Bristol, Warren, and East Providence Data in Your Backyard

Using Data to Monitor Child Well-Being: Findings from the *2026 Rhode Island KIDS COUNT Factbook*

Presented by Stephanie Geller

Rhode Island KIDS COUNT

November 18, 2026



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

Bristol Warren Thrive by Five and Beyond
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)

2026 Rhode Island KIDS COUNT Factbook

32nd annual publication

67 indicators across 5 areas

City and town-level information



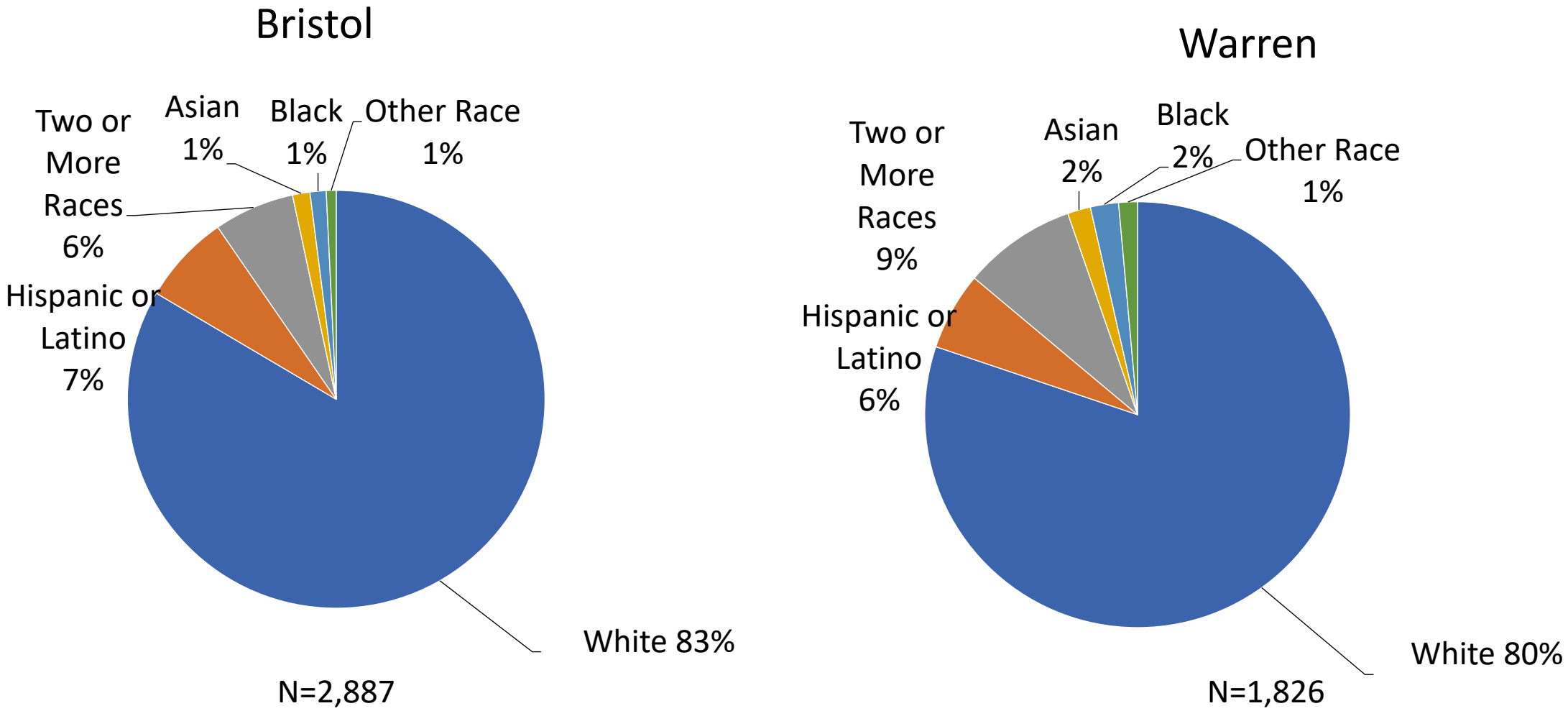

Family and Community

Bristol, Warren, and East Providence'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%
East Providence	10,657	7,886	-26%
Rhode Island	225,690	209,785	-7%

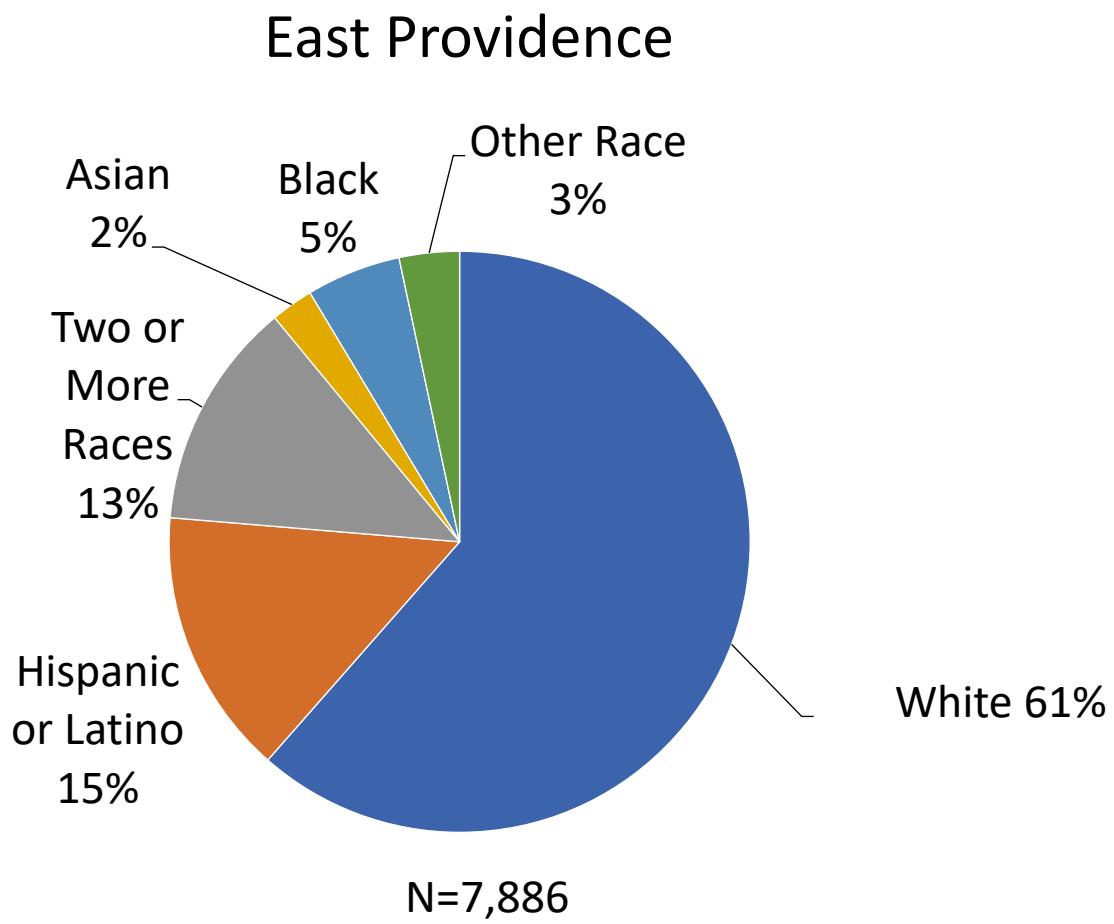
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2020, Redistricting files P2 and P4.

Bristol and Warren's Child Population, 2020



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

East Providence Child Population, 2020



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

Rhode Island's Immigrant Children and Youth

- 30% of Rhode Island children live in an immigrant family
- From 2012 to 2025, the number of public-school students identified as being immigrants has more than tripled
- 10-24% of children live in mixed-status families




Economic Well-Being

How Do We Define Poverty?

- Poverty threshold in 2025
  - $25,938 for a family of 3
  - $32,649 for a family of 4



- Extreme poverty in 2025
  - $12,969 for a family of 3
  - $16,325 for a family of 4

- *ALICE: Asset Limited, Income Constrained, Employed*

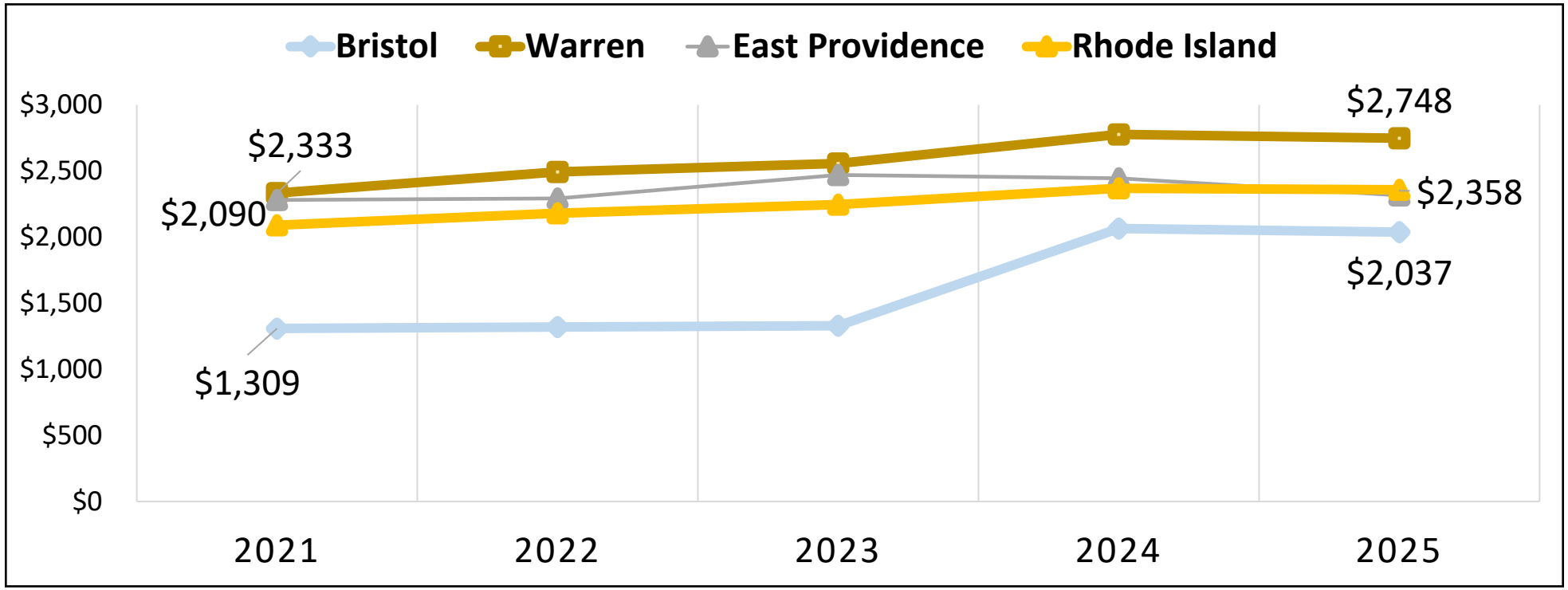
- *2026 Rhode Island Standard of Need*
  - Single-parent family with 2 children would need $91,234 a year to meet its basic needs, which would require a pre-tax income of $111,667 (or $53.29 per hour) to meet this budget without governmental subsidies – More than 400% FPL!

