



Providence Prevention Fact Sheet

Population. Providence has 173,618 residents including 38,072 children and youth of school age (ages 5-18) and a total of 62,389 households.

Race/Ethnicity. Ethnically, Providence is the most diverse City in Rhode Island. The City has a rich heterogeneous mix of Irish, Italian, Portuguese, English, German, Cape Verdean, African-American, Latino, Liberian, Vietnamese, Laotian, and Hmong. In the decade between 1990 and 2000, the Latino community has increased fivefold in Providence. According to the 2000 Census the racial and ethnic makeup of the City was 54.5% White; 30% Hispanic/ Latino; 30%, Black/African American 14.5%; Asian 6.0%; 6.1% multi racial and 1.1 American Indian. Approximately 25% of Providence residents are foreign-born.

Poverty. Approximately 29% of the City's total population is living below the federal poverty level (under the poverty guidelines by the US DHHS under the authority of 42 U.S.C. 9902(2)). The 2000 Census showed that 40.1% of Providence children are living in families below the federal poverty threshold. The median household income is \$26,867. 51% of children were living in a single-parent family.

Risk Factors. According to RI Kids Count, the high school graduation rate for Providence students is 63%, as compared to the statewide rate of 74%. 9.9% of teens were not in school and not working. 28% of births in Providence were to mothers with less than a high school diploma.

Providence Public School Enrollment and Student Body. As of March 2008, 24,050 students were enrolled in the Providence Public Schools. The racial/ethnic makeup of the student body was 59% Latino; 22% African American; 12% White; and 6% Asian 6%. Ninety-four percent of Providence Public School middle and high school youth qualify for free or reduced price school lunch.

Most MSAPC prevention efforts focus on Middle and High School Students. Enrollment for these students is as follows:



¹ US Census Bureau, State and County Quick Facts, City of Providence, Rhode Island

² Rhode Island KIDS Count. Indicators of Child Well-Being, 2008. Profile of Providence, Rhode Island

Providence Public Schools Enrollment for 2007-2008

Grade 6	Grade 7	Grade 8	Grade 9	Grade 10	Grade 11	Grade 12
1,780	1,765	1,917	2,446	2,116	1,640	1,605

YOUTH SUBSTANCE USE – ALCOHOL, ILLEGAL DRUGS AND TOBACCO

The following charts track Providence youth drug, alcohol, tobacco use rates and attitudes about the risks of using as they progress from grade 6 through 12.

Percent of Youth Reporting Illegal Drug Use in Last 30 Days. (RI SALT Survey 2007-2008)

	Grade 6	Grade 7	Grade 8	Grade 9	Grade 10	Grade 11	Grade 12
Illegal Drugs	7%	10%	13%	20%	24%	22%	28%

Percent of Youth Reporting Underage Alcohol Use in Last 30 Days. (RI SALT Survey 2007-2008)

	Grade 6	Grade 7	Grade 8	Grade 9	Grade 10	Grade 11	Grade 12
Alcohol	16%	18%	24%	30%	35%	33%	37%

Percent of Youth Reporting Tobacco Use in Last 30 Days. (RI SALT Survey 2007-2008)

	Grade 6	Grade 7	Grade 8	Grade 9	Grade 10	Grade 11	Grade 12
Tobacco Use	7%	9%	12%	16%	20%	17%	23%

Percentage of Friends That Would Approve or Wouldn't Care if Close Friend Used. (RI SALT Survey 2007-2008)

	Grade 6	Grade 7	Grade 8	Grade 9	Grade 10	Grade 11	Grade 12
Smoked Marijuana Regularly	12%	15%	21%	29%	32%	33%	38%
Tried Cocaine or Crack	11%	13%	15%	19%	20%	18%	25%
Had 5 or More Alcoholic Drinks	15%	16%	25%	31%	37%	37%	39%

Rhode Island Youth ATOD Use (Ages 12-17) as Compared to National Averages.

Substance Abuse and Mental Health Administration, National Survey on Drug Use and Health, 2006-2007

