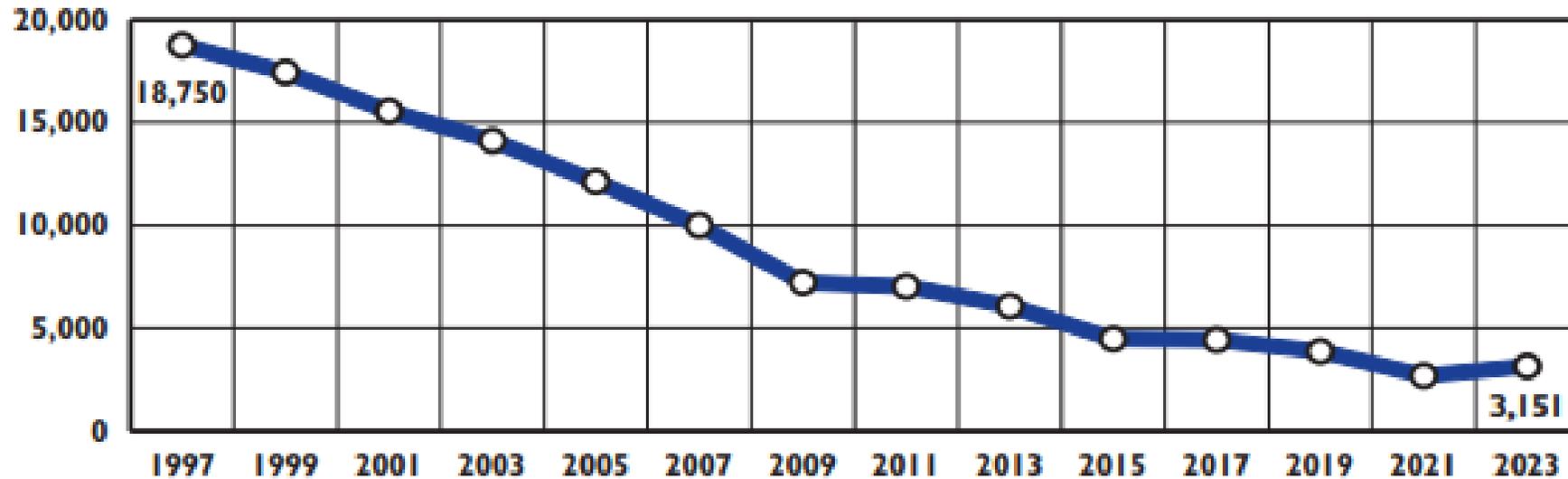
More Children Experiencing Homelessness

- In 2023, 363 Rhode Island families with 668 children stayed at an emergency homeless shelter, domestic violence shelter, transitional housing facility or hotel paid for by DCYF.
- During the 2022-2023 school year, Rhode Island public school personnel identified 1,739 children as homeless. Of these children, 66% lived with other families (“doubled up”), 17% lived in hotels or motels, 15% lived in shelters, and 2% were unsheltered.
- **Cumberland Public Schools personnel identified 23 children as homeless.**



Children in Families Receiving Cash Assistance

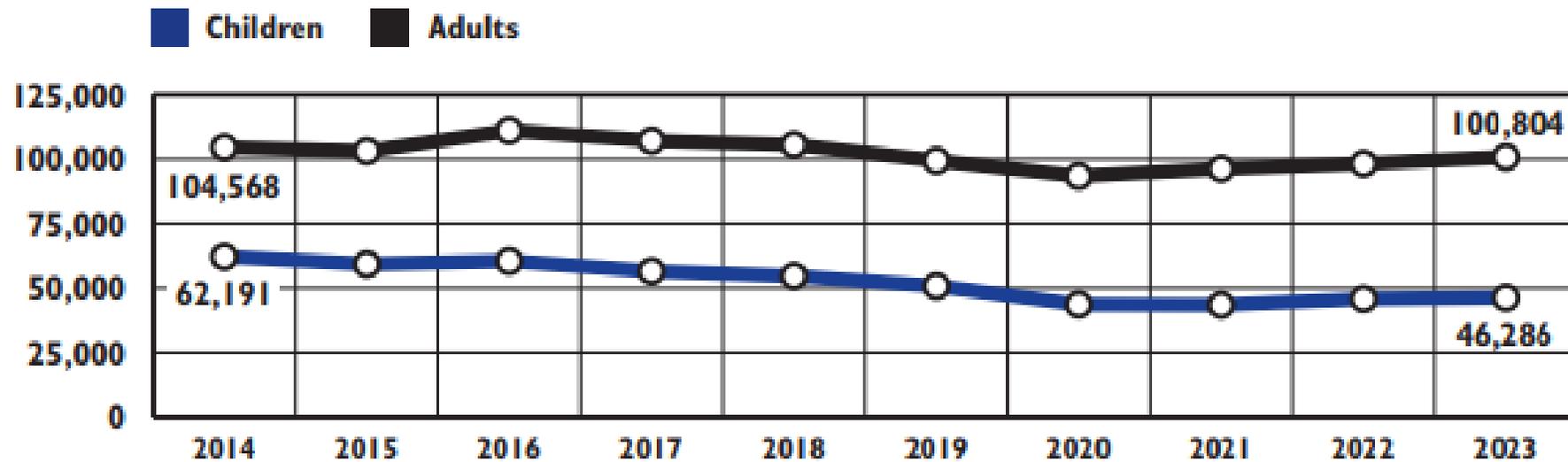
Cash Assistance Caseload, Rhode Island, 1997–2023*



- The goal of the RI Works program is to help very low-income families meet their basic needs by providing cash assistance and work supports, including employment services, SNAP benefits, health insurance, and subsidized child care.
- The maximum monthly benefit for a family of four is \$990 per month. Benefits were increased for the first time in 30 years in 2021 and again in 2024, but maximum benefits are still less than 50% of the federal poverty threshold.
- In 2023, 36 families, including 64 children, in Cumberland received benefits through this program.

