

Bristol and Warren Data in Your Backyard

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

Presented by Stephanie Geller

Rhode Island KIDS COUNT

November 12, 2025



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Member FDIC

Thank you to our partners for their support of this event.

*Bristol Warren Thrive by Five and Beyond
Looking Upwards*

*East Bay Community Action Program and their support as the backbone agency
for the Warren, Bristol, and East Providence HEZs*

*RI Department of Health/Office of Health and Human Services-
Community Overdose Engagement (CODE) Phase 4 Funding*



A Children's Policy Organization that:

Provides Information on Children's
Well-Being

Stimulates Dialogue on Children's Issues

Promotes Accountability and Action

2025 Rhode Island KIDS COUNT Factbook

31st annual publication

67 indicators across 5 areas

City and town-level information





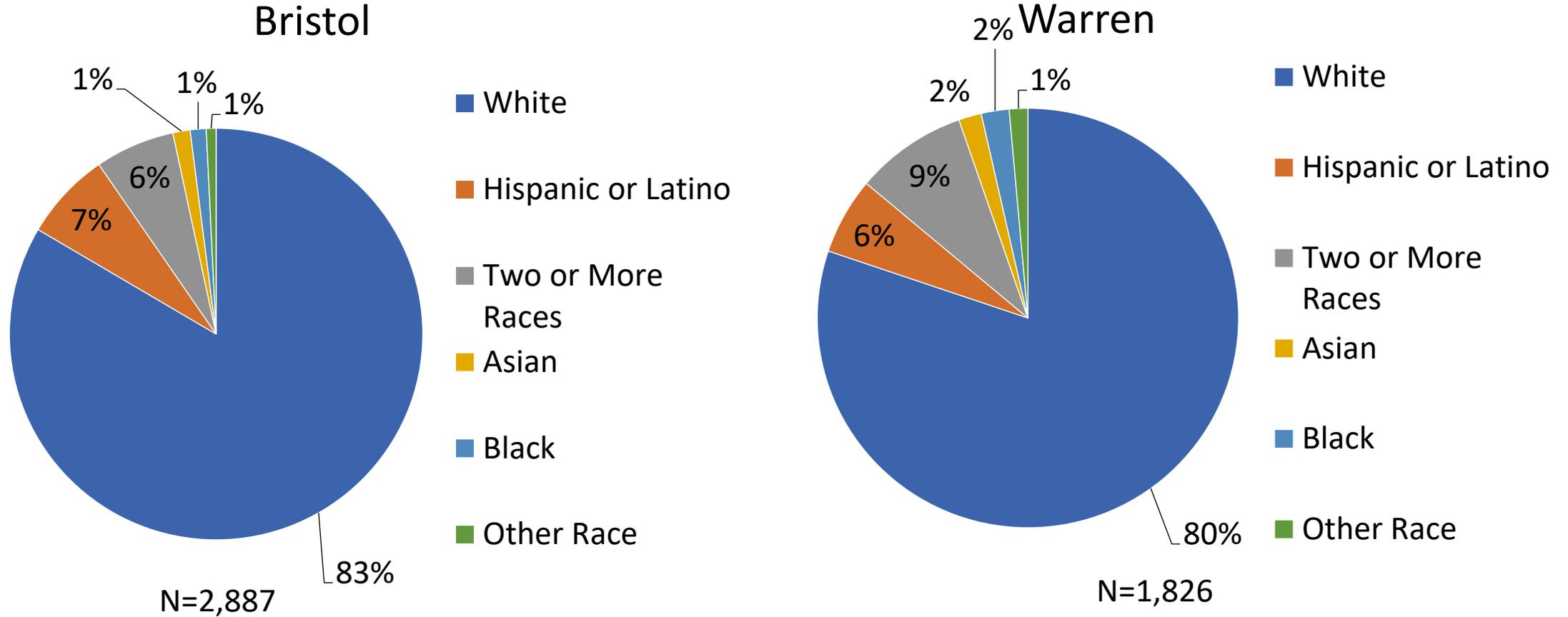
Family and Community

Bristol and Warren's Child Population, Changes from 1990 to 2020

	1990 Child Population	2020 Child Population	% Change
Bristol	4,380	2,887	-34%
Warren	2,452	1,826	-26%
Rhode Island	225,690	209,785	-7%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2020, Redistricting files P2 and P4.

Bristol and Warren's Child Population, 2020



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2020, Redistricting files P2 and P4.



Economic Well-Being

How Do We Define Poverty?

- Poverty threshold in 2024
 - \$26,650 for a family of 3
 - \$32,150 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.



Children in Poverty

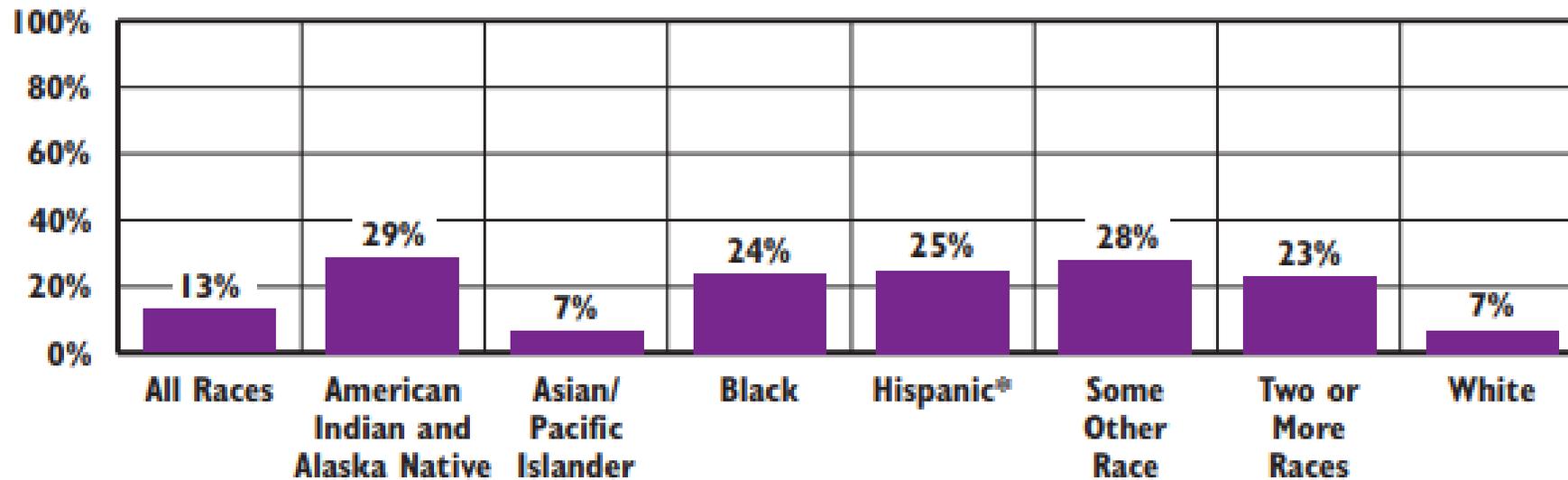
	Child Poverty 2019-2023	FRPL October 2024
Bristol	6.6%	40%
Warren	3.5%*	
Rhode Island	13.3%	54%

*High margin of error - the Margin of Error around the percentage is greater than or equal to five percentage points.

Large Racial and Ethnic Disparities in Child Poverty



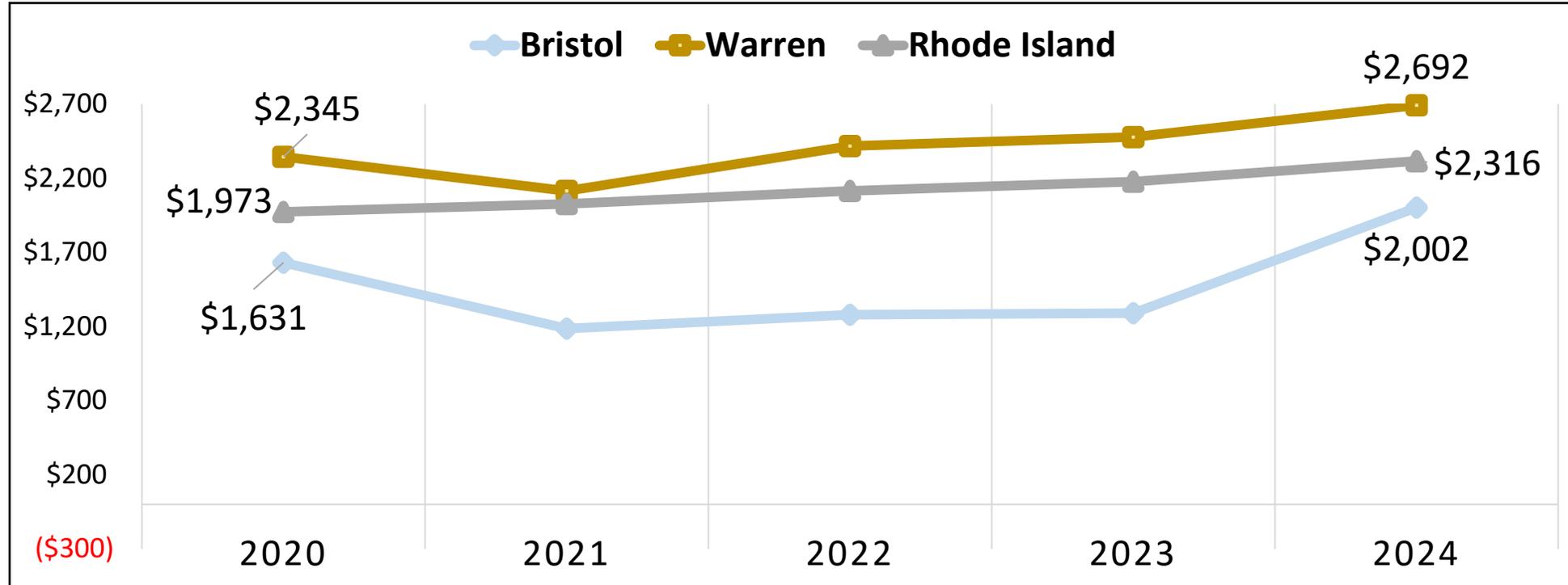
Children in Poverty, by Race and Ethnicity, Rhode Island, 2019-2023



