

Hispanics/ Latinos

IN RHODE ISLAND
2015



This report provides information about major health indicators for the Hispanic/Latino population of Rhode Island. A Hispanic/Latino is defined by the U.S. Office of Management and Budget as a person of Mexican, Puerto Rican, Cuban, South or Central American, or other Spanish culture or origin, regardless of race. A white person is defined as a person having origins in any of the original peoples of Europe, the Middle East, and North Africa.

This report presents data on population demographics, socio-economic characteristics, maternal and child health, behavioral risk factors, access to healthcare, infectious disease, and leading causes of death among Hispanic/Latino Rhode Islanders in comparison to whites and to the state as a whole.

Please note that for some data sets, race and ethnicity status are based on self-identification. The tables present point estimates, which should not be used to imply statistical significance. For the purpose of this report, “white” refers to non-Hispanic unless noted otherwise.

Population Demographics

According to the 2011-2013 American Community Survey 3-year estimate, there are 139,055 Hispanics/Latinos in Rhode Island, making this group the largest minority population in the state (13.2%). The median age of the Hispanic/Latino population is 25.8 years, while the state median age is 39.7 years. Nearly 96% of the Hispanic/Latino population is 65 years of age or younger, while 85% of the state population is 65 years of age or younger. Since the year 2000, Rhode Island’s Hispanic/Latino population has increased 53%.

TABLE A: POPULATION DEMOGRAPHIC DATA

	HISPANIC/ LATINO	WHITE	STATE
Median age	25.8	44.6	39.7
Percentage of population younger than 18 years	34.2	17.0	20.6
Percentage of population age 65 years or older	4.4	18.2	15.0
Percentage of population born in another country	40.4	5.1	13.2
Percentage of population speaking only English at home*	16.8	92.0	78.9

Source: US Bureau of the Census, 2011–2013 American Community Survey 3-Year estimates
*Population 5 years and older

Socioeconomic Characteristics

The following are socioeconomic characteristics of Rhode Island’s Hispanic/Latino population. These characteristics are a few of the social determinants that can have a profound effect on an individual’s health.

- The percentage of Hispanics/Latinos living in poverty is four times that of the white population.
- A larger percentage of Hispanics/Latinos are unemployed, compared to whites and the state as a whole.
- The median income for Hispanics/Latinos is \$29,859, roughly \$26,000 less than the overall state median and \$32,000 less than that for the white population.
- Only 26.3% of Hispanics/Latinos own their housing unit, which is less than half of the white population and the state as a whole.

TABLE B: SOCIO-ECONOMIC DATA

	HISPANIC/ LATINO	WHITE	STATE
Percentage of children living in poverty (<18 years old) ³	40.0	14.0 ¹	20.2
Percentage of population living in poverty ²	35.8	9.3	14.4
Percentage of population that is unemployed ²	17.8	8.2	9.7
Median household income ²	\$29,859	\$61,666	\$55,675
Percentage of population that owns their housing unit ²	26.3	66.6	60.2

Sources: ²US Bureau of the Census, 2011-2013 American Community Survey 3-year estimates
³2014 Rhode Island KIDS COUNT Factbook
¹Hispanic ethnicity may be included in racial category



Maternal and Child Health

- A higher percentage of Hispanics/Latinos have delayed prenatal care, compared to whites and the state as a whole.
- The percentage of Hispanic/Latino births to mothers with fewer than 12 years of education is more than two times that of the state as a whole.

Youth Behavioral Risk

- A higher percentage of Hispanic/Latino youth report not getting the recommended amount of physical activity, compared to whites and the state as a whole.
- Hispanic/Latino youth have a lower high school graduation rate than whites and the state as a whole.

Adult Behavioral Risk

- A lower percentage of Hispanics/Latinos meet physical activity guidelines, compared to whites and the state as a whole.
- A lower percentage of Hispanics/Latinos report being a smoker or binge drinking, compared to whites and the state as a whole.

Access to Healthcare

- The percentage of Hispanics/Latinos younger than 65 years of age that report having no health insurance is more than three times that of the white population.
- A higher percentage of Hispanics/Latinos report not being able to see a doctor due to cost, compared to whites and the state as a whole.

TABLE C: MATERNAL AND CHILD HEALTH INDICATORS

	HISPANIC/ LATINO	WHITE ¹	STATE
Percentage of pregnant women with delayed prenatal care ^{2±}	16.2	10.5	12.8
Percentage of births to mothers with less than 12 years of education ²	29.5	8.6	13.8
Percentage of infants with low birth weight ^{2¥}	7.7	6.8	7.6
Rate of births to teens ages 15-19 (per 1,000 teens) ²	50.8	13.4	21.4
Infant mortality rate (per 1,000 live births) ^{2£}	5.8	5.3	6.6
Rate of children with incarcerated parents (per 1,000 children) ³	17.7	8.0	13.1

Sources: ²Rhode Island Department of Health, Center for Health Data and Analysis, 2009-2013

³2014 Rhode Island KIDS COUNT Factbook

[±]Delayed prenatal care is defined as care received after the first trimester or no prenatal care received

[¥]Low birth weight is defined as less than 2,500 grams or 5.5 pounds

[£]Infant mortality rate is defined as the number of infants who died before their first birthday per 1,000 live births