Children Receiving SNAP Benefits

Participation in the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program, Children and Adults, Rhode Island, 2014-2023



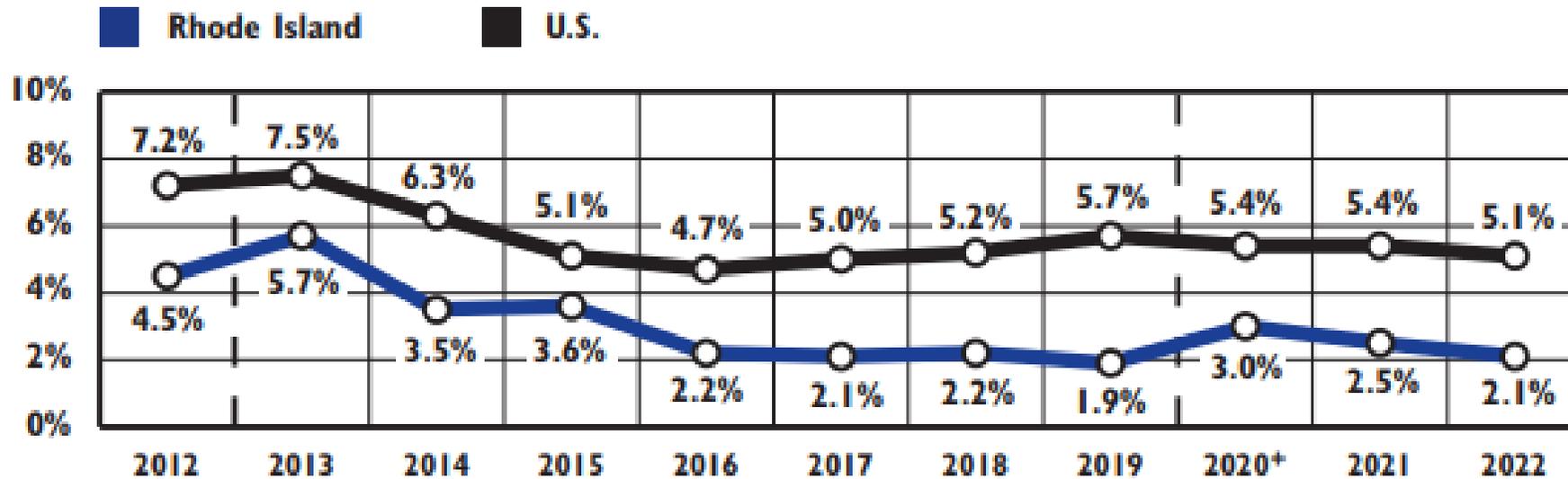
Source: Rhode Island Department of Human Services, InRhodes Database, 2014–2015 and RI Bridges Database, 2016–2023. Data represent children under age 18 and adults who participated in SNAP during the month of October.

- Of the 147,090 Rhode Islanders enrolled in SNAP in October 2023, 69% were adults and 31% were children.
- In Cumberland, 646 children benefitted from the SNAP program which provides monthly benefits families can use to purchase food at retail markets and some farmers' markets.



How Can We Ensure that Rhode Island Children Are Insured?

Children Without Health Insurance, Rhode Island, 2012-2022



- Recently released data show that in 2023 in Rhode Island
 - ✓ 3.25% of children under age 19 were uninsured
 - ✓ Rhode Island ranks 10th best in the country
- **Cover All Kids** – all low-income kids now covered regardless of immigration status
- **Recertification** – all families covered by Medicaid had to recertify this past year
- 2,189 children in Cumberland were insured through Rite Care in 2023.

September 2024

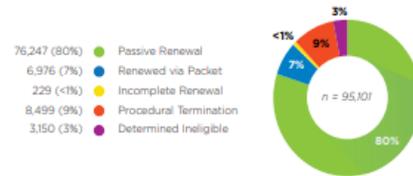
Keeping Kids Covered: Medicaid Renewals in Rhode Island

During the COVID-19 pandemic, all Medicaid renewals were suspended so that families and individuals did not lose critical health insurance coverage during the national public health emergency.¹ Beginning in April 2023, the State of Rhode Island started to renew coverage for all Medicaid beneficiaries. This 'return to normal' redetermination and renewal process occurred through March 2024 with renewals for households with children taking place from December 2023 through April 2024.²

When the public health emergency ended, it was estimated that millions of children across the nation would lose coverage, many for administrative or procedural reasons. This process threatened to reverse much of the progress seen in recent years. Predictions were that this unprecedented process of redetermining eligibility for nearly everyone covered by Medicaid, otherwise known as 'unwinding' of the continuous coverage protection, would cause the uninsured rate for children to start moving in the wrong direction as many eligible children lost Medicaid coverage.³

Nationally, over 5.4 million children have lost Medicaid coverage as of July 2024.⁴ Rhode Island did better than other states in keeping children covered. What can we learn from this experience? Going forward, **what can we do as a state to ensure that children retain the coverage they need to stay healthy and Rhode Island continues to be a leader in health insurance coverage?**

MEDICAID REDETERMINATIONS BY RENEWAL STATUS, RHODE ISLAND, 2024



Source: EOHHS Data Dashboard, July 3, 2024. Includes both CHIP and non-CHIP children redetermined from January through April 2024.

- More than three-quarters (80%) of children (76,247) were renewed passively, meaning that coverage was automatically renewed based on available data sources, such as state wage databases.⁵
- An additional 7% (6,976) of children were renewed via packet, meaning their families had to fill out additional information to confirm that they were still Medicaid-eligible.⁶
- Only 3,150 children (3%) were terminated due to ineligibility. Some of these children may have obtained health insurance through their parent's employer or through HealthSource RI (HSRI). An additional **8,499 (9%) were terminated due to procedural or administrative reasons.**⁷
- A total of 11,649 Rhode Island children lost Medicaid coverage during the renewal process, and of these almost three-quarters (73%) lost coverage due to procedural or administrative reasons, including failure to return their redetermination packet in a timely fashion or missing documents.**⁸

MEDICAID ENROLLMENT AMONG CHILDREN UNDER AGE 18, RHODE ISLAND, DECEMBER 2023-JUNE 2024



Source: EOHHS Data Dashboard, July 1, 2024. Note: This chart includes new Medicaid members and children who were disenrolled and then re-enrolled and who may have experienced a period without Medicaid coverage. Children who are enrolled in Medicaid but who are age 18 or older are not included.



Scan for Brief

Children's Mental Health Crisis Continues

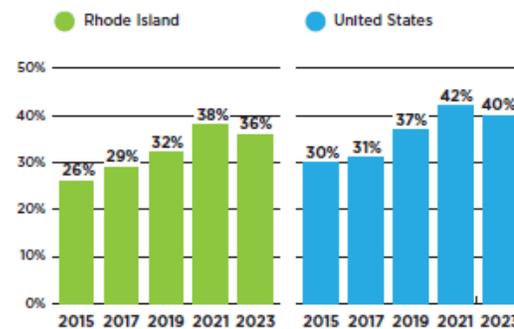
- **Concerns about increased mental health needs of children and youth.**
 - Nationally, even before the COVID-19 pandemic, mental health issues and suicide among adolescents had increased.
 - In April 2022, a [Rhode Island State of Emergency in Child and Adolescent Mental Health](#) was declared.
 - On the 2023 *Youth Risk Behavior Survey*:
 - 36% of RI high school students reported feeling sad or hopeless for more than 2 weeks in the previous year.
 - 9% of RI high school students reported attempting suicide 1+ times during past year
 - In 2022, more than half (59%) of RI children ages 3-17 who needed mental health treatment or counseling had a problem getting needed care

Supporting the Mental Health of BIPOC and LGBTQ+ Youth in Rhode Island

Even before the COVID-19 pandemic, youth were experiencing mental health challenges, but during the pandemic, there were steep increases in the number of youth experiencing anxiety and depression.¹ Youth experienced new stressors including school closures and virtual learning, isolation from their peers and caring adults, disruptions in their schedules, economic insecurity, increased stress and uncertainty, and the loss of parents, caregivers, and other loved ones.² Although the pandemic's peak has passed, the shockwaves it has left behind can still be felt.