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

Cost of Housing

Average Cost of Rent of a Two-Bedroom Apartment, 2020-2024



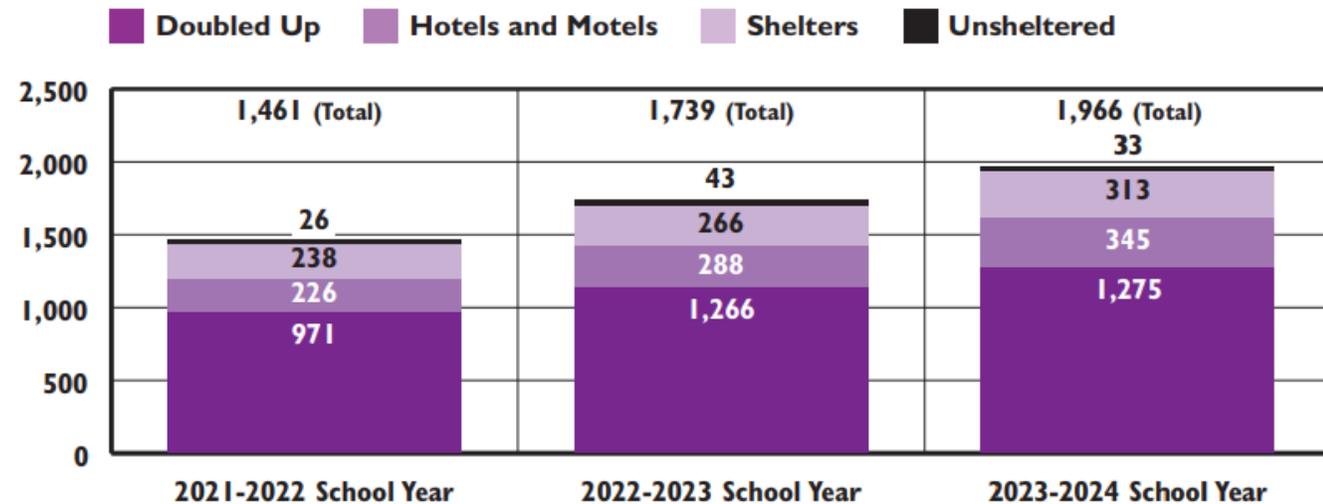
Source: Rhode Island Housing, Rhode Island Rent Surveys, 2019-2023. Rents are adjusted to 2023 dollars and include adjustments for the cost of gas, fuel, water and electricity. Adjustments for utilities for each year vary according to U.S. Census American Community Survey's (ACS) annual one-year estimates.

- In 2024, in Bristol a worker would have to earn \$38.50 and in Warren \$51.77 an hour and work 40 hours a week year-round to be able to afford the average rent in without a cost burden.

More Children Experiencing Homelessness

- In 2024, 479 Rhode Island families with 951 children stayed at an emergency homeless shelter, domestic violence shelter, transitional housing facility or hotel paid for by DCYF, up from 363 families with 668 children in 2023.
- During the 2023-2024 school year, Rhode Island public school personnel identified 1,966 children as homeless. Of these children, 65% lived with other families (“doubled up”), 18% lived in hotels or motels, 16% lived in shelters, and 2% were unsheltered.
- Bristol Warren Public Schools personnel identified 19 children as homeless, down from 51 the previous year.**

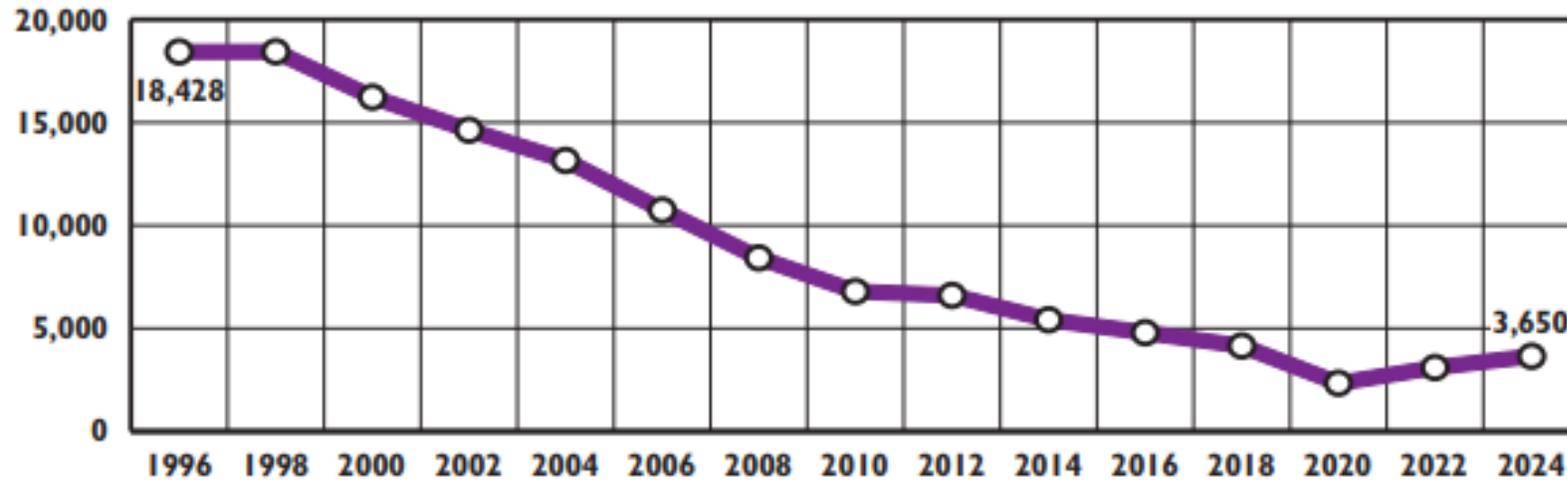

Homeless Children Identified by Public Schools, Rhode Island, 2021-2022 through 2023-2024 School Years



Children in Families Receiving Cash Assistance



Cash Assistance Caseload, Rhode Island, 1996–2024*

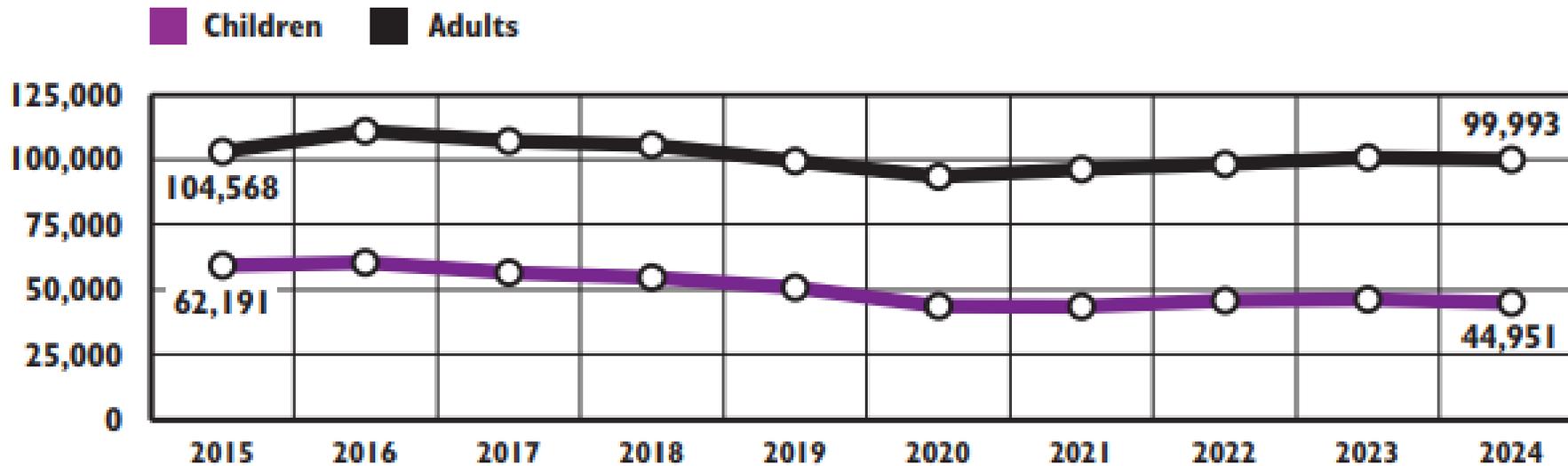


- The goal of the RI Works program is to help very low-income families meet their basic needs by providing cash assistance and work supports, including employment services, SNAP benefits, health insurance, and subsidized child care.
- The maximum monthly benefit for a family of three is \$865 per month. In 2021, benefits were increased for the first time in 30 years, but maximum benefits are 30% of the federal poverty threshold.
- In December 2024:
 - 14 Bristol families with 16 children received RI Works benefits
 - 24 Warren families with 37 children received RI Works benefits

How Can We Ensure that Rhode Island Children Are Fed?