Children in Poverty

	Child Poverty 2020-2024	Low Income Students 2025
Bristol	5.8%	38%
Warren	2.5%	
East Providence	12.9%	55%
Rhode Island	13.7%	54%

Cost of Housing

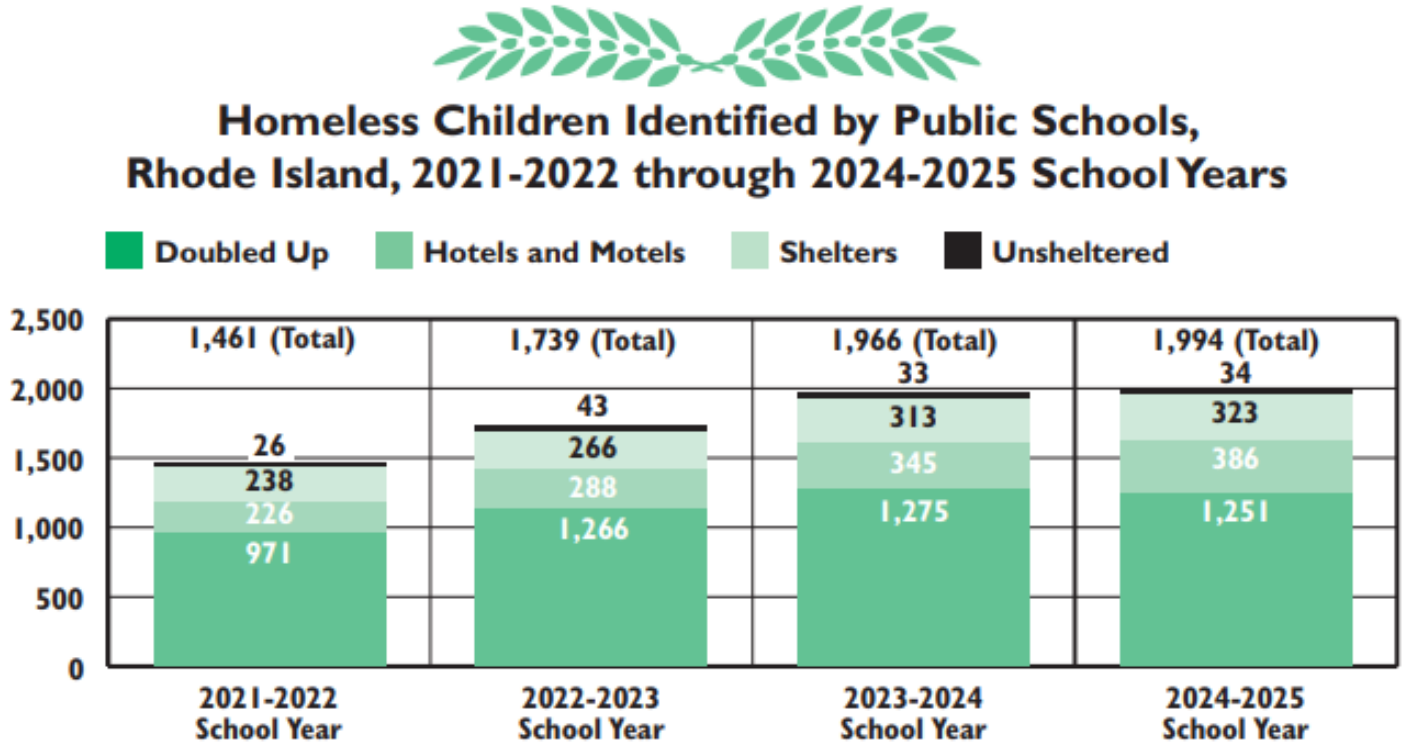
Average Cost of Rent of a Two-Bedroom Apartment, 2021-2025



Source: Rhode Island Housing, Rhode Island Rent Surveys, 2021-2025. Rents are adjusted to 2025 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.

- A family of three with an income at the federal poverty level would have to spend:
  - 92% of what they earn on rent in Bristol and more than they earn on rent in both East Providence (104%) and Warren (124%).

More Children Experiencing Homelessness



Source: Rhode Island Department of Education, 2021-2022, 2022-2023, 2023-2024 and 2024-2025 school years.

Statewide

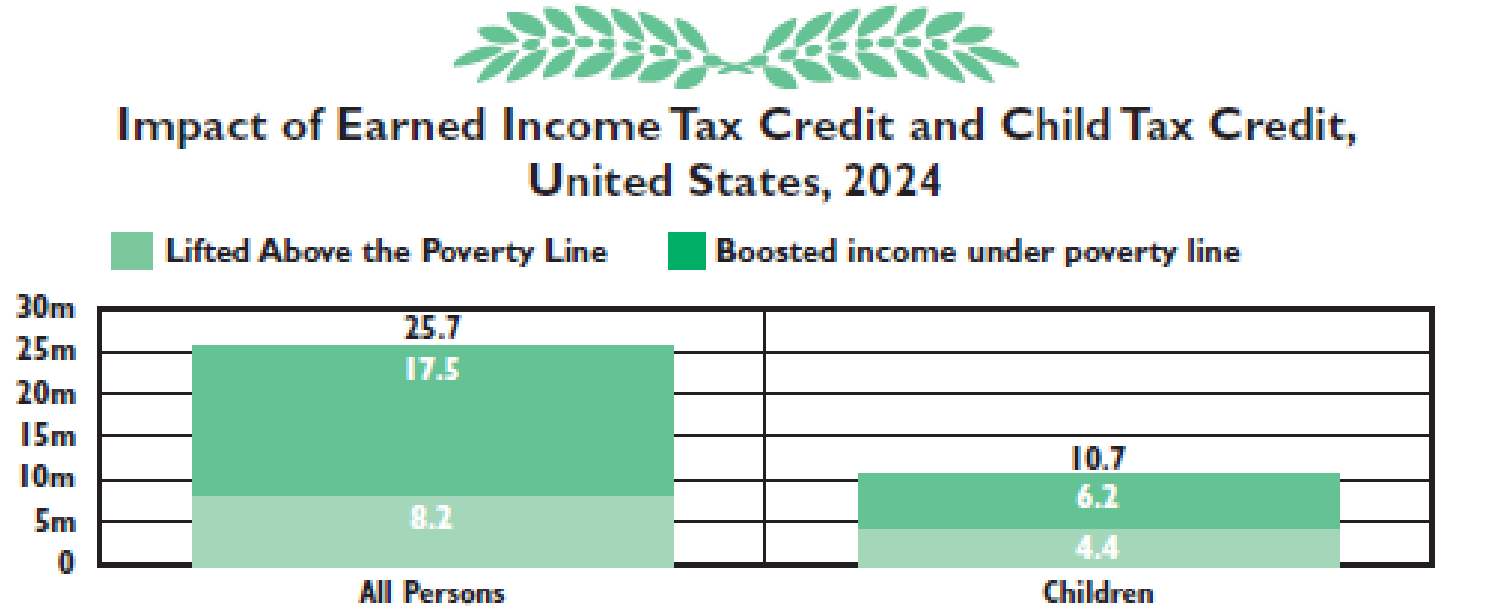
- 36% increase in students identified as homeless
- # of unaccompanied homeless youth identified more than doubled since previous school year

During the 2024-2025 school year:

- **Bristol Warren** public school personnel identified 21 students as homeless.
- **East Providence** public school personnel identified 41 students as homeless.

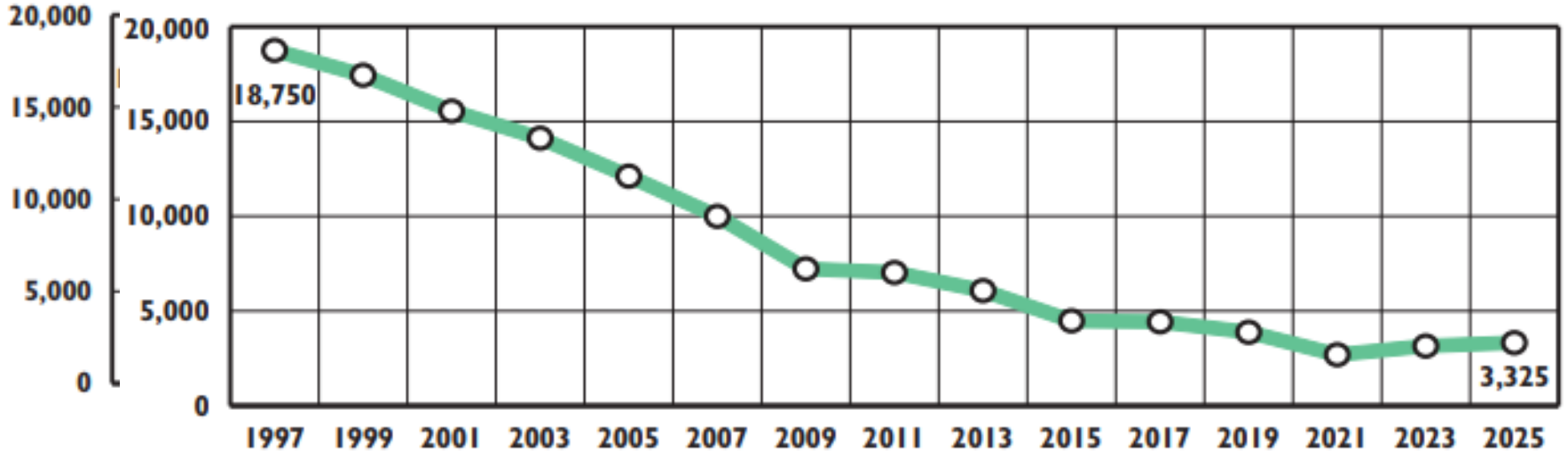
New indicator: Family Tax Credits

- The FY 2027 budget includes Rhode Island's first permanent, refundable Child Tax Credit
- $325/child
- In 2024, residents in Bristol, Warren, and East Providence received $1.2M, $991,000 and $5.5M in federal EITC respectively



Source: Analyses were conducted by and the graph was created by the Center on Budget and Policy Priorities (2026). These data reflect the Supplemental Poverty Measure threshold which includes non-cash government programs, such as housing and food assistance. The data are from the Census Bureau March 2025 Current Population Survey.

Children in Families Receiving Cash Assistance



- **1% (25) of children in Bristol, 1% (22) in Warren, and 2% (170) in East Providence receive cash assistance.**
- 70% of RI Works beneficiaries are children under age 18.
- A family of 3 receives a maximum of $865/month, well below the poverty level, and benefits have only been raised twice in the past 30 years.