¹ Hispanic ethnicity may be included in racial category

TABLE D: YOUTH BEHAVIORAL RISK FACTOR INDICATORS (YOUTH IN GRADES 9-12)

	HISPANIC/ LATINO	WHITE	STATE
Percent of youth who used marijuana in past 30 days ¹	23.2	26.6	25.6
Percent of youth who engaged in binge-drinking in past 30 days ¹	17.0	18.5	17.5
Percent of youth who have ever had sexual intercourse ¹	48.1	38.6	41.3
Percent of youth who smoked cigarettes in past 30 days ¹	6.5	12.9	11.0
Percent of youth who did not get the recommended physical activity ^{1¥}	81.8	73.3	75.5
Percent of youth who never/rarely wore seatbelt with other driver(s) ¹	16.0	7.0	9.8
Percent of youth who got in a physical fight in the past 12 months ¹	28.7	19.7	22.6
Percent of youth who were bullied on school property in past 12 months ¹	14.1	19.5	17.8
Percent of youth who ever took prescription drugs without having a prescription for the drug ¹	13.0	15.8	15.0
Percent of high school seniors that graduated high school ²	69.0	83.9	79.7

Sources: ¹ Rhode Island Department of Health, Youth Risk Behavior Survey, 2009, 2011 and 2013

² Rhode Island Department of Education, Cohort Graduation Rates, 4-Year Cohort for 2013

[¥] Recommended physical activity is 60 minutes, 7 days per week

TABLE E: ADULT BEHAVIORAL RISK FACTOR INDICATORS (ADULTS 18 YEARS AND OLDER)

	HISPANIC/ LATINO	WHITE	STATE
Percent of adult population who meets physical activity guidelines ¹ [2011 & 2013 only]	36.6	51.7	49.0
Percent of adult population (age 20+) who is overweight/obese ²	68.0	64.2	64.7
Percent of adult population (age 20+) who is obese ³	28.6	26.4	26.8
Percent of adult population who consumes 5+ servings of fruit/vegetables daily (2011 & 2013 only)	15.3	17.4	17.5
Percent of adult population who is a current smoker	16.3	18.4	18.4
Percent of adult population who binge-drank in the last month ⁴	17.7	18.8	18.3

Source: Rhode Island Department of Health, Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System, 2011-2013

¹ Physical activity guidelines are 150 minutes per week

² Overweight/obese defined as body mass index (BMI) ≥ 25

³ Obesity defined as BMI ≥ 30

⁴ Binge-drinking defined as 5+ drinks for men and 4+ drinks for women

TABLE F: ACCESS TO HEALTHCARE AND SCREENING INDICATORS (ADULTS 18 YEARS AND OLDER)

	HISPANIC/ LATINO	WHITE	STATE
Percent of adults (<65) years old who reported having no health insurance	41.2	13.0	17.9
Percent of adults who reported having no person they thought of as their personal healthcare provider(s)	32.3	10.8	14.4
Percent of adults who had no routine checkup within the past year	33.3	20.4	22.4
Percent of adults who reported being unable to afford to see a doctor when needed at least once in the past year	31.3	11.5	14.6

Source: Rhode Island Department of Health, Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System, 2011-2013

TABLE G: SELECTED INCIDENCE RATES OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES: CASES PER 100,000 POPULATION

	HISPANIC/ LATINO	WHITE	STATE
Gonorrhea ¹	73.1	19.1	36.8
Chlamydia ¹	994.1	214.7	377.4
Tuberculosis ²	5.4	1.4	2.4
HIV/AIDS ³	18.6	4.6	9.1

Sources: Rhode Island Department of Health, Division of Infectious Disease and Epidemiology, 2009-2013

¹ Sexually Transmitted Diseases (STD) Surveillance Data, 2009-2013

² Tuberculosis Surveillance Data, 2009-2013

³ HIV/AIDS Surveillance Data, 2009-2013

TABLE H: LEADING CAUSE OF DEATH

RANK	HISPANIC/ LATINO	WHITE	STATE
1	Cancer	Heart Disease	Heart Disease
2	Heart Disease	Cancer	Cancer
3	Unintentional Injuries	Chronic Respiratory Diseases	Chronic Respiratory Diseases
4	Stroke	Stroke	Stroke
5	All Overdoses*	Alzheimer's	Alzheimer's

Source: Rhode Island Department of Health, Office of Vital Records, RI Resident Deaths, ICD-10 Codes, 2009-2013

*includes both intentional and unintentional overdoses

Infectious Disease

- The rates of gonorrhea and chlamydia are about four times higher among Hispanics/Latinos than whites.
- HIV rate is approximately two times higher for Hispanics/Latinos than for the state as a whole and about four times higher than the white population.

Leading Cause of Death

- The five leading causes of death for Hispanics/Latinos in Rhode Island are cancer, heart disease, unintentional injuries, stroke and overdoses¹.

¹includes both intentional and unintentional overdoses

Chronic Disease

Although not mentioned in this report, racial and ethnic disparities exist in health outcomes related to chronic diseases such as asthma, diabetes and heart disease. For reports of the burden of these chronic diseases on Rhode Island residents and the disproportionate impact on the state's minorities, see the Rhode Island Commission for Health Advocacy and Equity Legislative Report, 2015, which can be found at

<http://www.health.ri.gov/publications/report/s/2015CommissionOnHealthAdvocacyAndEquityLegislativeReport.pdf>



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