Participation in the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program, Children and Adults, Rhode Island, 2015-2024

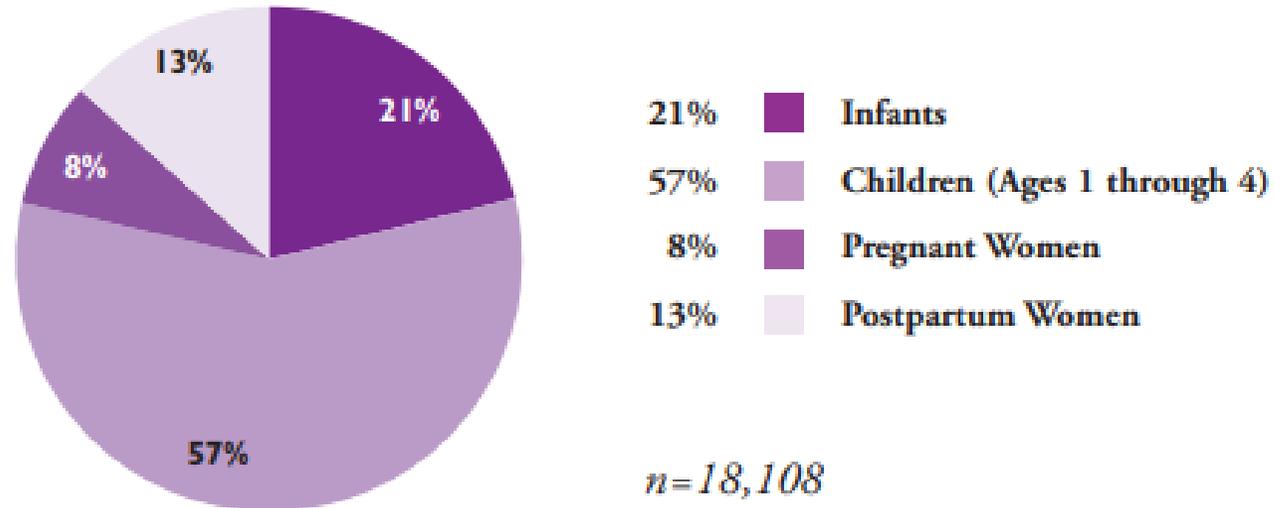


- Of the 144,944 Rhode Islanders enrolled in SNAP in October 2024, 69% were adults and 31% were children.
- In October 2024:
 - 239 children in Bristol received SNAP benefits
 - 252 children in Warren received SNAP benefits

Women and Children Participating in WIC



Women, Infants, and Children Enrolled in WIC, Rhode Island, September 2024



- WIC provides nutritious foods, including produce, whole grains, milk, and formula to pregnant, postpartum, and breastfeeding women and babies and toddlers up through age 4.
- In September 2024:
 - 121 Bristol women and children were enrolled in WIC
 - 103 Warren women and children were enrolled in WIC

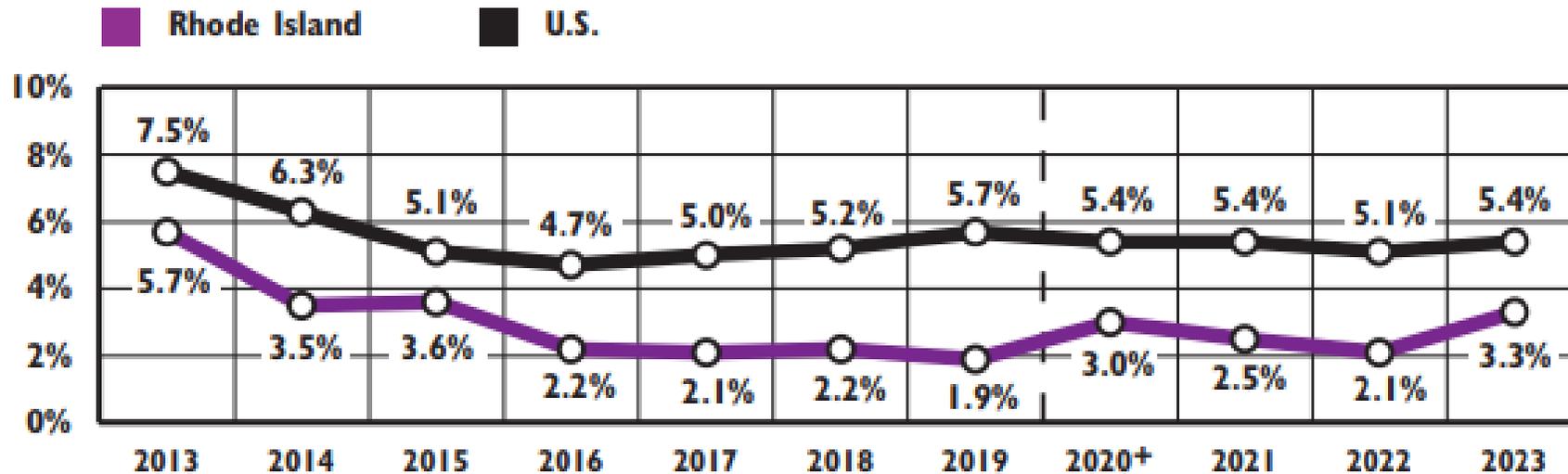


Health

How Can We Ensure that Rhode Island Children Are Insured?



Children Without Health Insurance, Rhode Island, 2013-2023

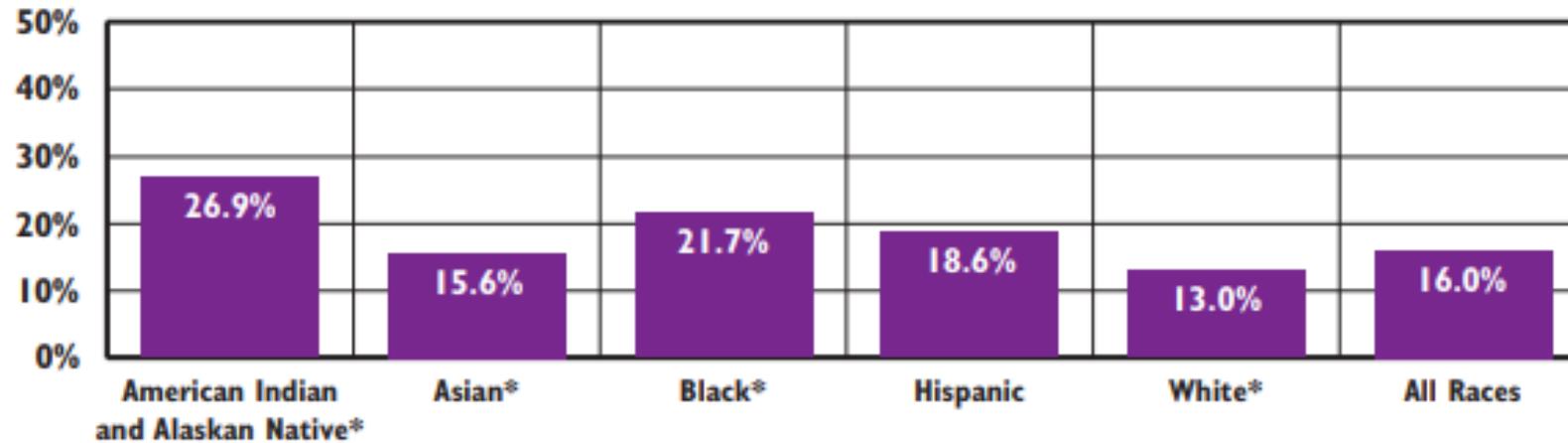


- Recently released data show that in 2024 in Rhode Island
 - ✓ 3.7% of children under age 19 were uninsured
 - ✓ Rhode Island ranks 12th best in the country
- **Cover All Kids** – all low-income kids now covered regardless of immigration status
- 117,890 children are covered by RItE Care
- 2,250 children are covered by HealthSource RI

Maternal Health



Women With Delayed or No Prenatal Care by Race/Ethnicity, Rhode Island, 2019-2023

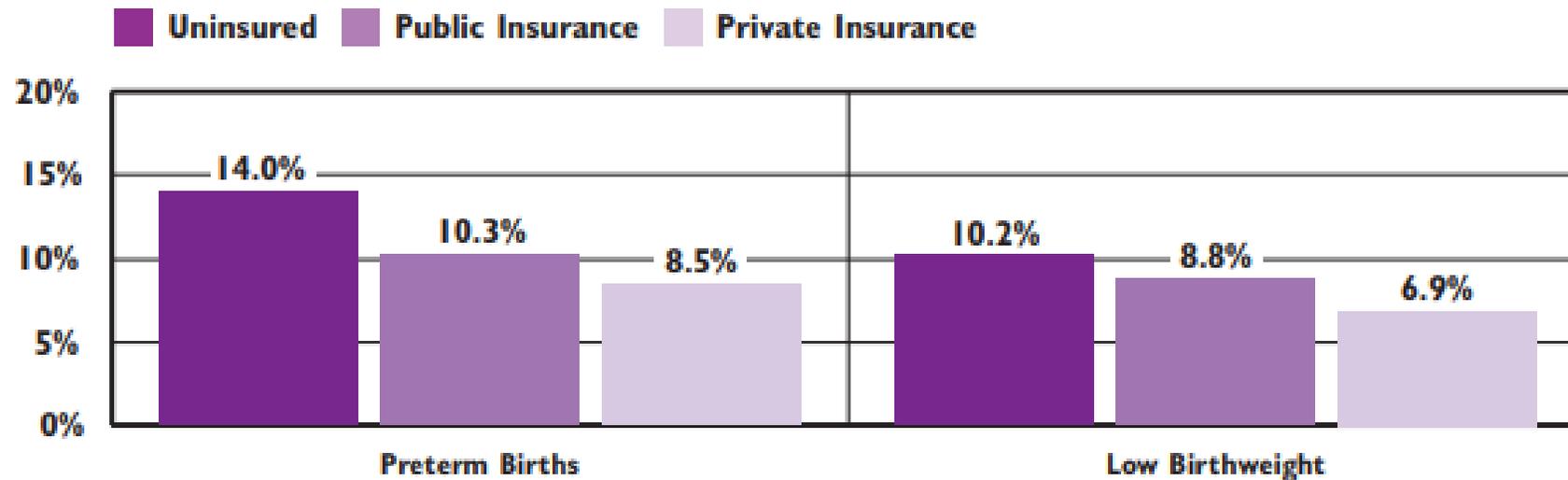


- Between 2019 and 2023 in Rhode Island, American Indian and Alaskan Native, Black, Hispanic, and Asian women were more likely to receive delayed prenatal care than white women.
- From 2019-2023:
 - In Bristol, 15.0% of women had delayed prenatal care, up for the third year in a row.
 - In Warren, 17.8% of women had delayed prenatal care, up for the third year in a row and higher than the state rate.