We are currently in a mental health crisis both nationally and in Rhode Island.^{3,4}

FEELINGS OF SADNESS OR HOPELESSNESS AMONG HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS, RHODE ISLAND AND UNITED STATES, 2015-2023



Source: Youth Risk Behavior Survey, 2015-2023.



A Snapshot of *SurveyWorks* Data in Cumberland

Questions Related to Mental Health	Percentage of Middle and High School Students Responding Favorably
During the past 12 months, did you ever feel so sad or hopeless almost every day for 2 weeks or more in a row that you stopped doing some usual activities?	75%
How much has stress interfered with your ability to participate in school in the last 30 days?	47%
How likely is it that someone from your school will bully you online ?	54%
If you walked into class upset, how concerned would your teachers be ?	33%

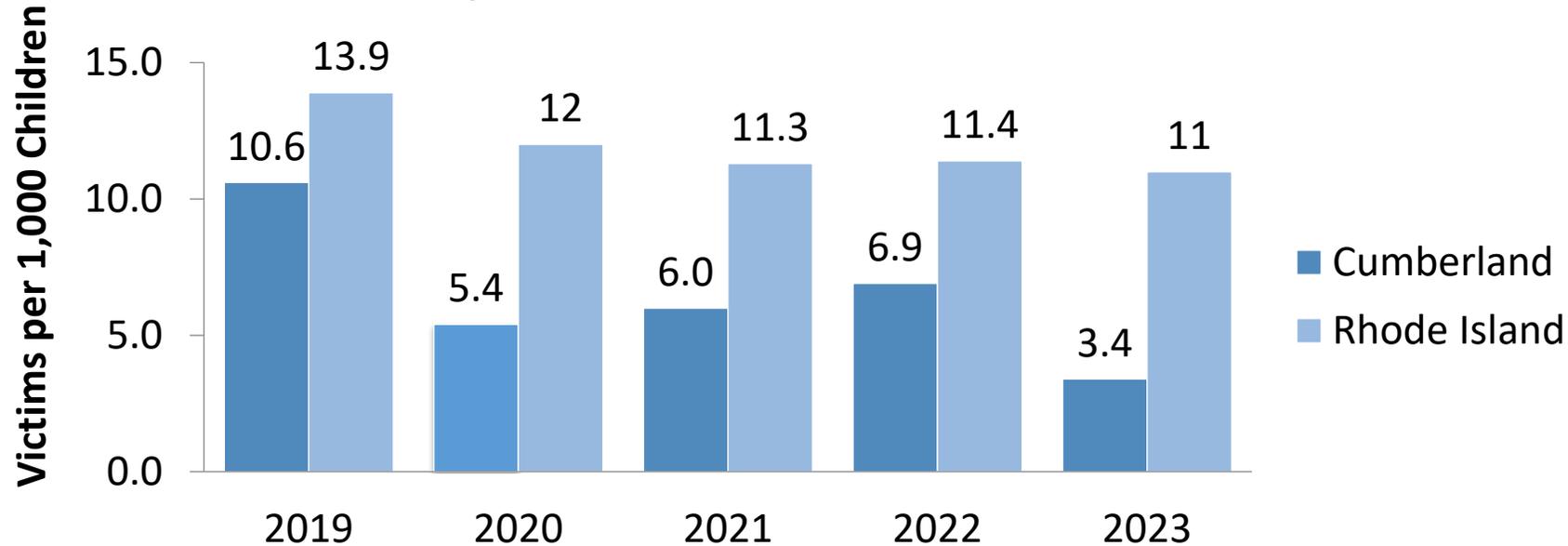
Source: *SurveyWorks*, Spring '24 Secondary Student Survey - Grades 6-12 - Student Survey.



Safety

Child Neglect and Abuse, Cumberland and Rhode Island

**Victims of Child Neglect and Abuse
per 1,000 Children, 2023**



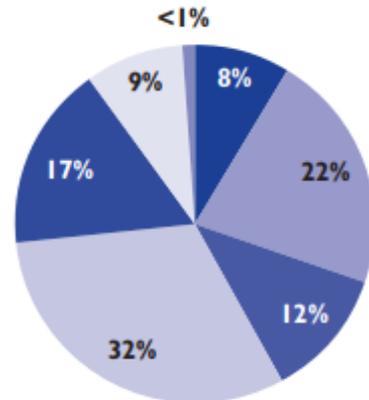
- Cumberland’s child neglect and abuse victim rate has been consistently lower than the state as a whole.
- **Cumberland’s** child neglect and abuse victim rate was **3.4 victims per 1,000** children in 2023, among the lowest in the state.
- In 2023, indicated investigations found 26 victims of child neglect and abuse in Cumberland.

81% of Cases are Neglect, Mostly Lack of Supervision and Exposure to Domestic Violence

Child Neglect and Abuse, Rhode Island, 2023

By Age of Victim*

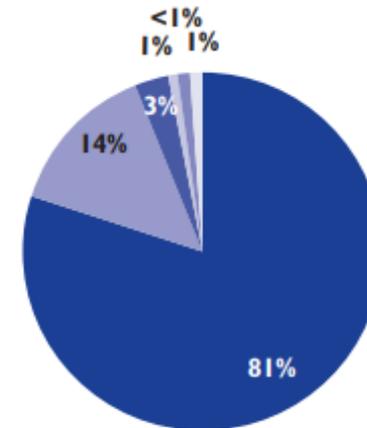
8% (191)	■ Under Age 1
22% (537)	■ Ages 1 to 3
12% (289)	■ Ages 4 to 5
32% (782)	■ Ages 6 to 11
17% (417)	■ Ages 12 to 15
9% (225)	■ Ages 16 and Older
<1% (5)	■ Unknown