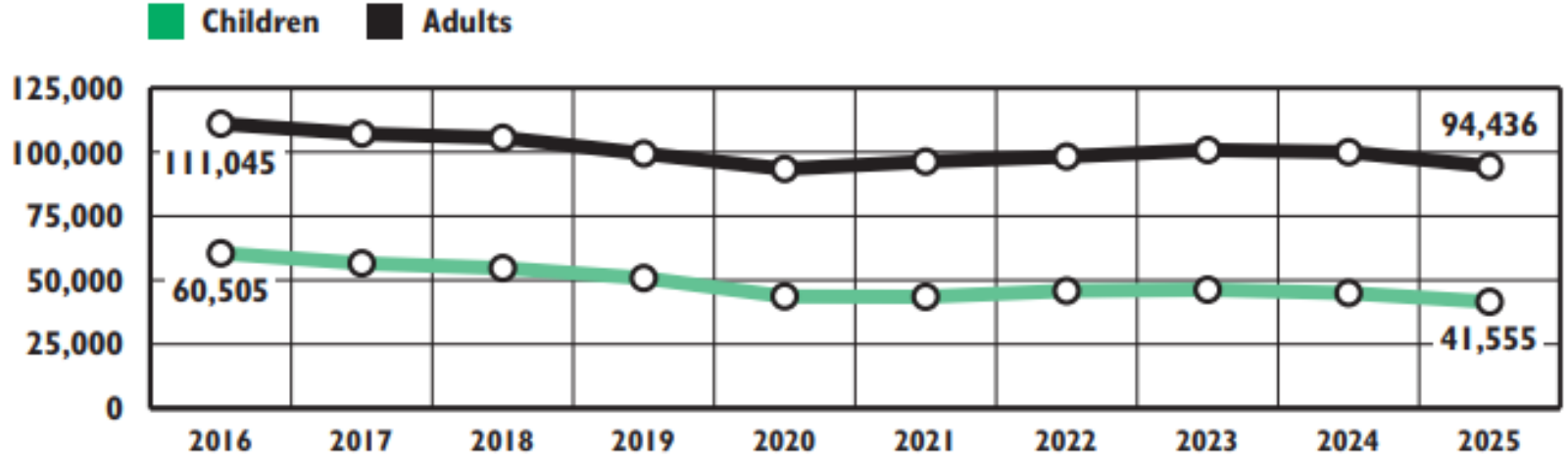
Access to Food

- Changes to SNAP:
  - Parents with youngest child age 14 or older are required to comply with work reporting requirements
  - Refugees, asylees, and victims of trafficking no longer eligible



How Can We Ensure that Rhode Island Children Are Fed?

Participation in the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program, Children and Adults, Rhode Island, 2016-2025



Source: Rhode Island Department of Human Services, RI Bridges Database, 2016-2025. Data represent children under age 18 and adults who participated in SNAP during the month of October.

Number of children receiving SNAP benefits has declined 31% over past decade.

- Of the 135,991 Rhode Islanders enrolled in SNAP in October 2025, 69% were adults and 31% were children.
- In October 2025:
  - 223 children in Bristol, 236 children in Warren, and 1,390 children in East Providence received SNAP benefits

SNAP Caseload and Impact Analysis

This is an overview of the change in RI's SNAP caseload from the time of initial HR1 passage to the present.

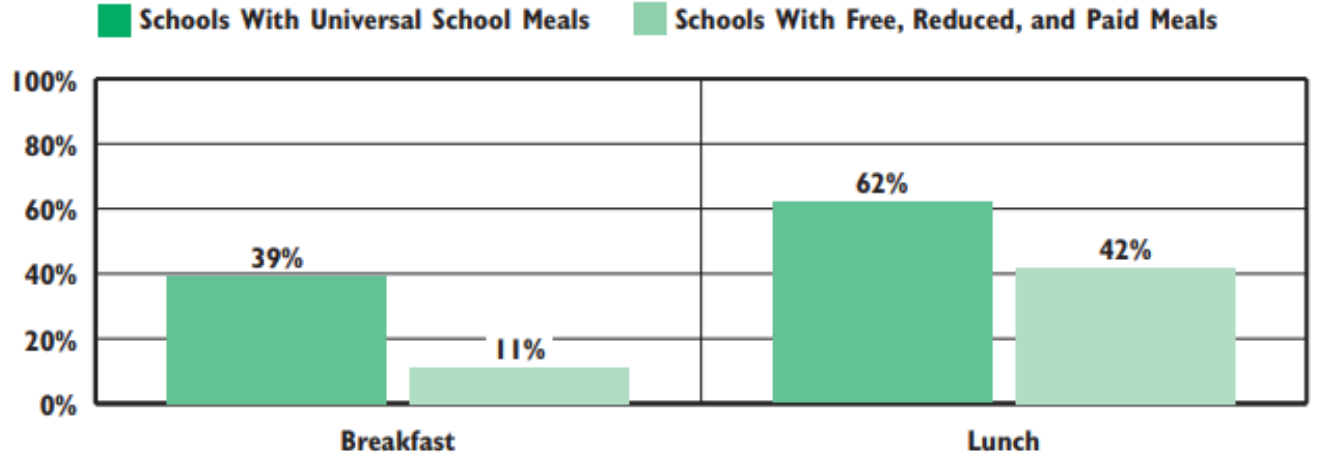
SNAP Caseload Data						
	July 2025	Nov 2025	March 2026	May 2026	July 2026	% Decrease July 25 – July 26
Total # of SNAP Recipients	141,363	133,733	126,084	122,875	116,375	17.7%
Total # of SNAP Households	88,340	84,416	80,537	78,969	74,014	16.2%
Total # of 60+ Indv receiving SNAP	38,507	37,683	36,863	36,537	35,371	8.14%
Total # of SNAP Recipients Age 0-17	41,808	39,649	37,200	36,162	35,881	14.2%
Total # of SNAP Recipients Age 0-5	12,176	12,116	11,806	11,728	9,662	20.6%

Just under $5.5M less in SNAP benefits were issued in July of 2026 as compared to July 2025.

Data is based on the point in time at which it was pulled and may be subject to change.

Children Participating in School Meals

Percentage of Children Participating in School Meal Programs, Rhode Island, October 2025



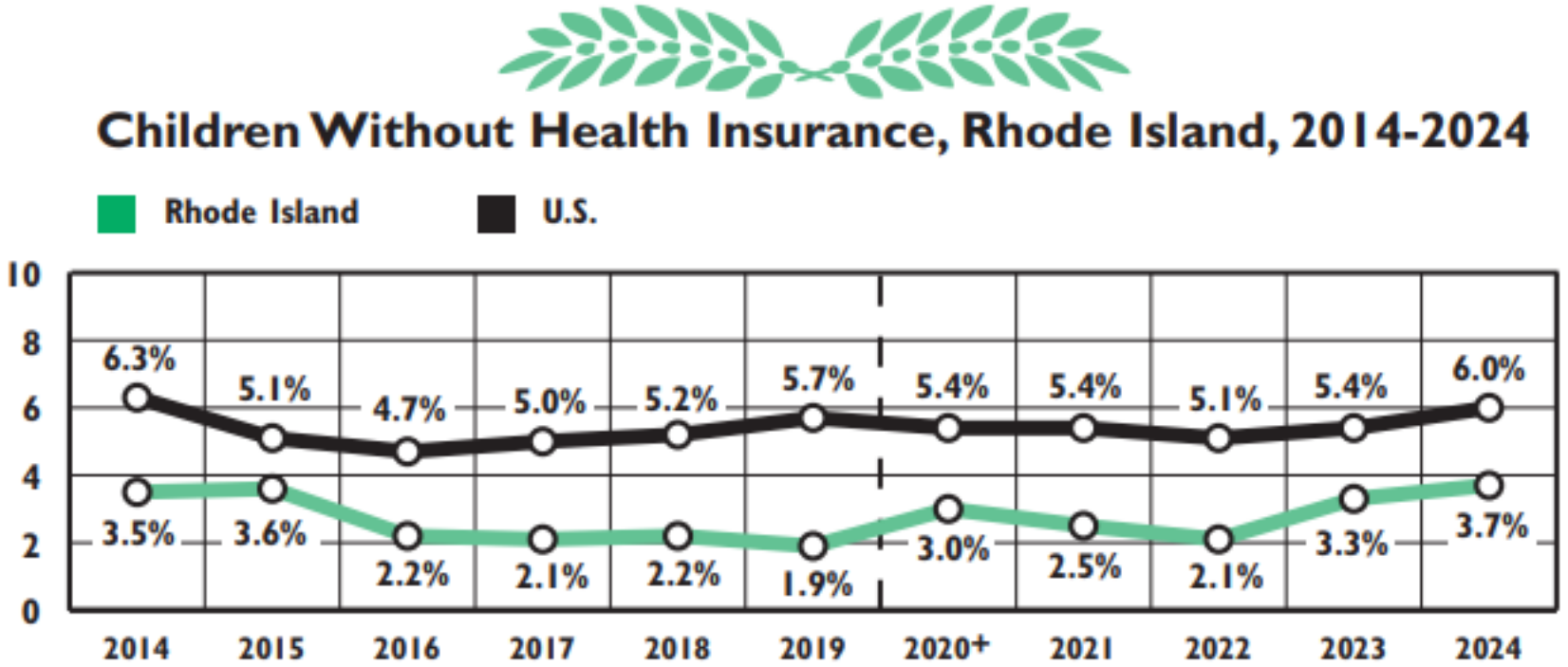
Source: Rhode Island Department of Education, Child Nutrition Programs, Office of School Health and Wellness, October 2025.

- Schools participating in CEP or other universal meals options have higher rates as do schools offering breakfast in the classroom, grab-and-go, and other flexible options.



Health

How Can We Ensure that Rhode Island Children Are Insured?



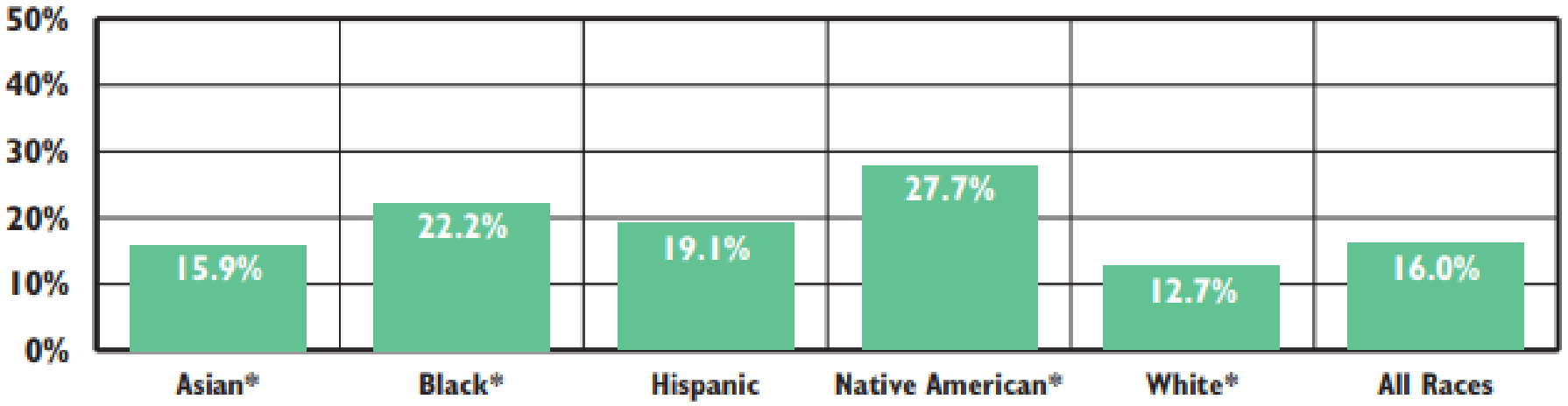
- Data released last month show that in 2025 in Rhode Island:
  - ✓ 2.1% of children under age 19 were uninsured
  - ✓ Rhode Island ranks 4th best in the country
- ***Cover All Kids*** – all low-income kids now covered regardless of immigration status
- 113,696 children are covered by RIte Care (876 in Bristol, 756 in Warren, and 4,060 in E. Providence)

Access to Health Insurance

- Changes to Medicaid:
  - New work reporting requirements BUT in Rhode Island, parents of children 18 and under **do not** have to comply with work reporting requirements to keep their Medicaid access.
  - Certain immigrant parent populations will lose their eligibility.
- Changes to HealthSourceRI - Families paying more for health insurance through the exchange
- For more information, see https://staycovered.ri.gov/