Infant Health



Preterm Birth and Low Birthweight by Mother's Insurance Status, Rhode Island, 2019-2023

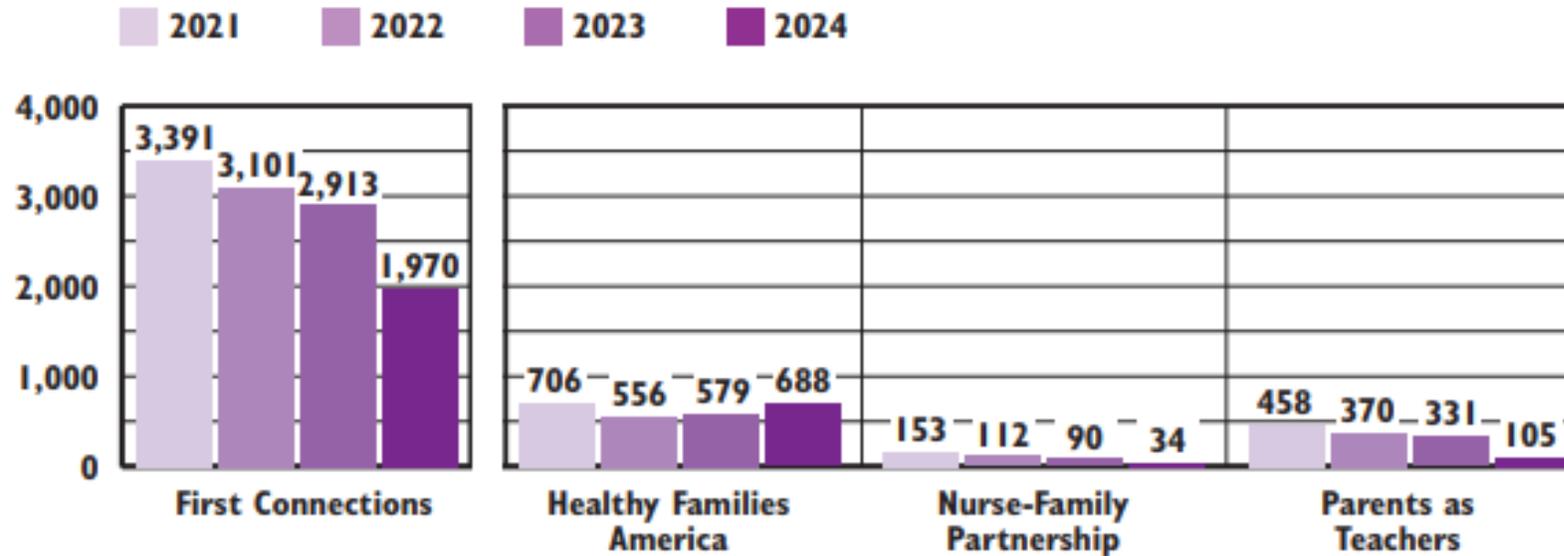


- Social determinants of health, including poverty, racism, and access to care are important factors related to disparities in preterm birth rates.
- From 2019-2023:
 - 8.9% of Bristol births were preterm and 8.1% were low birthweight
 - 9.5% of Warren births were preterm and 8.3% were low birthweight

Family Home Visiting



Family Home Visiting Program Participation, Rhode Island, 2021-2024



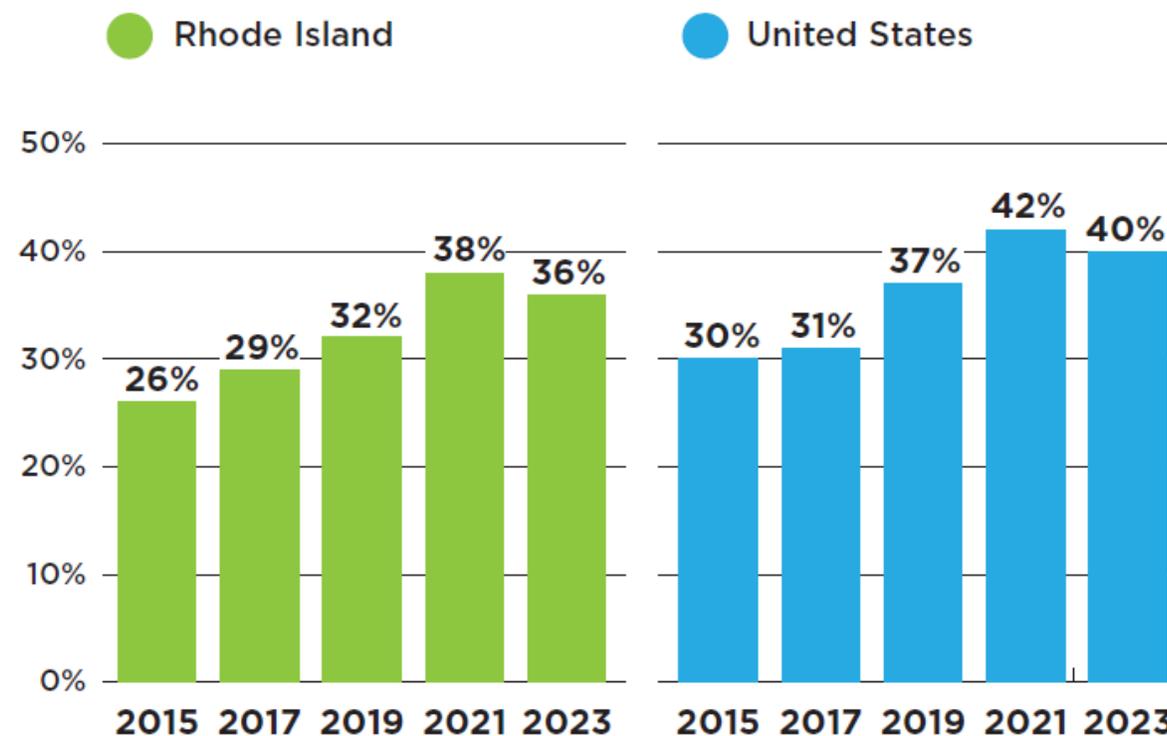
- Family home visiting programs are designed to reach young children and their families at home, providing parenting education to foster healthy, safe, and stimulating environments for young children.
- In 2024:
 - 16 Bristol families and 16 Warren families received a First Connections visit
 - 4 Bristol families and 3 Warren families were enrolled in Healthy Families America



Safety

Mental Health Crisis Both Nationally and in Rhode Island

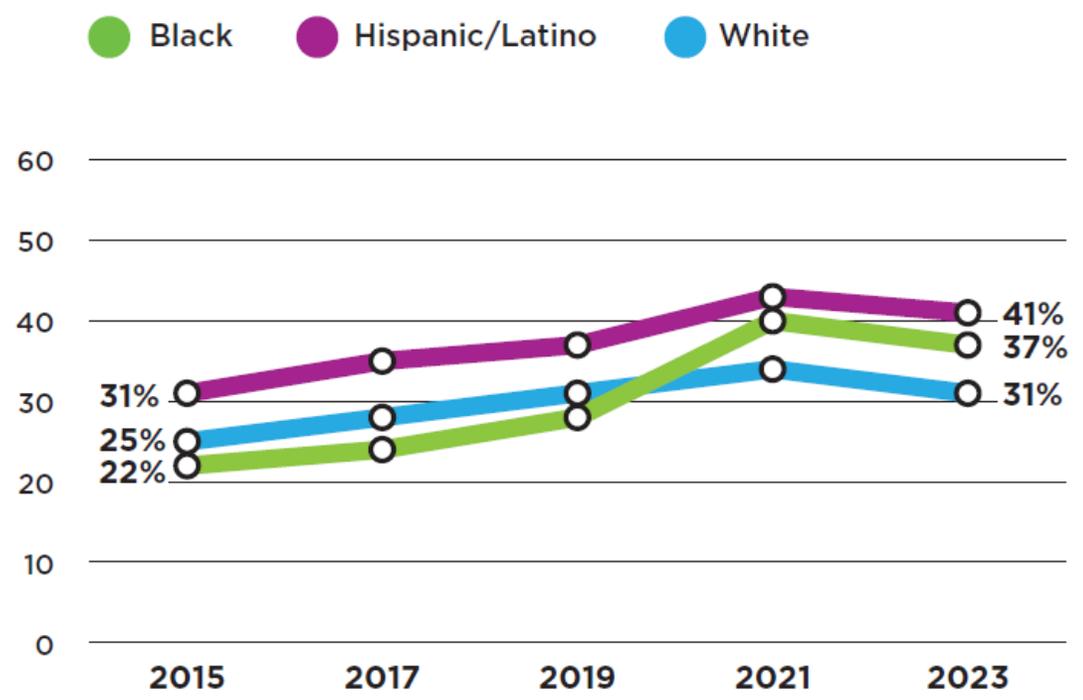
FEELINGS OF SADNESS OR HOPELESSNESS AMONG HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS, RHODE ISLAND AND UNITED STATES, 2015-2023



Source: Youth Risk Behavior Survey, 2015-2023.