n=2,446*

By Type of Neglect/Abuse**

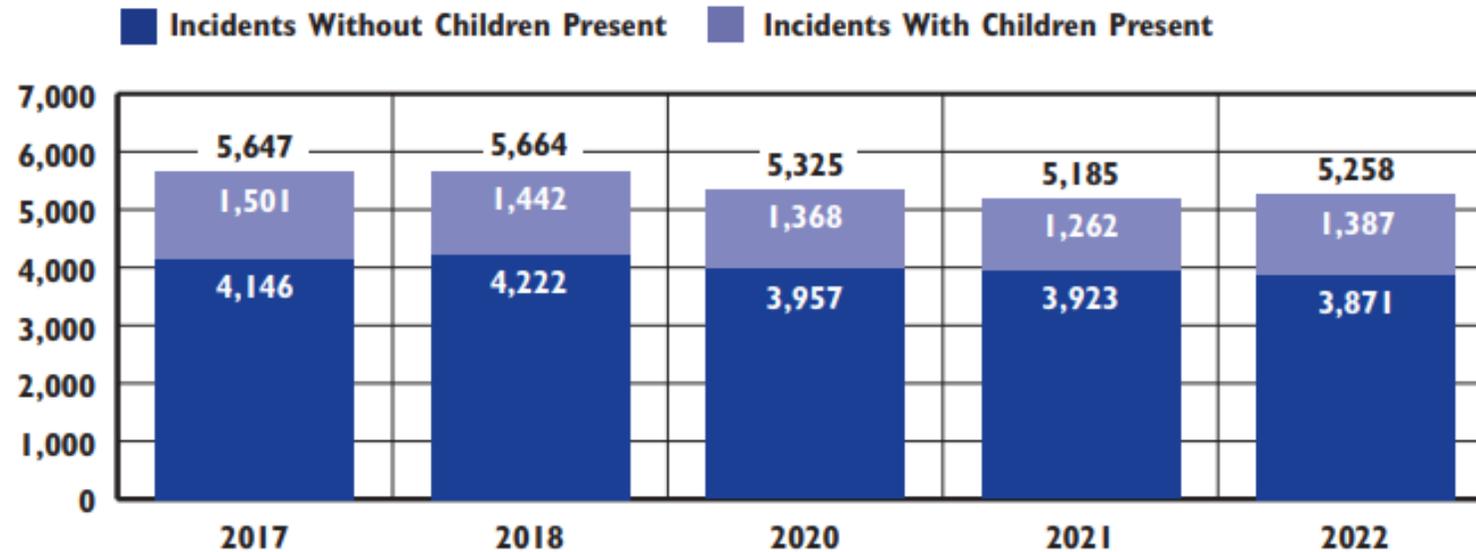
81% (2,178)	■ Neglect
14% (364)	■ Physical Abuse
3% (87)	■ Sexual Abuse
1% (17)	■ Medical Neglect
<1% (8)	■ Emotional Abuse
1% (30)	■ Other



n=2,684**

Children Witnessing Domestic Violence

**Domestic Violence Incidents Resulting in Arrest,
Rhode Island, 2017-2018, 2020-2022**



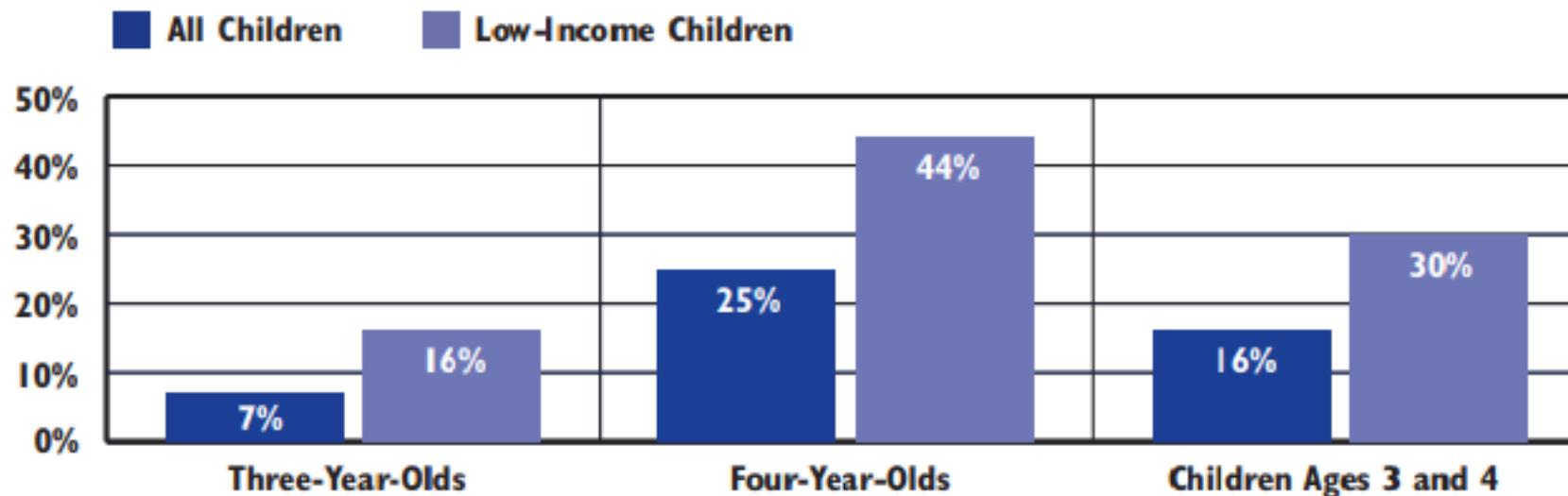
- In Rhode Island, children were present in 26% (1,387) of domestic violence incidents that resulted in arrest in 2022.
- During 2022, there were 105 domestic violence incidents in Cumberland, 28 (27%) with children present.



Education

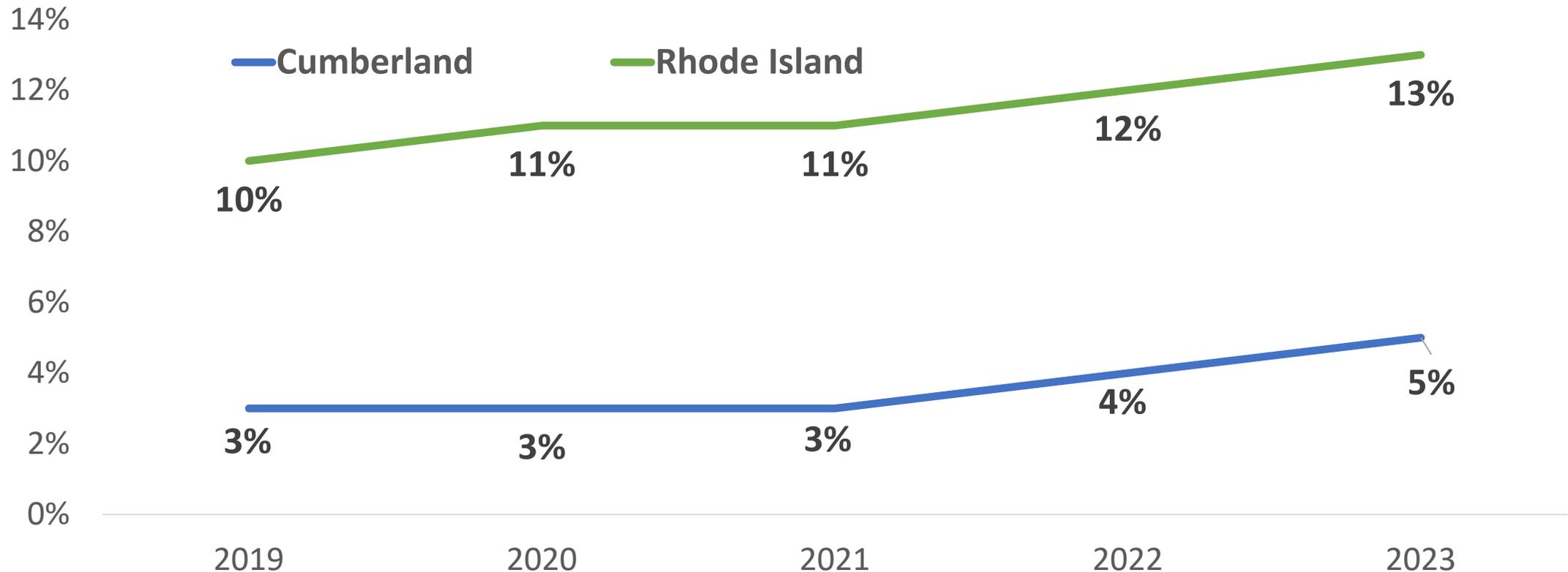
Opportunities for High-Quality Early Childhood Education in Cumberland