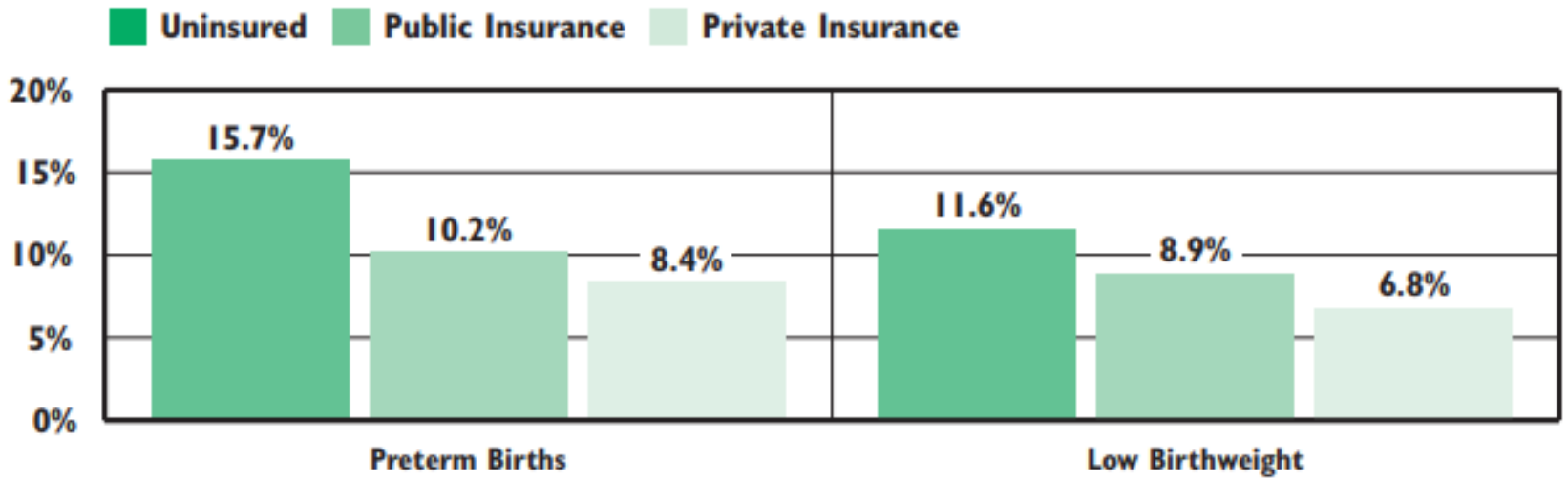
Women With Delayed or No Prenatal Care by Race/Ethnicity, Rhode Island, 2020-2024



- From 2020-2024:
  - In Bristol, 13.8% of women had delayed prenatal care.
  - In Warren, 15.2% of women had delayed prenatal care.
  - In East Providence, 13.6% of women had delayed prenatal care.
- In Rhode Island, prenatal care and 12 months of postpartum care are available to pregnant individuals regardless of immigration status.

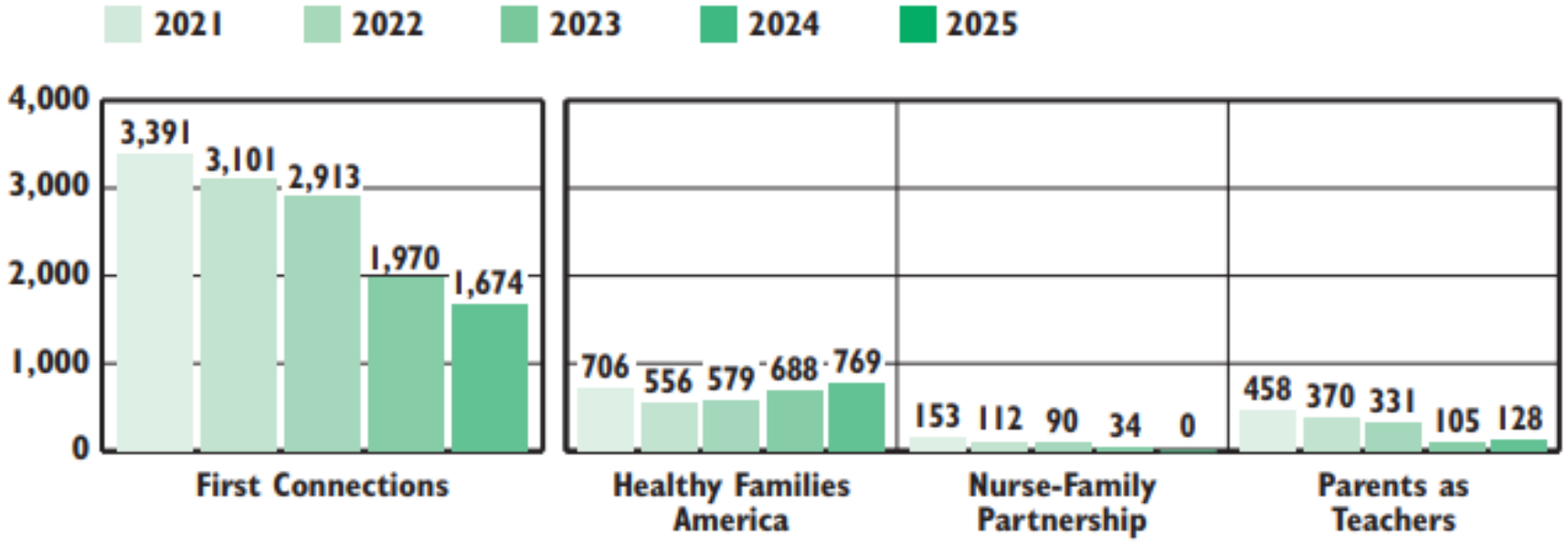
Infant Health

Preterm Birth and Low Birthweight by Mother's Insurance Status, Rhode Island, 2020-2024



- From 2020-2024:
  - 9.1% of Bristol births were preterm and 7.5% were low birthweight
  - 10.1% of Warren births were preterm and 6.9% were low birthweight
  - 9.1% of East Providence births were preterm and 7.2% were low birthweight
  - **9.2% of all Rhode Island births were preterm and 7.7% were low birthweight**

Family Home Visiting Program Participation, Rhode Island, 2021-2025



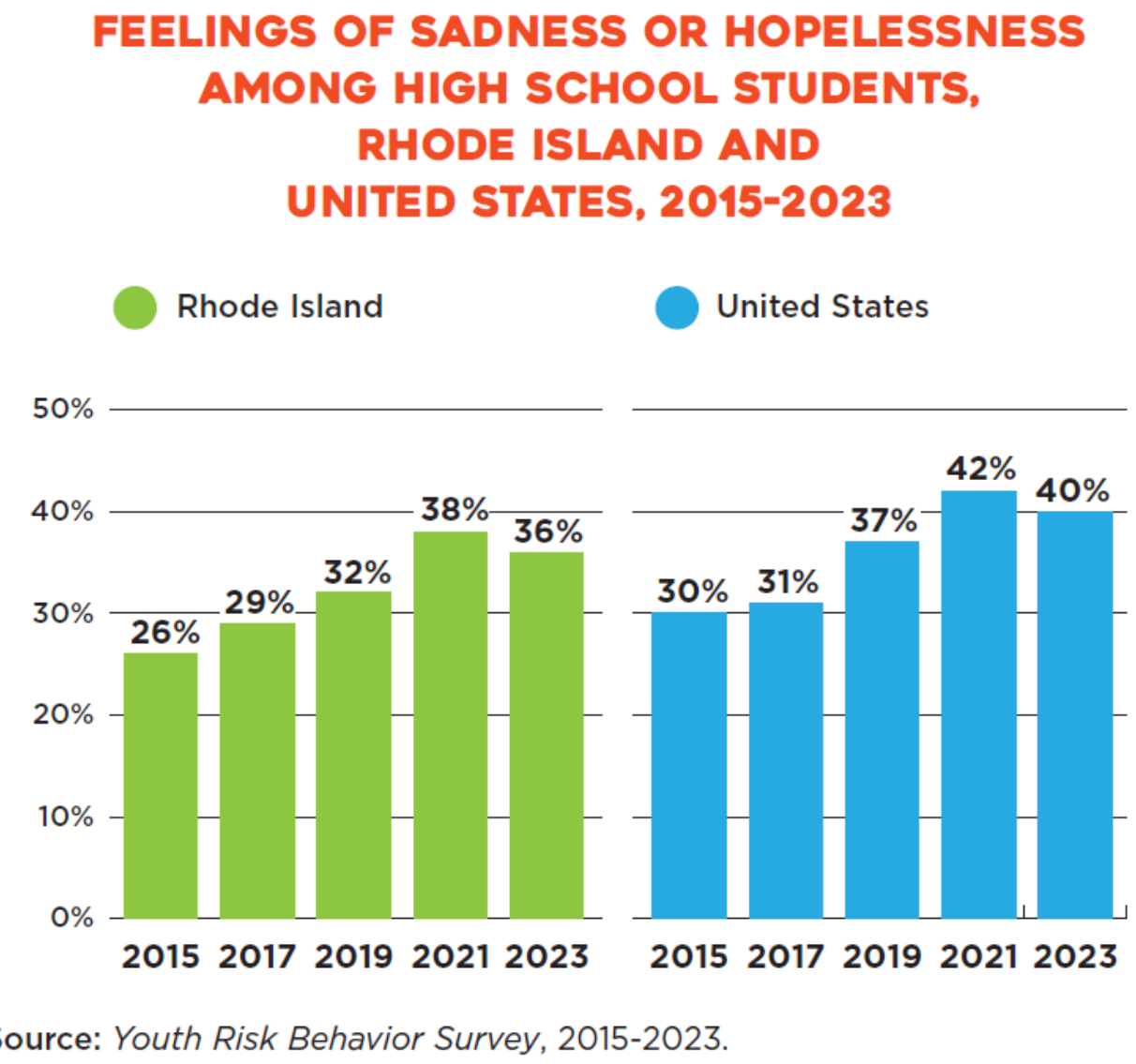
- Family home visiting programs are designed to reach young children and their families at home, providing parenting education to foster healthy, safe, and stimulating environments for young children.
- Compared to 2024, in 2025:
  - The number of families receiving First Connections visits has remained fairly stable across all three communities.
  - The number of families receiving Healthy Families America visits has also remained fairly stable and has actually increased from 33 to 38 in East Providence after declining for several years.