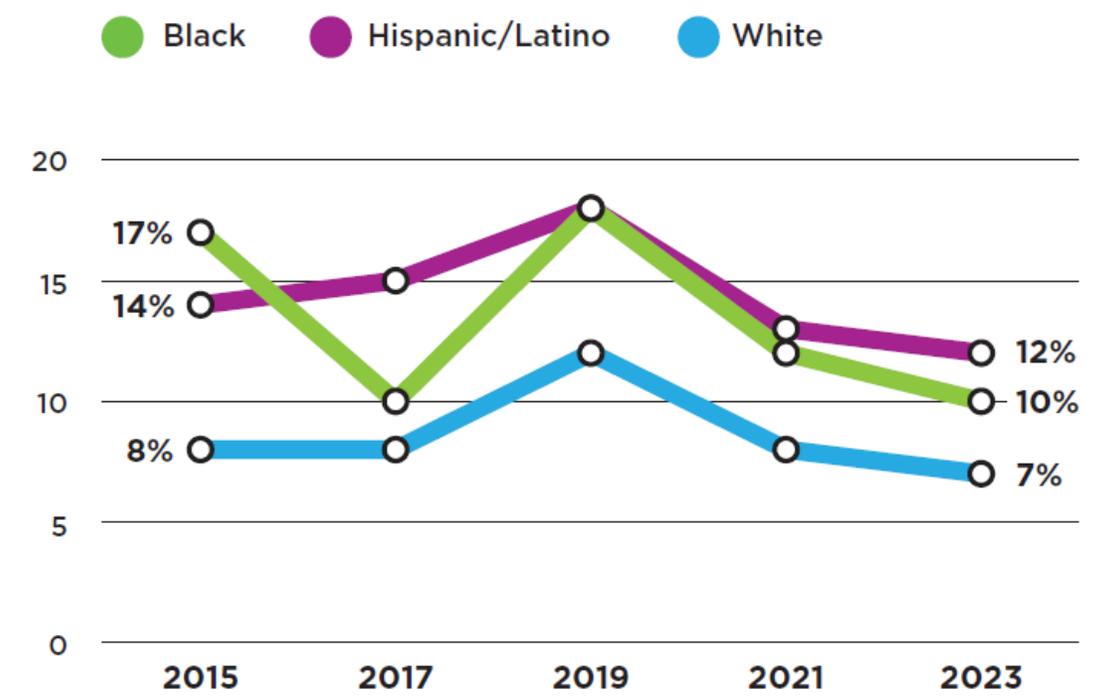
Racial and Ethnic Disparities in Youth Mental Health

FEELINGS OF SADNESS OR HOPELESSNESS AMONG HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS, RHODE ISLAND, BY RACE AND ETHNICITY, 2015-2023



Source: Rhode Island Youth Risk Behavior Survey, 2015-2023.

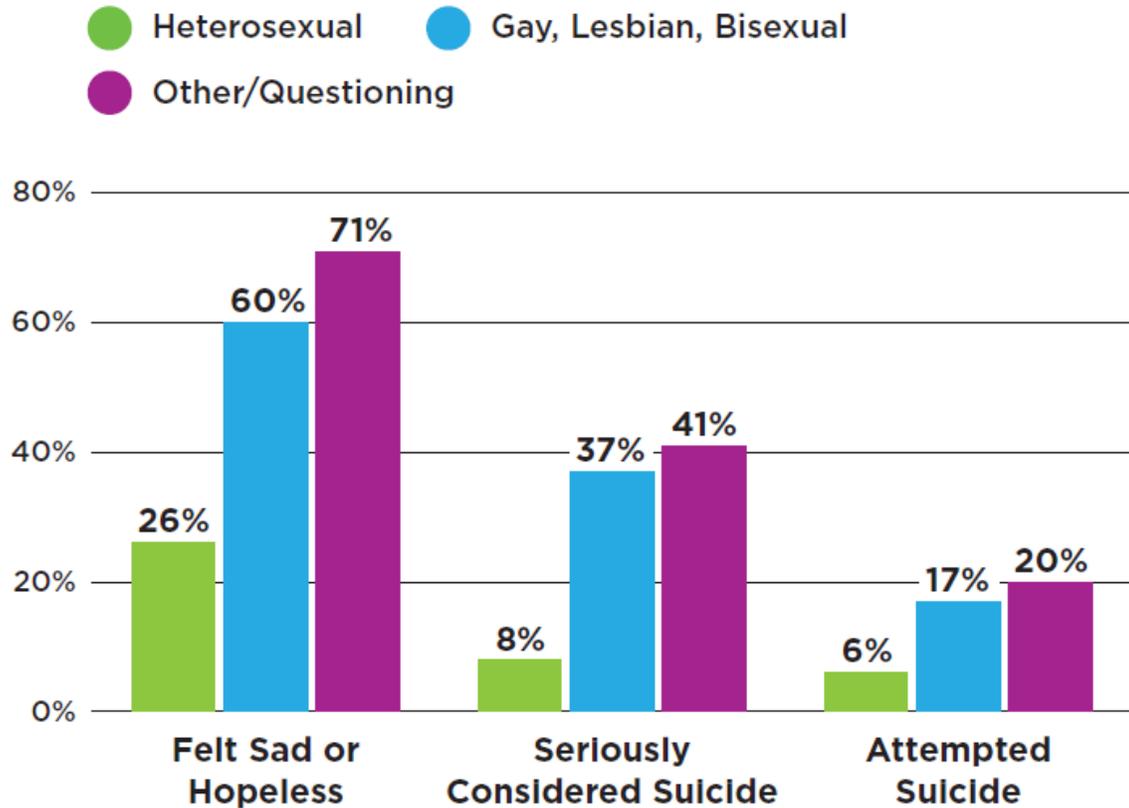
SUICIDE ATTEMPTS AMONG HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS, RHODE ISLAND, BY RACE AND ETHNICITY, 2015-2023



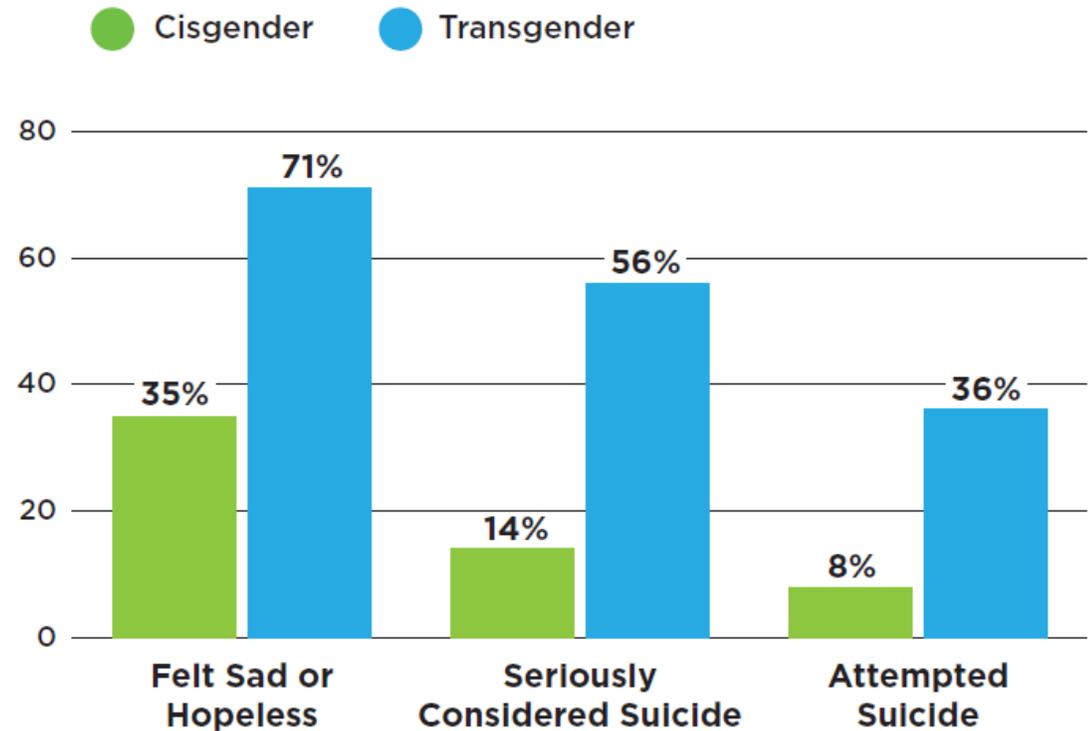
Source: Rhode Island Youth Risk Behavior Survey, 2015-2023.

The Mental Health of LGBTQ+ Youth In Rhode Island

MENTAL HEALTH OF HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS, RHODE ISLAND, BY SEXUAL ORIENTATION, 2023



MENTAL HEALTH OF HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS, RHODE ISLAND, BY GENDER IDENTITY, 2021 AND 2023





Bully Status, by Gender and Grade Level, Rhode Island, 2023

	MIDDLE SCHOOL		HIGH SCHOOL	
	FEMALE	MALE	FEMALE	MALE
Bullied on School Property	43%	28%	17%	15%
Bullied Electronically	37%	19%	15%	12%
Been in a Physical Fight	10%	19%	7%	12%

Source: 2023 Youth Risk Behavior Survey, Rhode Island Department of Health, Center for Health Data and Analysis.

- In Rhode Island in 2023, 12% of high school students reported not going to school due to safety concerns.
- In 2023 in Rhode Island, 28% of middle school students (37% of females and 19% of males) and 14% of high school students (15% of females and 12% of males) reported being electronically bullied.