Percentage of Children Ages 3 and 4 Enrolled in Head Start and/or RI Pre-K, Rhode Island, 2023-2024



- **1% of all Cumberland children and 5% of low-income children in Cumberland ages 3 and 4 were enrolled in either Head Start or RI Pre-K.**
- Cumberland has 6 licensed child care centers and preschools, 4 (67%) of which participate in BrightStars, and 2 (33%) have high-quality ratings.
- There are also 7 licensed family child care homes and 1 public school preschool program.

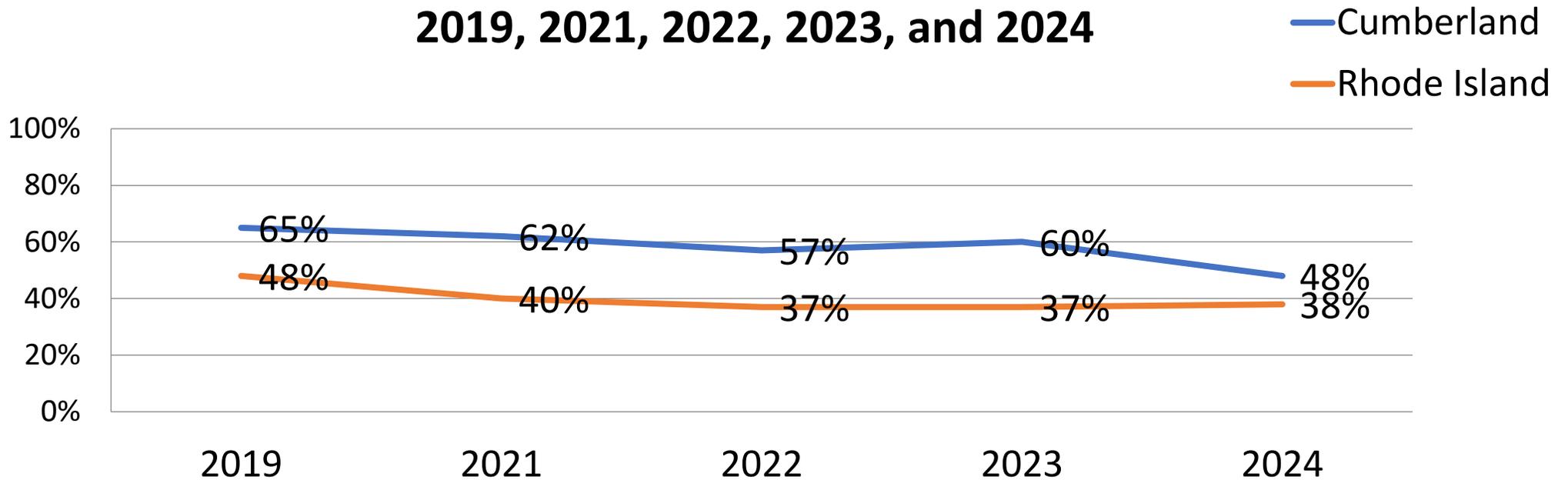
Growing Number of Multilingual Students



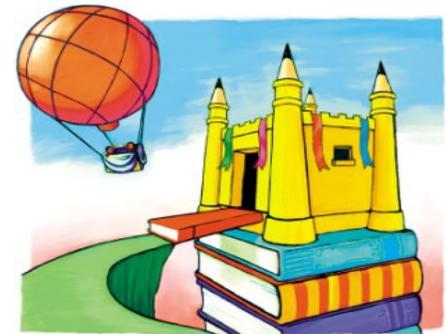
Source: Rhode Island Department of Education, 2018-2019 through 2022-2023 school years.

Third-Grade Reading Skills Since Pandemic

Third-Graders Meeting Expectations in Reading 2019, 2021, 2022, 2023, and 2024



Source: Rhode Island Department of Education,
Rhode Island Comprehensive Assessment System (RICAS), 2019-2024.



Disparities in 3rd Grade Reading and What We Can Do About It

All <u>Cumberland</u> 3rd Graders Meeting Expectations	48%
Female	50%
Male	47%
Students With Disabilities	10%
Students Without Disabilities	56%
Multilingual Learners	20%
Low-Income Students	24%
Higher-Income Students	55%
Asian Students	71%
Black Students	25%
Hispanic Students	23%
White Students	52%

Science Skills

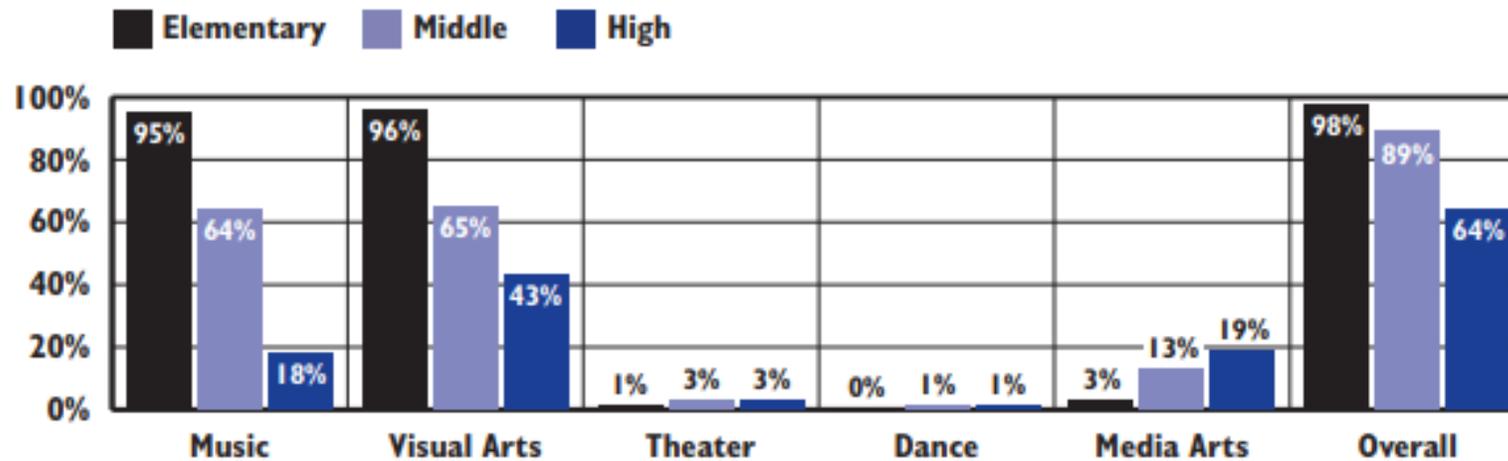
- In Rhode Island in 2024, 34% of 5th graders, 30% of 8th graders, and 30% of 11th graders met expectations in science on the *RICAS*.
- There are large disparities by race/ethnicity, income, disability, and Multilingual Learner status.
- **In Cumberland** in 2024, 53% of 5th graders, 49% of 8th graders, and 43% of 11th graders met expectations.