Safety

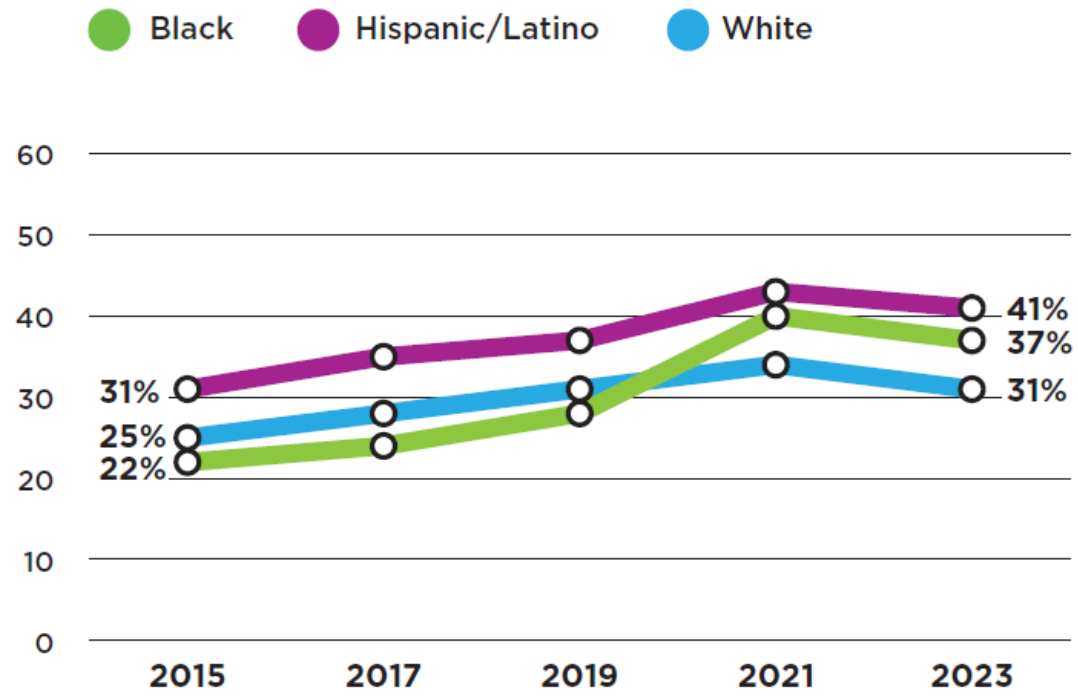
Mental Health Crisis Both Nationally and in Rhode Island

2025 data for Rhode Island data will be available soon.



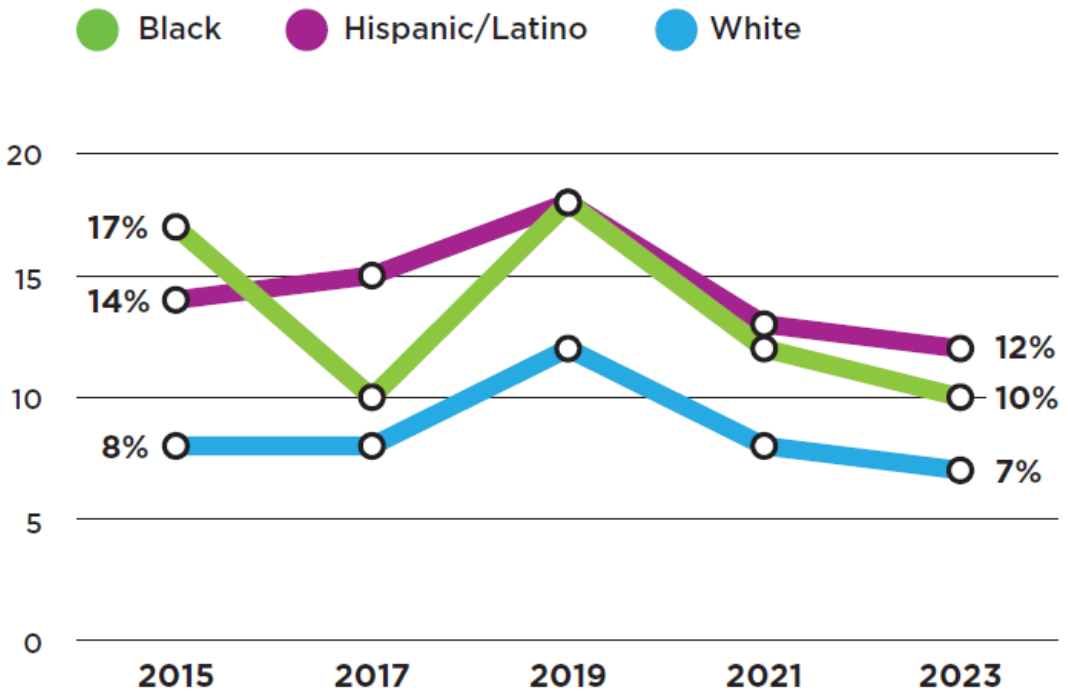
Racial and Ethnic Disparities in Youth Mental Health

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.

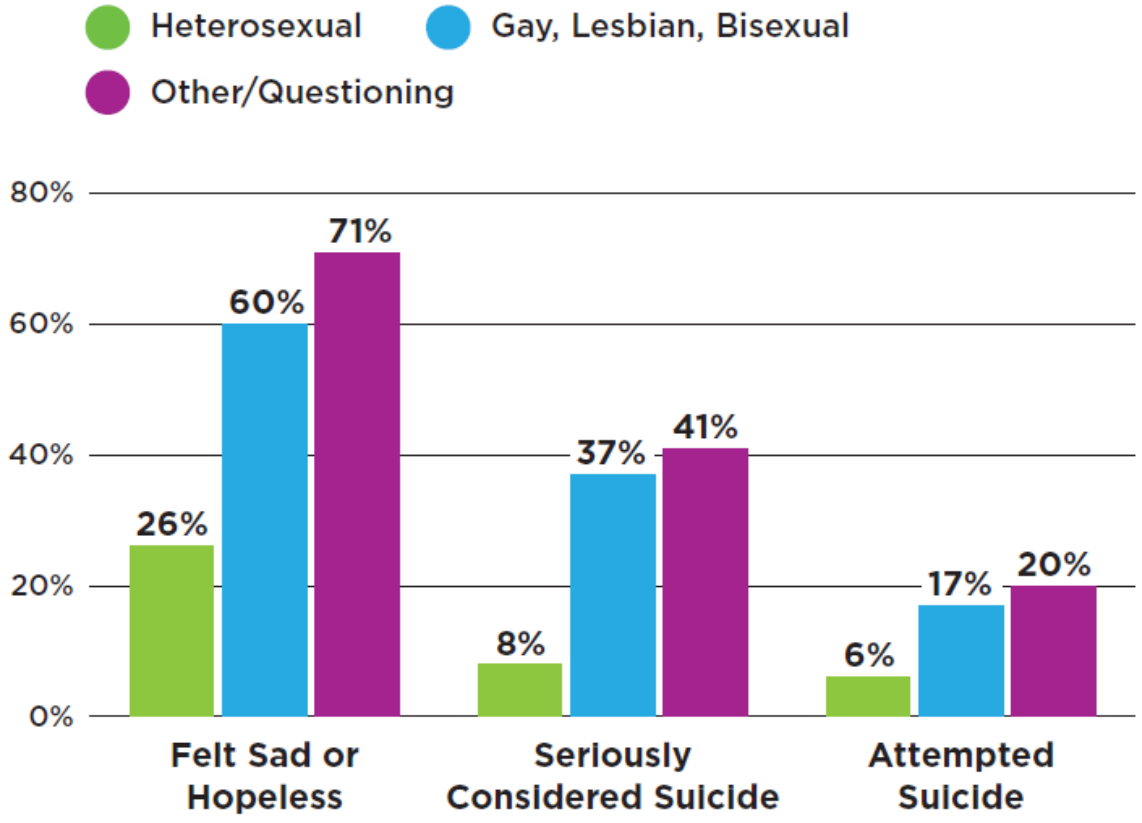
SUICIDE ATTEMPTS AMONG HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS, RHODE ISLAND, BY RACE AND ETHNICITY, 2015-2023



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

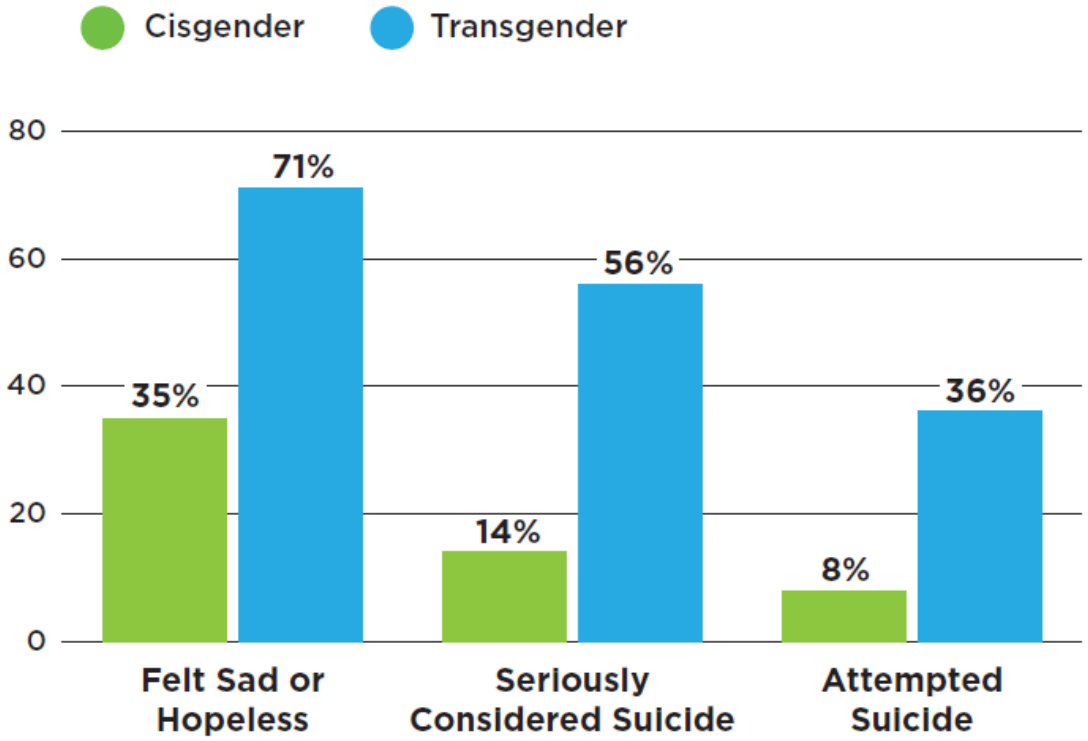
The Mental Health of LGBTQ+ Youth In Rhode Island

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



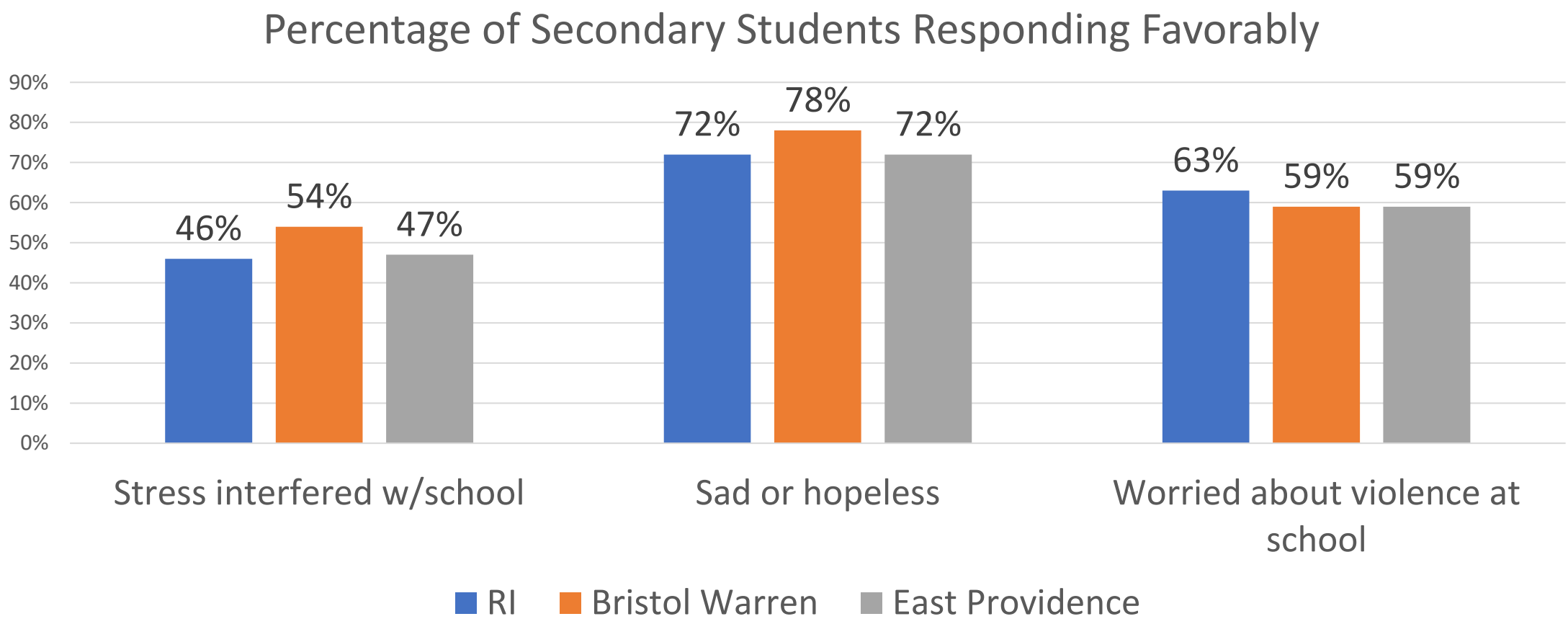
Source: *Rhode Island Youth Risk Behavior Survey*, 2023.