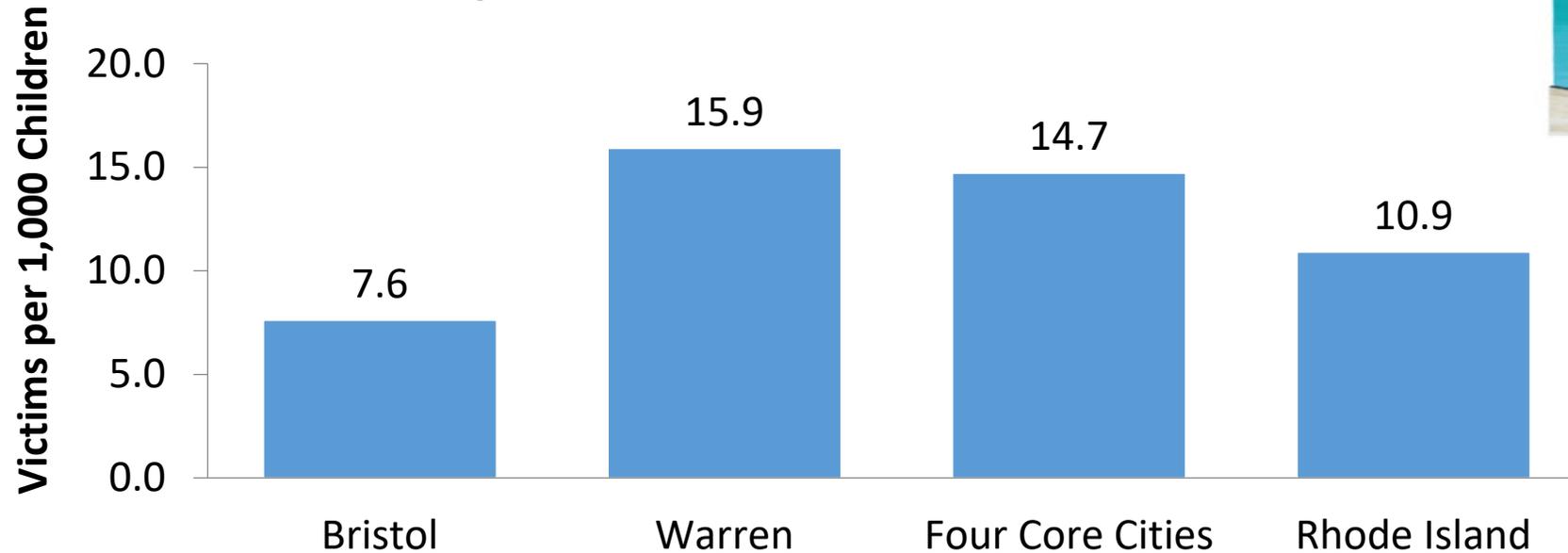
A Snapshot of *SurveyWorks* Data in Bristol Warren

Questions Related to Mental Health	Percentage of Middle and High School Students Responding <u>Unfavorably</u>
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?	27%
How much has stress interfered with your ability to participate in school in the last 30 days?	51%
How likely is it that someone from your school will bully you online ?	46%
If a student is bullied in school , how difficult is it for him/her to get help from an adult?	32%

Source: *SurveyWorks*, Spring '25 Secondary Student Survey - Grades 6-12 - Student Survey.

Child Neglect and Abuse

**Victims of Child Neglect and Abuse
per 1,000 Children, 2024**



In 2024, 22 Bristol children and 29 Warren children were reported victims of child neglect and abuse.

Warren's child neglect and abuse victim rate was **15.9 victims per 1,000** children in 2024, higher than both the Rhode Island and the four core city rates.

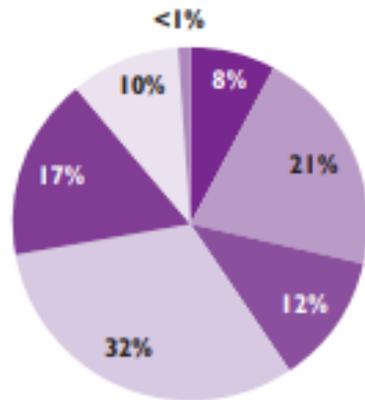
80% of Cases are Neglect, Mostly Lack of Supervision and Exposure to Domestic Violence



Child Neglect and Abuse, Rhode Island, 2024

By Age of Victim*

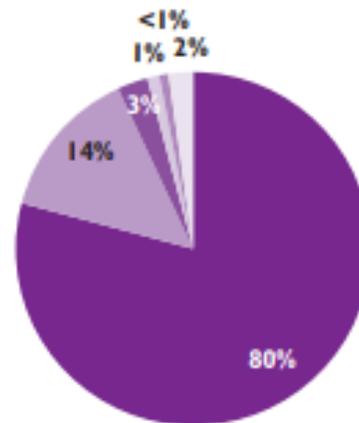
8% (179)	Under Age 1
21% (480)	Ages 1 to 3
12% (279)	Ages 4 to 5
32% (712)	Ages 6 to 11
17% (375)	Ages 12 to 15
10% (220)	Ages 16 and Older
<1% (<6)	Unknown



n=2,246*

By Type of Neglect/Abuse**

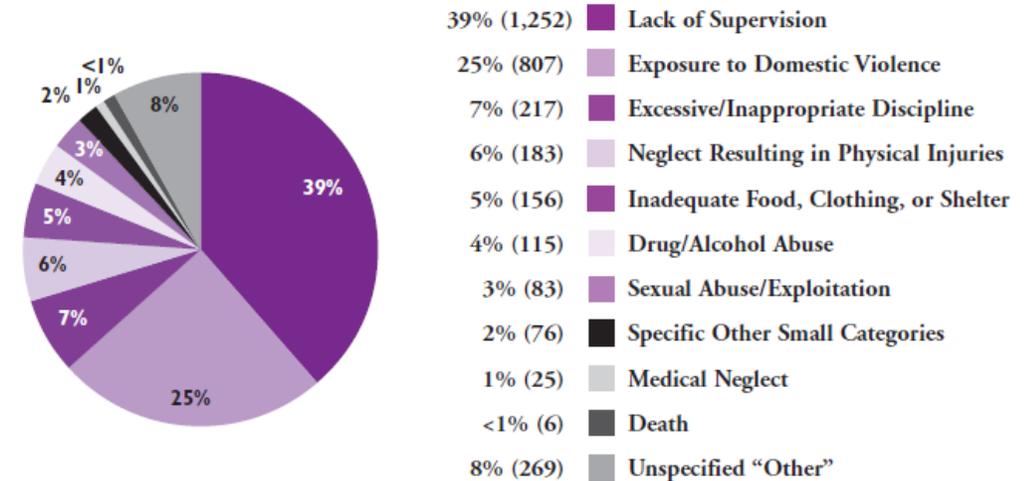
80% (1,989)	Neglect
14% (341)	Physical Abuse
3% (87)	Sexual Abuse
1% (19)	Medical Neglect
<1% (8)	Emotional Abuse
2% (53)	Other



n=2,497**



Indicated Allegations of Child Neglect,
by Nature of Neglect, Rhode Island, 2024



n=3,189*

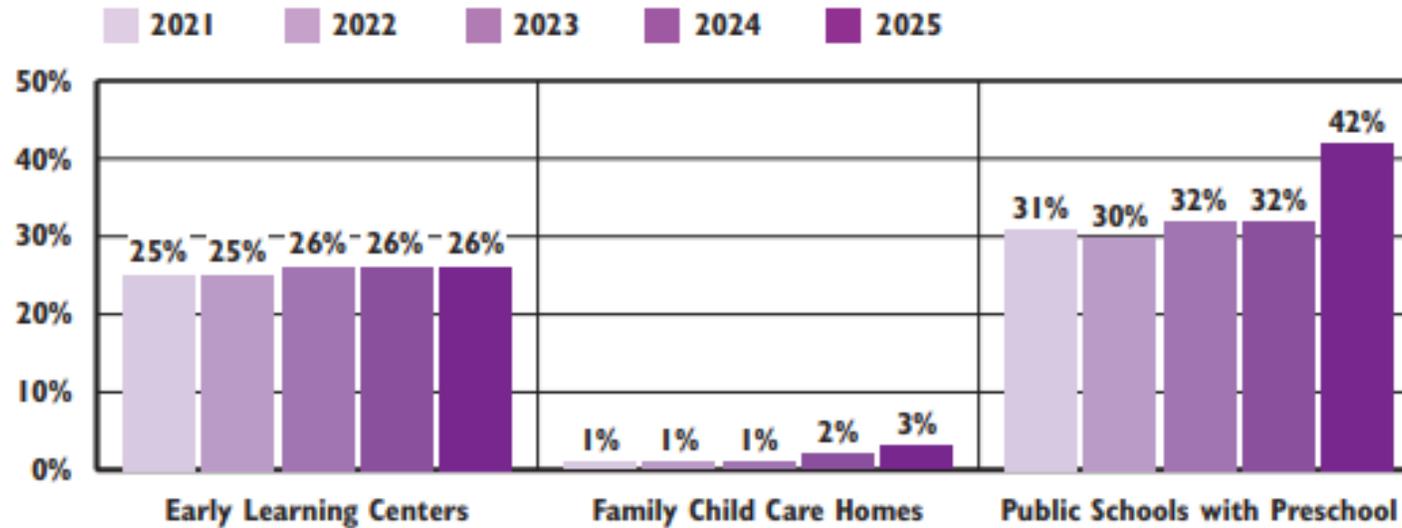


Education

High Quality Early Learning Programs



Percentage of Licensed Early Learning Centers, Family Child Care Programs, and Public Schools with a High-Quality BrightStars Rating (4 or 5 Stars), Rhode Island, 2021-2025

