Rhode Island KIDS COUNT is a statewide children’s policy organization dedicated to improving the health, education, economic well-being and safety of children and youth in Rhode Island. Rhode Island KIDS COUNT collects and disseminates data on the well-being of children in Rhode Island and advocates for and facilitates the development of responsive policies and programs. An independent organization, backed by the best research and data available, Rhode Island KIDS COUNT brings together people from across the community, including religious leaders and child advocates, doctors and educators, parents and volunteers, state agency directors and nonprofit leaders, to address the programs facing the state’s children, youth, and families.

Rhode Island ranked 31st in the U.S. out of 50 states for child-poverty rates in 2007. (1st is best and 50th is worst.)

Rhode Island KIDS COUNT defines core cities as those with greater than 15% child poverty according to the 2000 U.S. Census. Core cities include:
- Central Falls
- Newport
- Pawtucket
- Providence
- West Warwick
- Woonsocket

Percent of births by maternal education levels:

- Bachelor’s degree or above: 37%
- Some college: 28%
- High-school diploma: 17%
- Less than high-school diploma: 15%
- Unknown: 3%

Percent of births to mothers with less than a high-school diploma:

- Rhode Island: 26%
- Core Cities: 26%
- Remainder of State: 7%

Rhode Island and the U.S.

- Percent of births to mothers with less than a high-school diploma:
  - Rhode Island: 15%
  - U.S.: 21%

Data sources:
- The Right Start Online: 2008, The Annie E. Casey Foundation