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



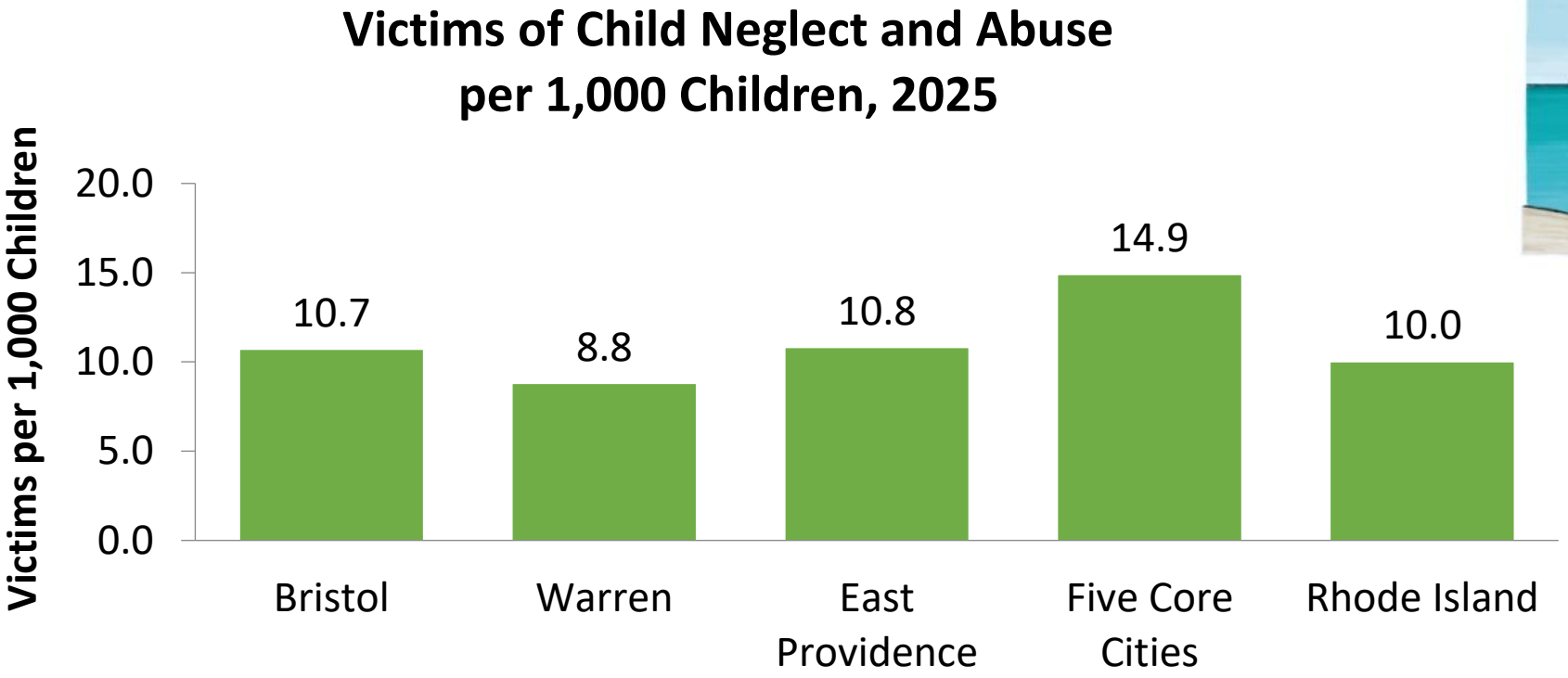
Source: *Rhode Island Youth Risk Behavior Survey*, 2021 and 2023.

A Snapshot of *SurveyWorks* Data



Child Neglect and Abuse





In 2025, 31 Bristol children, 16 Warren children, and 85 East Providence children were reported victims of child neglect and abuse.

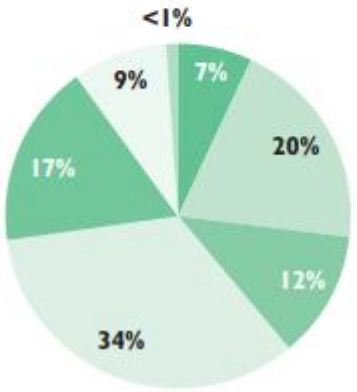
Both Bristol and East Providence have higher rates than the state as a whole.

Child Neglect and Abuse

Child Neglect and Abuse, Rhode Island, 2025

By Age of Victim*

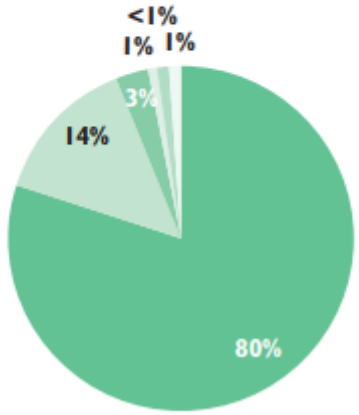
7% (174)	Under Age 1
20% (480)	Ages 1 to 3
12% (286)	Ages 4 to 5
34% (803)	Ages 6 to 11
17% (403)	Ages 12 to 15
9% (213)	Ages 16 and Older
<1% (3)	Unknown



*n=2,362**

By Type of Neglect/Abuse**

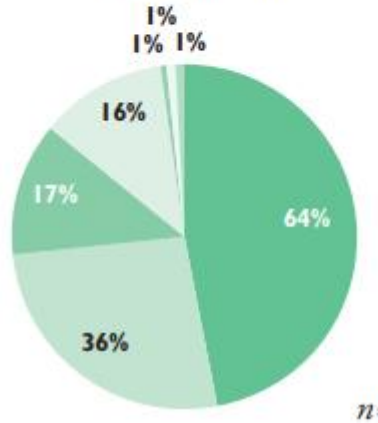
80% (2,070)	Neglect
14% (369)	Physical Abuse
3% (88)	Sexual Abuse
1% (24)	Medical Neglect
<1% (13)	Emotional Abuse
1% (34)	Other



*n= 2,598***

By Race/Ethnicity of Victim***

64% (1,500)	White
36% (864)	Hispanic
17% (397)	Black
16% (389)	Two or More Races
1% (29)	Asian/Native Hawaiian/ Other Pacific Islander
1% (25)	American Indian/Alaska Native
1% (22)	Unknown



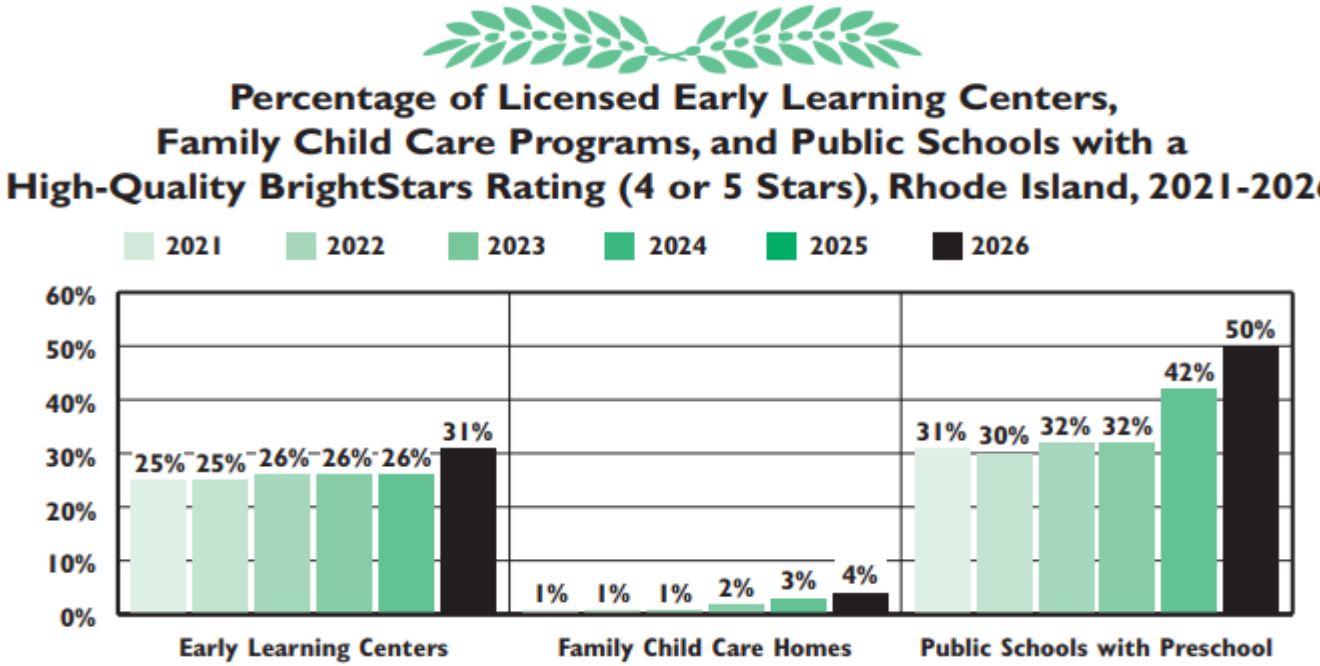
*n=2,362****

- 40% of the victims of child neglect and abuse in 2025 were young children ages five and under and 27% were ages three and younger.