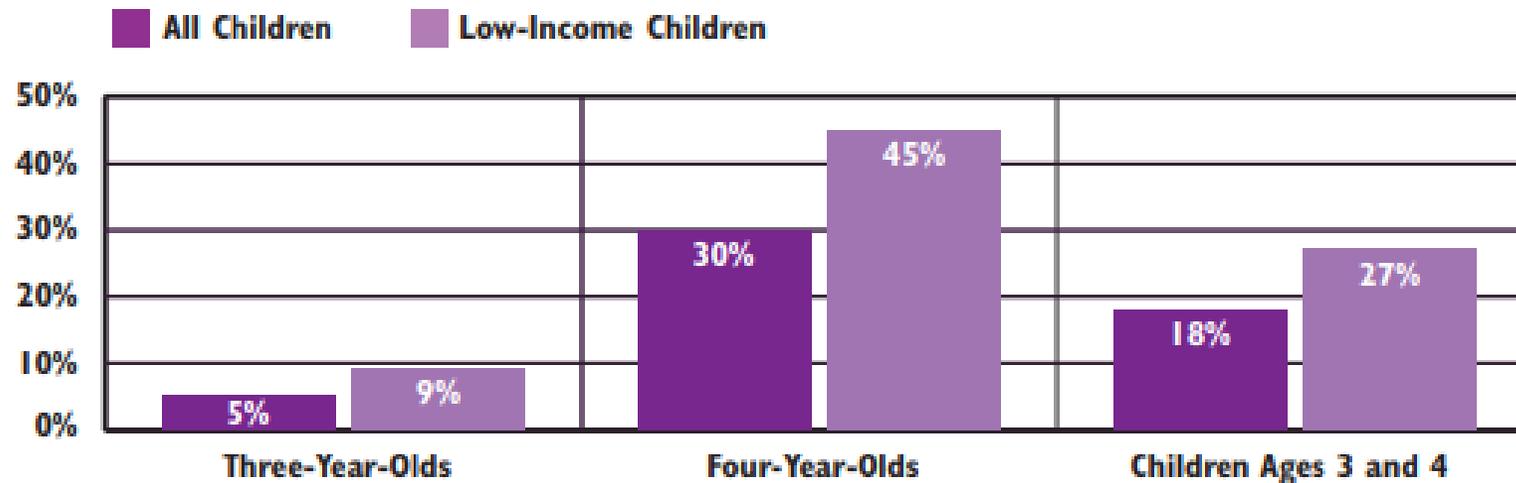


- As of January 2025:
 - None of the licensed early learning centers or family child care homes in Bristol had a high-quality rating of 4 or 5 stars.
 - 40% of licensed early learning centers and the only licensed family child care home in Warren had a high-quality rating of 4 or 5 stars.
 - Bristol Warren’s public preschool classroom also had a high-quality rating of 5 stars

Other Opportunities for High-Quality Early Childhood Education



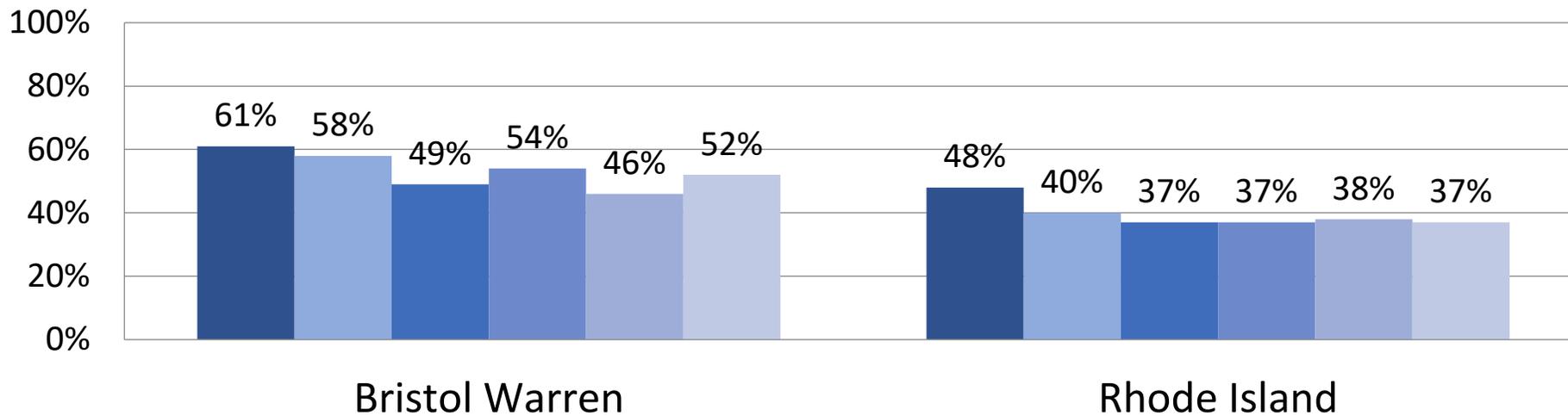
Percentage of Children Ages 3 and 4 Enrolled in Head Start and/or RI Pre-K, Rhode Island, 2024-2025



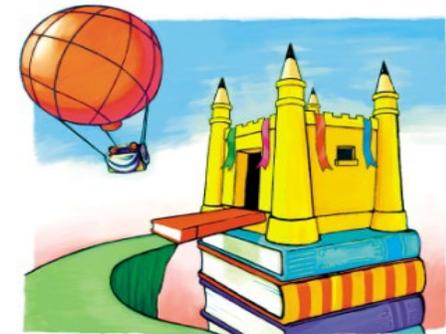
- **10% of all Bristol children and 19% of low-income children in Bristol ages 3 and 4** were enrolled in either Head Start or RI Pre-K.
- **25% of all Warren children and 56% of low-income children in Warren ages 3 and 4** were enrolled in either Head Start or RI Pre-K.

Third-Grade Reading Skills Before and After Pandemic

Third-Graders Meeting Expectations in Reading 2019, 2021, 2022, 2023, 2024, and 2025



Source: Rhode Island Department of Education,
Rhode Island Comprehensive Assessment System (RICAS), 2021-2025.



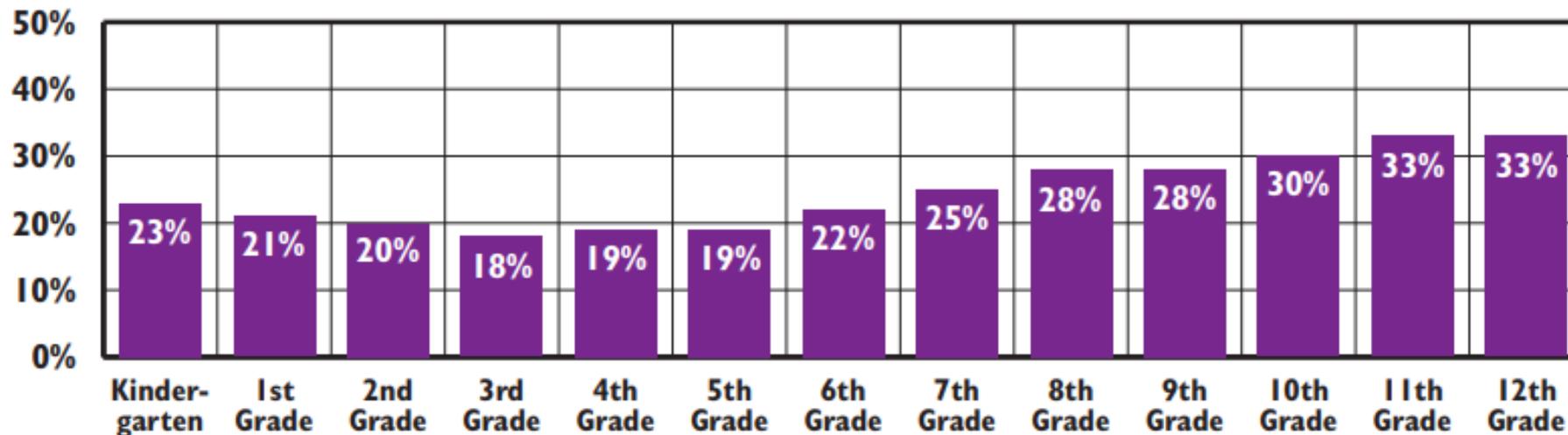
Disparities in 3rd Grade Reading and What We Can Do About It

All <u>Bristol Warren</u> 3rd Graders Meeting Expectations, 2025	52%
Female	48%
Male	56%
Students With Disabilities	22%
Students Without Disabilities	61%
Low-Income Students	38%
Higher-Income Students	65%
Hispanic Students	41%
Two or More Race Students	60%
White Students	53%

Chronic Absence Rates Declining Statewide



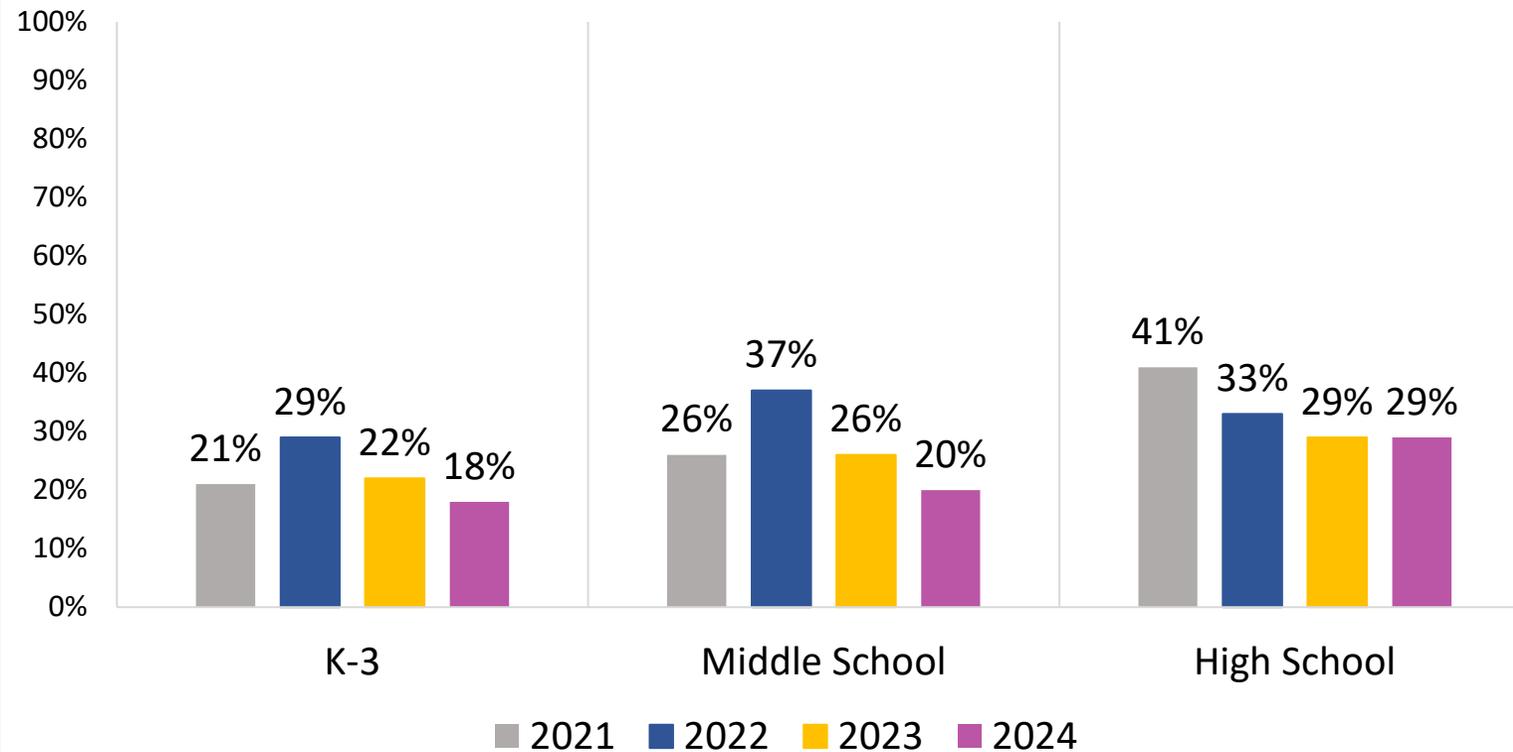
Chronic Absence Rates in Rhode Island by Grade, 2023-2024 School Year



- Chronic absence is the percentage of students who have missed at least 10% of the school year (i.e., 18 days or more), including excused and unexcused absences.