Fifth-, Eighth-, & Eleventh-Grade Students Meeting Expectations on the Next Generation Science Assessment, Rhode Island, 2023

SUBGROUP	FIFTH GRADE	EIGHTH GRADE	ELEVENTH GRADE
Female Students	31%	27%	32%
Male Students	32%	29%	31%
*Multilingual Learners	<5%	<5%	<5%
Non-English Learners	36%	33%	35%
*Students Receiving Special Education Services	7%	6%	6%
Students Not Receiving Special Education Services	36%	33%	35%
Low-Income Students	17%	14%	15%
Higher-Income Students	46%	41%	41%
American Indian or Alaska Native Students	15%	13%	20%
Asian Students+	46%	37%	49%
Black Students	17%	12%	13%
Hispanic/Latino Students	16%	14%	14%
White Students	43%	39%	43%
Homeless Students	9%	7%	18%
Students in Foster Care	25%	8%	12%
<i>ALL STUDENTS</i>	32%	28%	31%

Arts Education

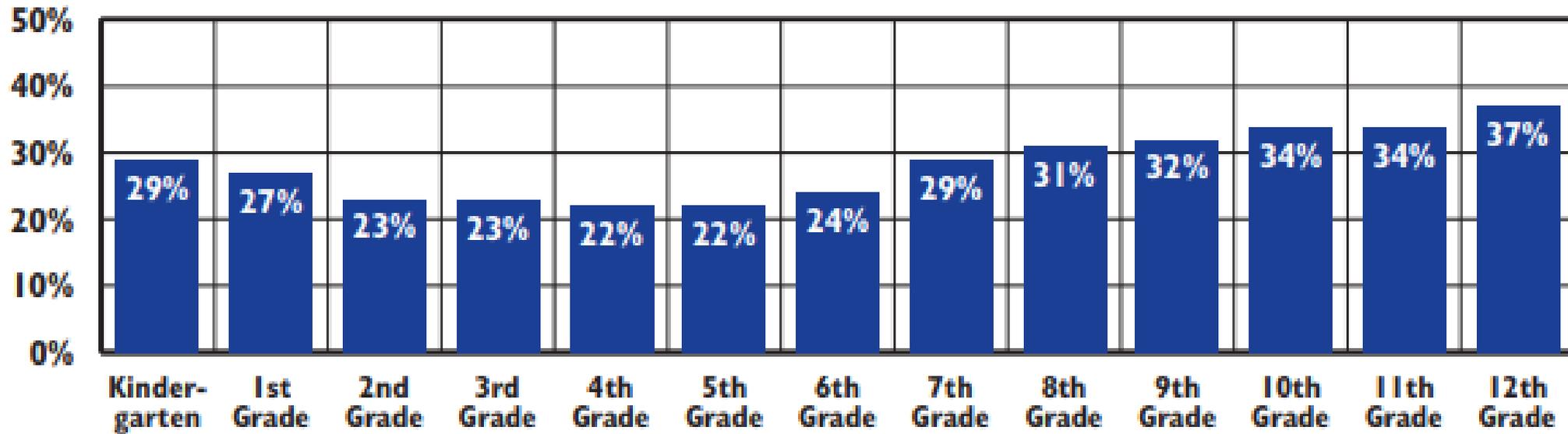
Enrollment by Arts Discipline, Rhode Island, 2021-2022 School Year



- In the 2021-2022 school year, 84% of all Rhode Island students were enrolled in arts courses. Rates were somewhat higher in Cumberland (90%).
- Low-income schools are less likely to offer arts access, with 18% of low-income schools not providing any arts access and more than 40% not meeting the minimum requirements for arts access according to the Basic Education Program.

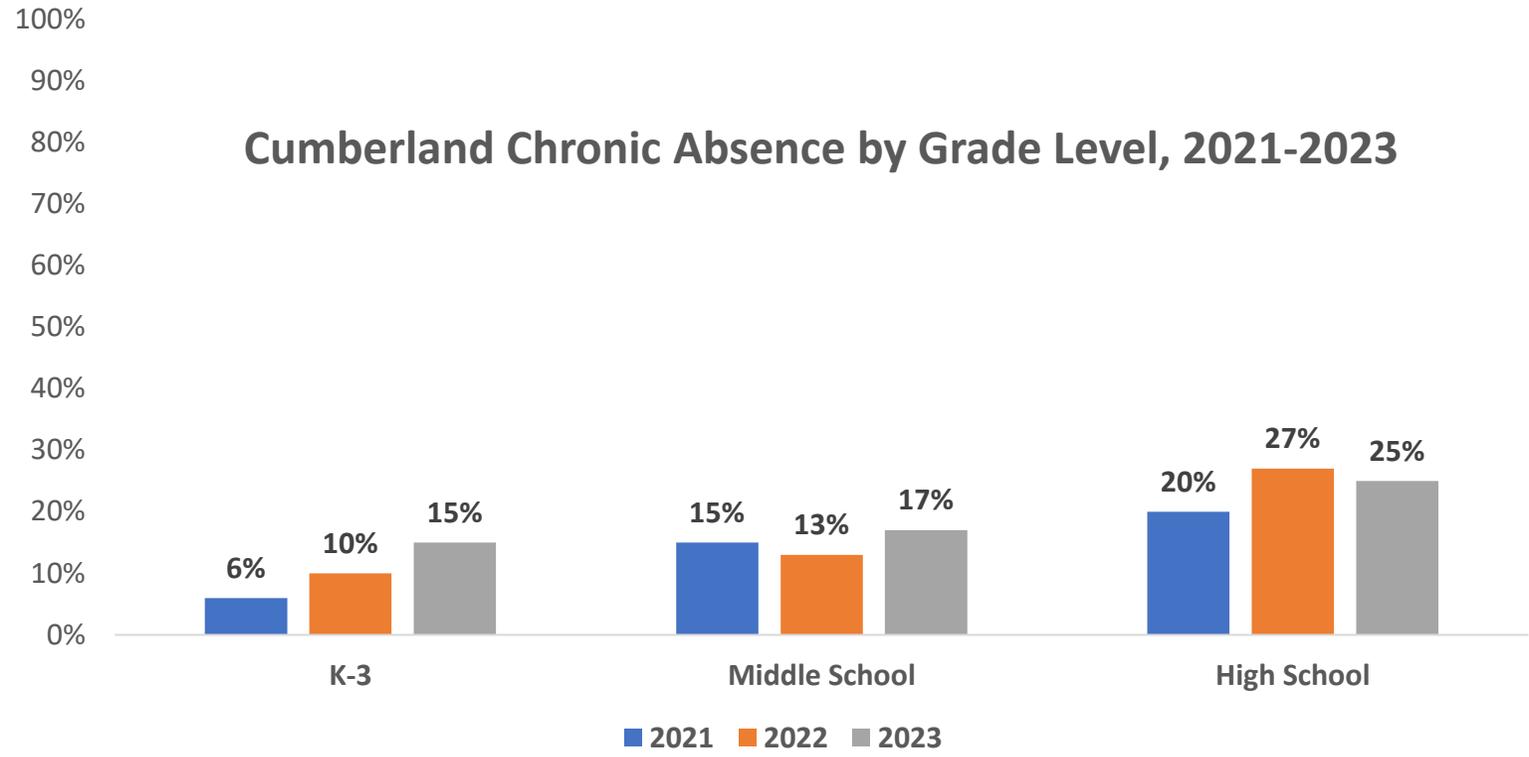
Chronic Absence Continues to Be a Problem Statewide