Education

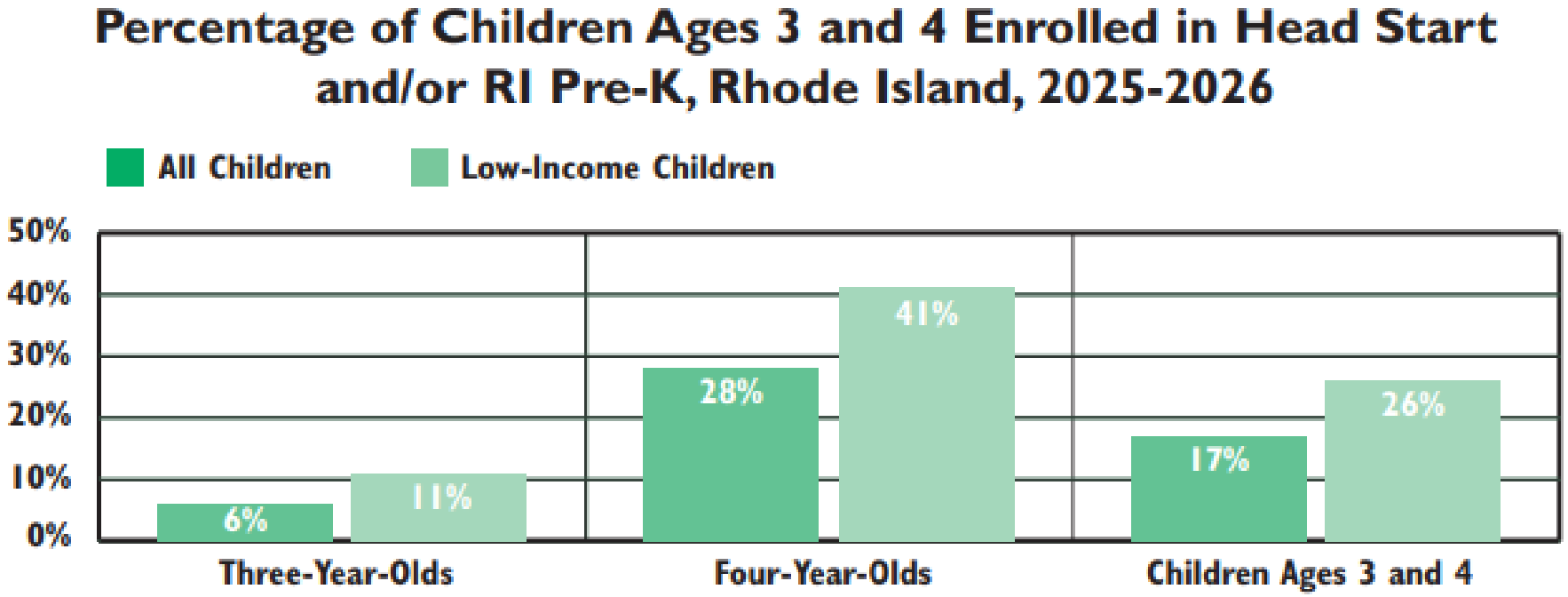
Opportunities for High-Quality Early Childhood Education



Source: Rhode Island Association for the Education of Young Children, Rhode Island Department of Human Services, Rhode Island Department of Education, January 2021 – January 2026.

- As of January 2026**, none of the child care centers in Bristol, 40% of the child care centers in Warren, and 33% of the child care centers in East Providence had a high-quality rating of 4 or 5**.
- **Child care assistance program (CCAP) eligibility increased** to 285% FPL at entrance and families remain eligible until their income reaches 325% FPL.

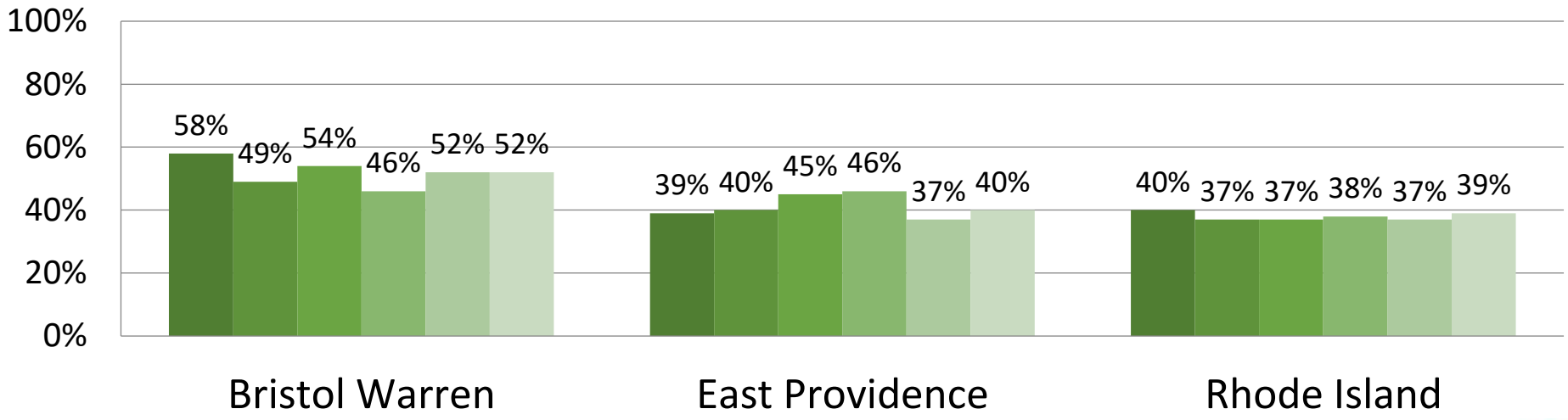
Opportunities for High-Quality Early Childhood Education



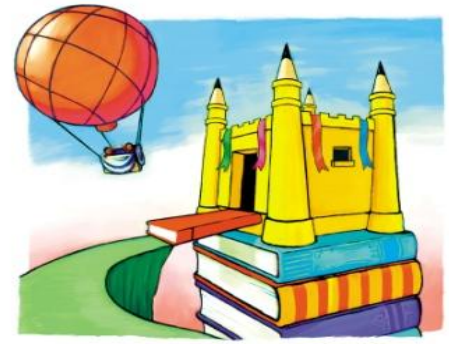
- **11% of all Bristol children and 28% of low-income children in Bristol who were ages 3 and 4** were enrolled in either Head Start or RI Pre-K.
- **20% of all Warren children and 41% of low-income children in Warren who were ages 3 and 4** were enrolled in either Head Start or RI Pre-K.
- **30% of all East Providence children and 37% of low-income children in East Providence who were ages 3 and 4** were enrolled in either Head Start or RI Pre-K.

Third-Grade Reading Skills Since the Pandemic

Third-Graders Meeting Expectations in Reading
2021-2026



Source: Rhode Island Department of Education,
Rhode Island Comprehensive Assessment System (RICAS), 2021-2026.

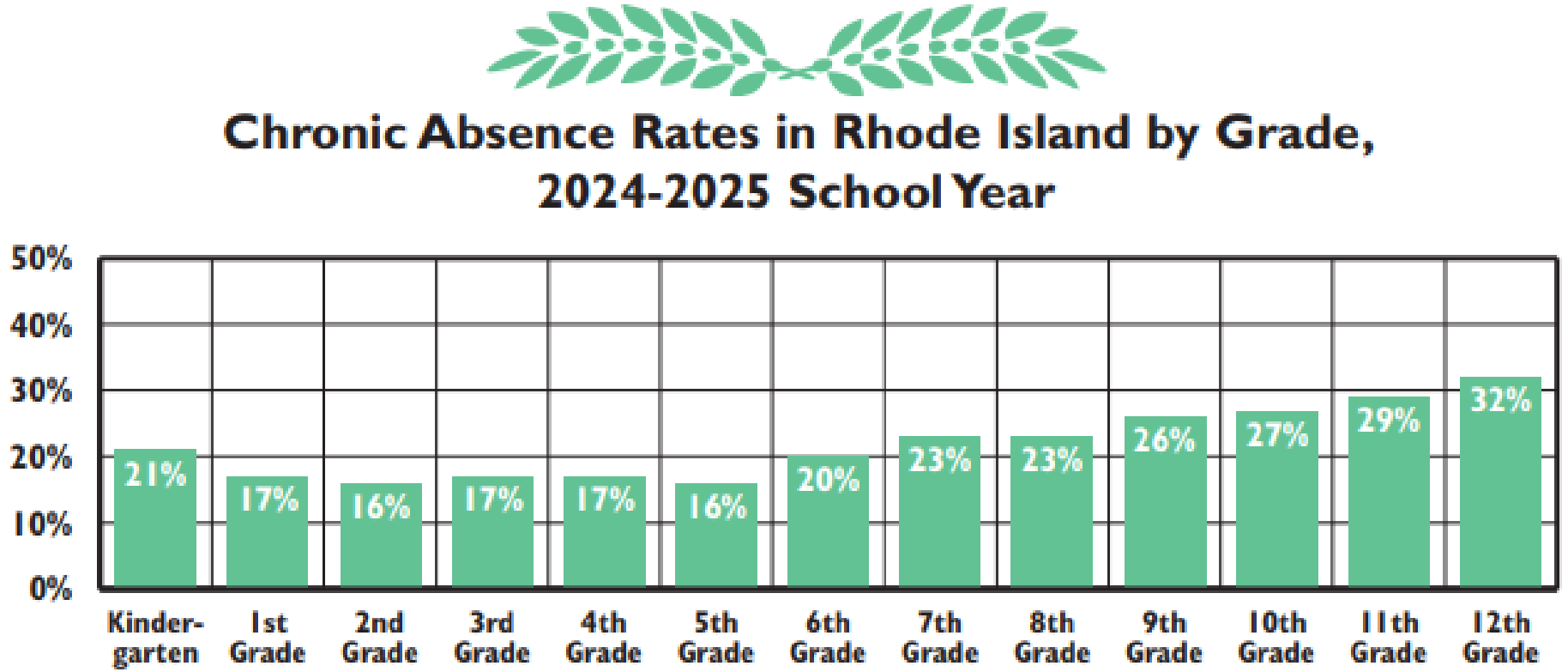


Disparities in 3rd Grade Reading and What We Can Do About It

All Bristol Warren 3rd Graders Meeting Expectations, 2026	52%
Female	57%
Male	46%
Students With Disabilities	8%
Students Without Disabilities	61%
Multilingual Learners	Not available
Low-Income Students	33%
Higher-Income Students	67%
Black Students	Not available
Hispanic Students	42%
Multiracial Students	78%
White Students	50%

All E. Providence 3rd Graders Meeting or Exceeding Expectations, 2026	40%
Female	42%
Male	38%
Students With Disabilities	11%
Students Without Disabilities	47%
Multilingual Learners	19%
Low-Income Students	30%
Higher-Income Students	53%
Black Students	31%
Hispanic Students	34%
Multiracial Students	24%
White Students	45%