Chronic Absence Continues to Be a Problem, but Progress Is Being Made

Bristol Warren Chronic Absence by Grade Level, 2021-2024



School Suspensions

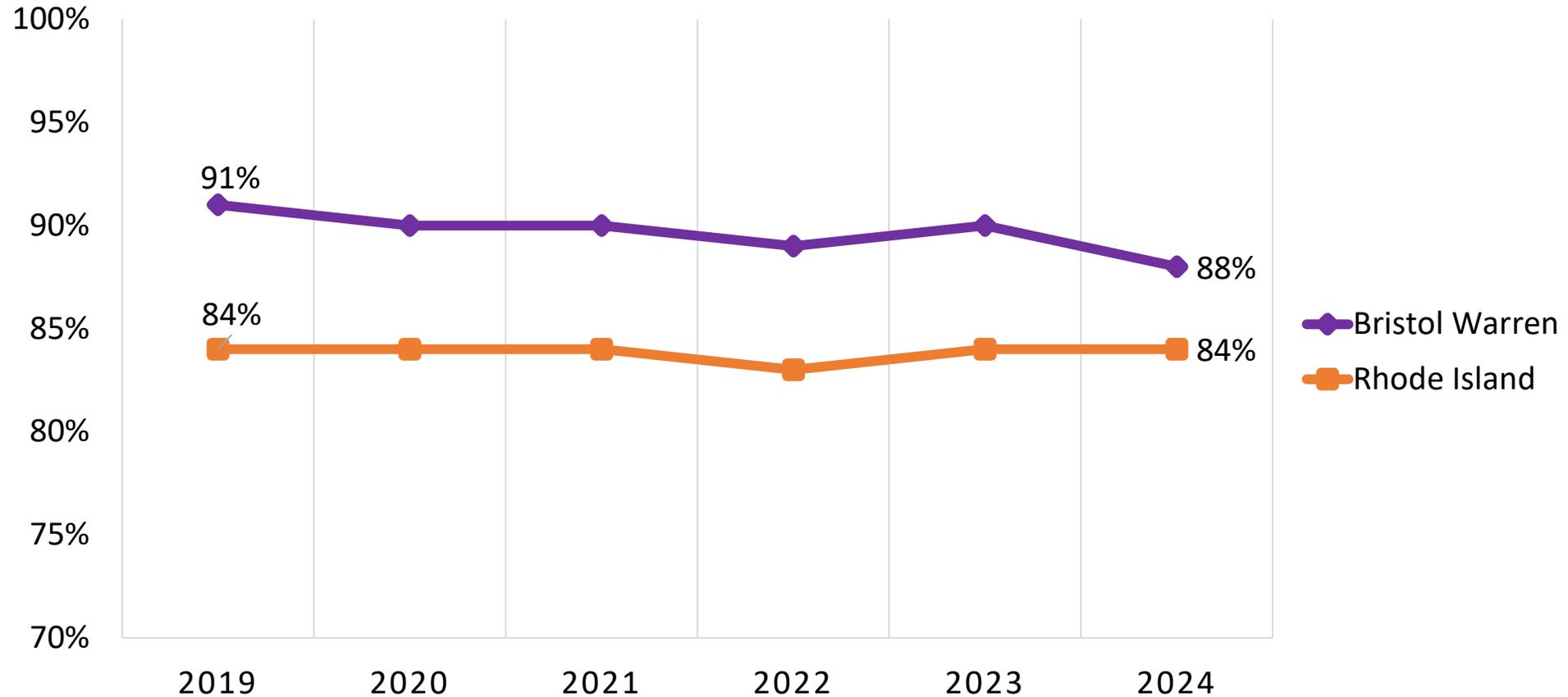


Out-of-School Suspensions by Infraction, Rhode Island, 2023-2024

TYPE OF INFRACTION*	#	%	TYPE OF INFRACTION	#	%
Fighting	2,204	24%	Obscene/Abusive Language	386	4%
Disorderly Conduct	1,580	17%	Weapon Possession	244	3%
Insubordination/Disrespect	1,337	15%	Arson/Larceny/Robbery/Vandalism	184	2%
Assault of Student or Teacher	1,274	14%	Electronic Devices/Technology	99	1%
Alcohol/Drug/Tobacco Offenses	1,117	12%	Other Offenses	55	1%
Harassment/Intimidation/Threat	728	8%	Attendance Offenses	0	0%

- 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 2023-2024 school year:
 - Bristol Warren gave 161 in-school suspensions to students and 123 out-of-school suspensions to students and had a lower rate of suspensions overall and out-of-school suspensions than the state as a whole.

High School Graduation Rate, 2019-2023



Of the 230 Bristol Warren students who entered 9th grade in the 2019-2020 school year and were expected to graduate in 2023, 90% **graduated in 4 years**, 4% dropped out, 1% obtained a GED, and 5% were still in school.

Who Is Graduating On Time and Why?

All Bristol Warren Students	88%
Students With Disabilities	59%
Students Without Disabilities	91%
Low-Income Students	77%
Higher-Income Students	95%
Hispanic Students	46%
White Students	92%

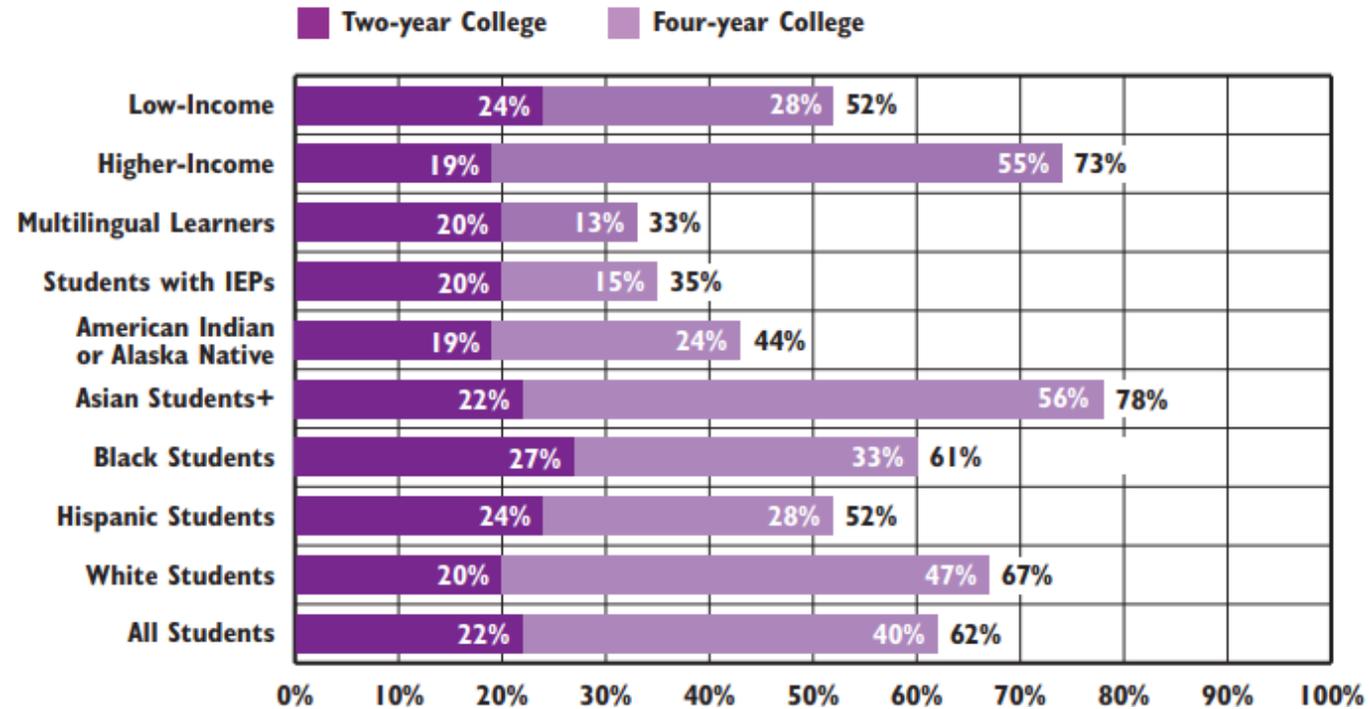


Of the 249 Bristol Warren students who entered 9th grade in the 2020-2021 school year and were expected to graduate in 2024, **88% graduated in 4 years**, 7% dropped out, none obtained a GED, and 4% were still in school.

College Enrollment



Immediate College Enrollment by Family Income, Race, Ethnicity, and Type of College, Class of 2024, Rhode Island



- 62% percent of Rhode Island students and 69% of Bristol Warren students who graduated from high school in the Class of 2024 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.

Please fill out this short
feedback survey



And visit the Thrive by Five
website to learn more about
their work



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