Chronic Absence Rates in Rhode Island by Grade, 2022-2023 School Year



- Chronic early absence is the percentage of children in kindergarten through third grade (K-3) who have missed at least 10% of the school year (i.e., 18 days or more), including excused and unexcused absences.
- During the 2022-2023 school year, 25% of all Rhode Island children and 15% of Cumberland children in grades K-3 were chronically absent, .

Chronic Absence Continues to be a Problem



In Cumberland, one in four high school students missed 18+ days of school during the 2022-2023 school year, lower than the state rate but still high.

School Suspensions

Out-of-School Suspensions by Infraction, Rhode Island, 2022-2023

TYPE OF INFRACTION*	#	%	TYPE OF INFRACTION	#	%
Fighting	2,167	21%	Obscene/Abusive Language	507	5%
Insubordination/Disrespect	1,921	18%	Weapon Possession	315	3%
Disorderly Conduct	1,415	14%	Arson/Larceny/Robbery/Vandalism	220	2%
Assault of Student or Teacher	1,351	13%	Electronic Devices/Technology	139	1%
Alcohol/Drug/Tobacco Offenses	1,288	12%	Other Offenses	156	1%
Harassment/Intimidation/Threat	946	9%	Attendance Offenses	0	0%
			Total	10,425	

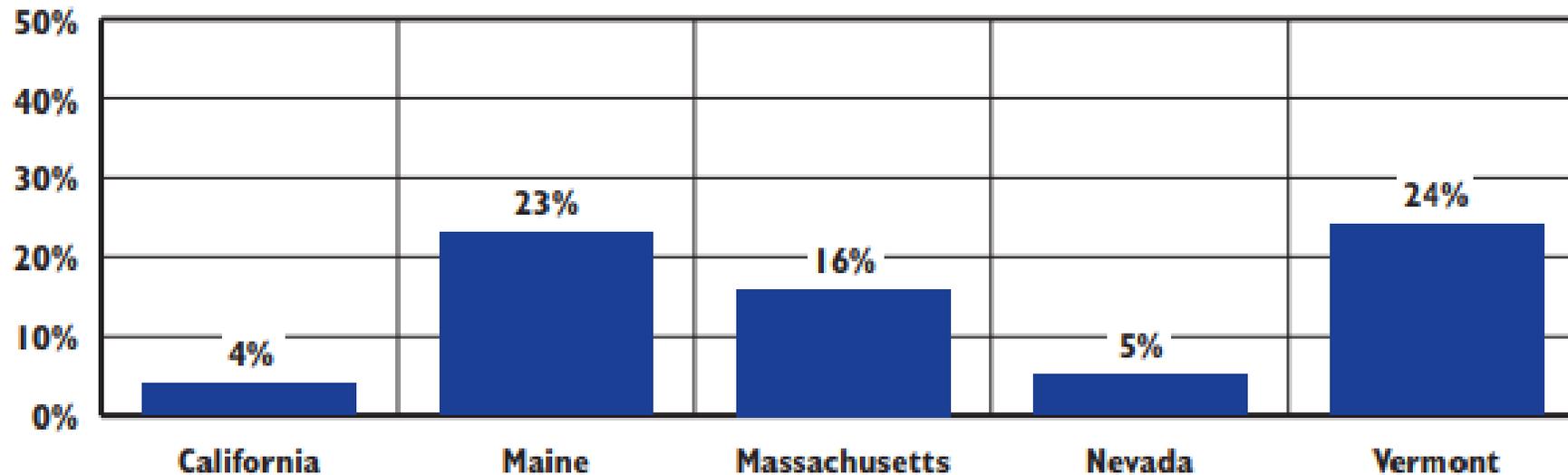
Source: Rhode Island Department of Education, 2022-2023 school year.

**Harassment offenses include hazing and hate crimes. Assault offenses include sexual assault.*

- In 2016, the Rhode Island General Assembly passed a law that restricts the use of out-of-school suspensions to situations when a child’s behavior poses a demonstrable threat that cannot be dealt with by other means.
- During the 2022-2023 school year, Cumberland students received 845 suspensions, 272 out-of-school suspensions and 573 in-school suspensions. Cumberland has a higher suspension rate than the state as a whole, but a lower out-of-school suspension rate.