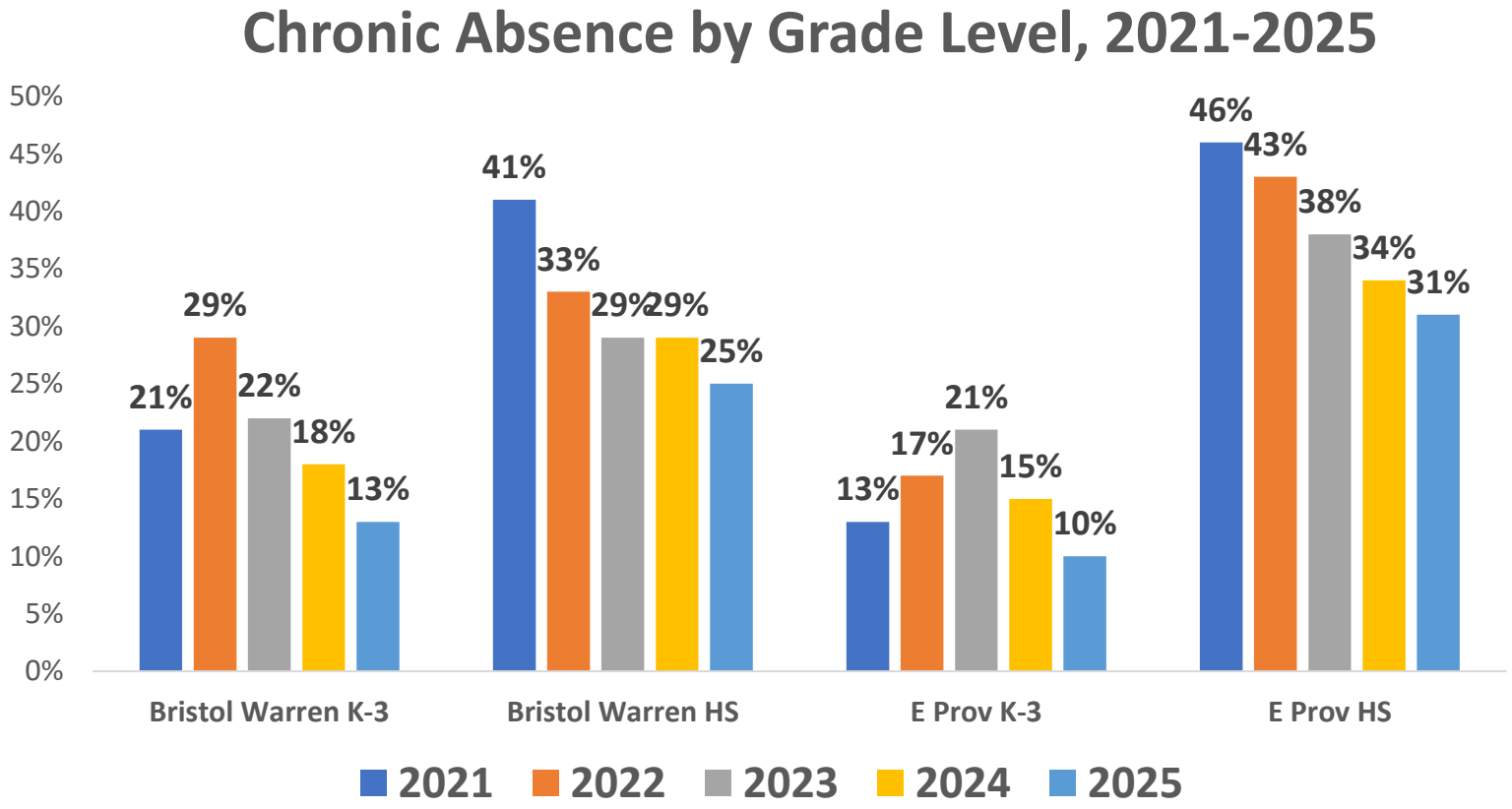
Chronic Absence Rates Across Grades



Source: Rhode Island Department of Education, 2024-2025 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 in a 180-day school year), including excused and unexcused absences.

Making Huge Strides in Reducing Chronic Absence





School Suspensions

Out-of-School Suspensions by Infraction, Rhode Island, 2024-2025

TYPE OF INFRACTION*	#	%	TYPE OF INFRACTION	#	%
Fighting	1,802	24%	Obscene/Abusive Language	276	4%
Disorderly Conduct	1,398	18%	Arson/Larceny/Robbery/Vandalism	201	3%
Assault of Student or Teacher	1,274	17%	Weapon Possession	173	2%
Insubordination/Disrespect	953	12%	Electronic Devices/Technology	100	1%
Alcohol/Drug/Tobacco Offenses	854	11%	Other Offenses	55	1%
Harassment/Intimidation/Threat	562	7%	Attendance Offenses	0	0%

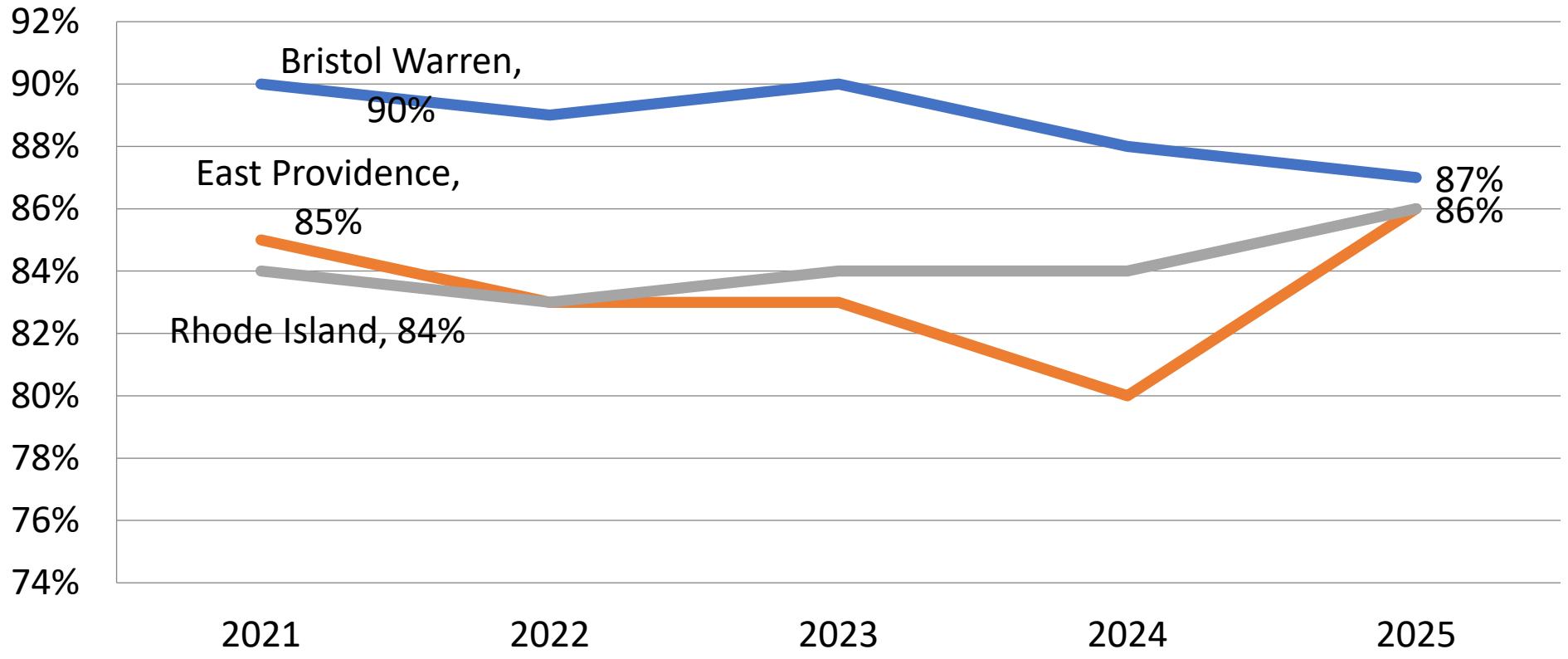
Source: Rhode Island Department of Education, 2024-2025 school year.

**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 2024-2025 school year:
  - Bristol Warren gave 3 out-of-school suspensions per 100 students.
  - **East Providence gave 9 out-of-school suspensions per 100 students, higher than the state rate of 6.**

High School Graduation Rate, 2021-2025



Who Is Graduating On Time and Why?

All Bristol Warren Students	**87%**
Male	86%
Female	90%
Students With Disabilities	77%
Students Without Disabilities	90%
Multilingual Learners	Not available
Low-Income Students	83%
Higher-Income Students	91%
Black Students	Not available
Hispanic Students	85%
Multiracial Students	90%
White Students	87%

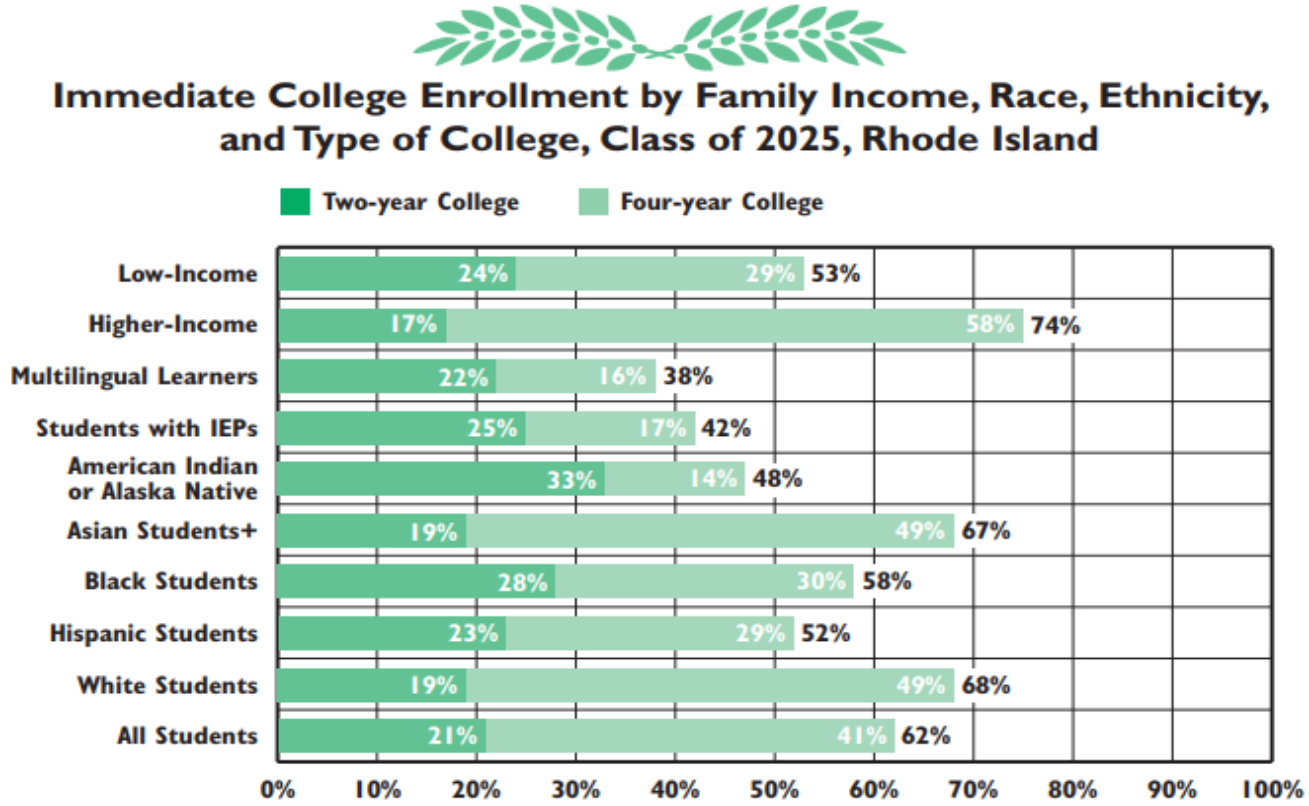


Who Is Graduating On Time and Why?



All East Providence Students	**86%**
Male	84%
Female	87%
Students With Disabilities	70%
Students Without Disabilities	88%
Multilingual Learners	94%
Low-Income Students	82%
Higher-Income Students	91%
Black Students	93%
Hispanic Students	84%
Multiracial Students	86%
White Students	83%

College Enrollment



- 62% percent of Rhode Island students, 64% of Bristol Warren students, and 61% of East Providence students who graduated from high school in the Class of 2025 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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