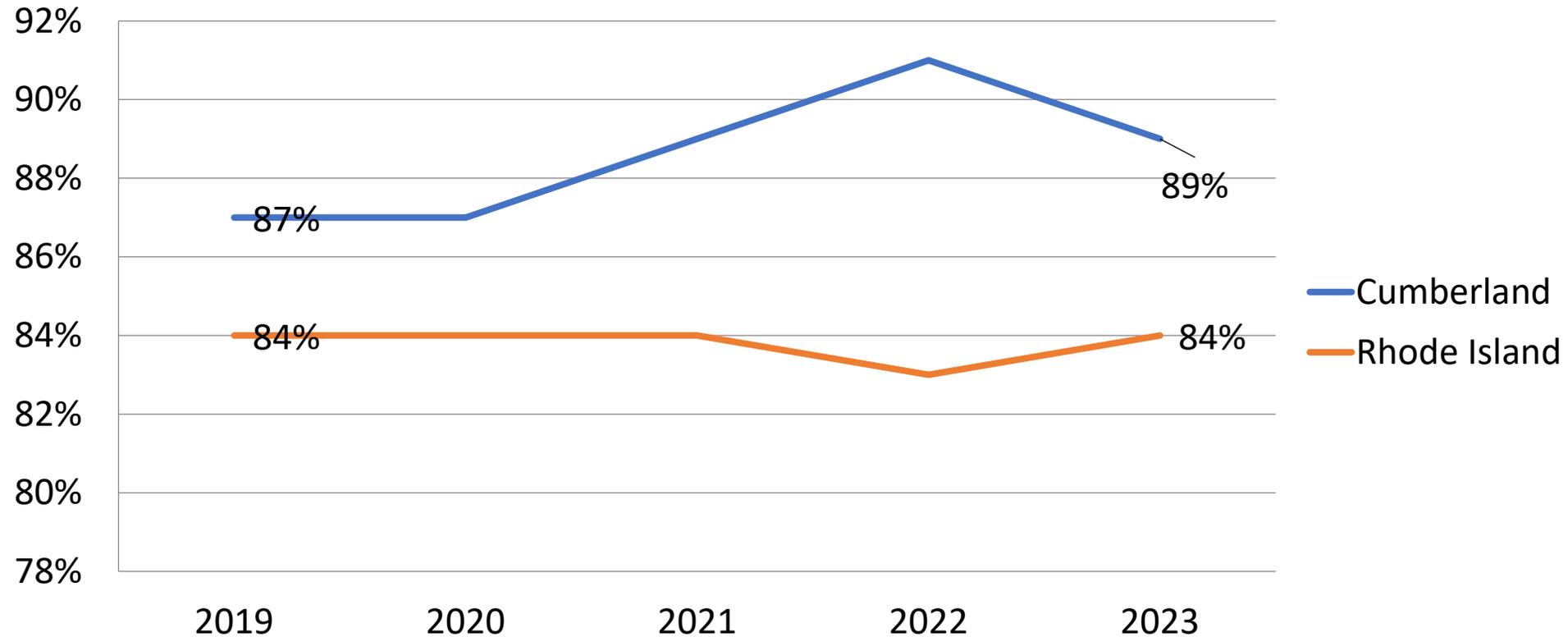
School Meals Help Support Academic Success and Improves Attendance, Behavior & Health

Percentage Change in Children Participating in School Lunch in Healthy School Meals for All States, 2018-2019 to 2022-2023 School Year



How does Cumberland's school meals program support students and families?

High School Graduation Rate, 2019-2023



Of the 376 Cumberland students who entered 9th grade in the 2019-2020 school year and were expected to graduate in 2023, 89% **graduated in 4 years**, 3% dropped out, 1% obtained a GED, and 7% were still in school.

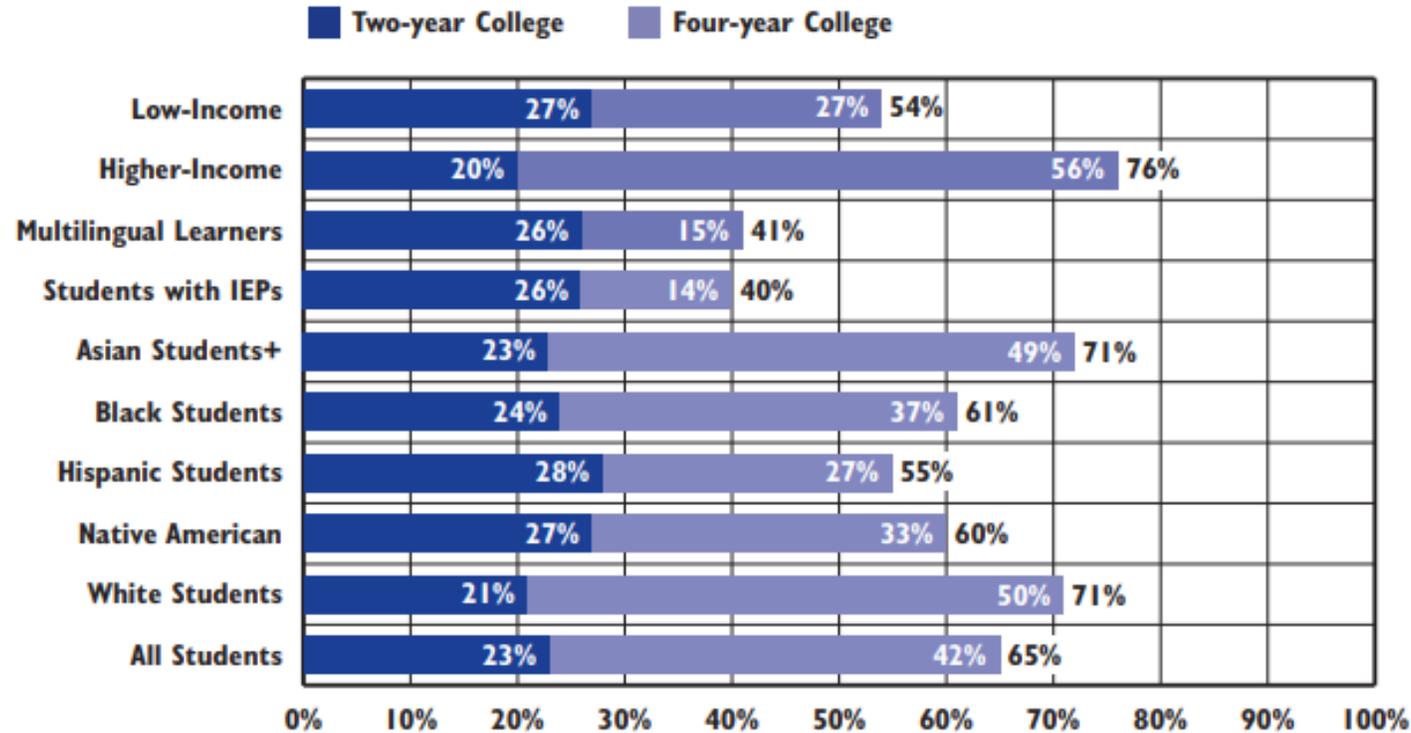
Who Is Graduating On Time and Why?

All Cumberland Students	89%
CTE Concentrators	100%
Non-CTE Concentrators	87%
Students With Disabilities	58%
Students Without Disabilities	95%
Multilingual Learners	73%
Low-Income Students	80%
Higher-Income Students	92%
Asian Students	86%
Black Students	81%
Hispanic Students	82%
White Students	91%



College Preparation and Access

Immediate College Enrollment by Family Income, Race, Ethnicity, and Type of College, Class of 2023, Rhode Island



- 65% percent of Rhode Island students and 75% of Cumberland students who graduated from high school in the Class of 2023 immediately enrolled in college.
- There are large gaps in college access, particularly four-year college enrollment, between low- and higher-income students as well as by race and ethnicity.

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