

- Urban Core**
- Central Falls
- Newport
- Pawtucket
- Providence
- Woonsocket
- Urban Ring**
- Cranston
- East Providence
- North Providence
- Warwick
- West Warwick**

Profiles of Urban Rhode Island

WEST WARWICK

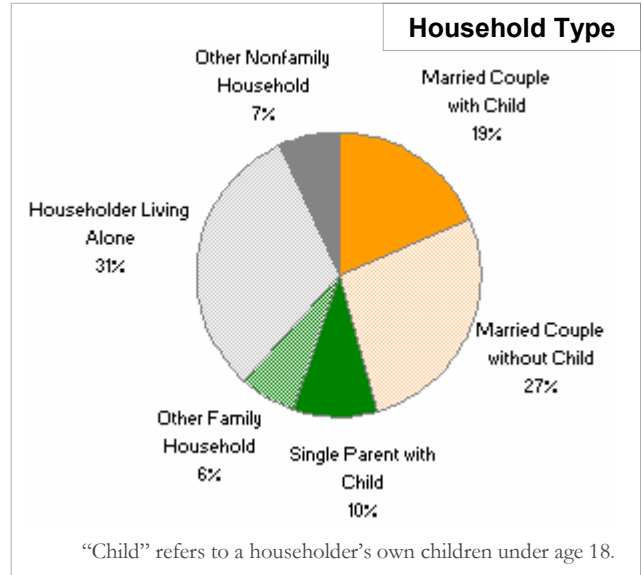
Cities Count is an initiative of The RI Foundation & RIPEC. Profile development provided by The Providence Plan.

The population of West Warwick grew by just over 300 people. However, public school enrollment fell slightly during the 1990's, one of only two cities where this happened. While non-White residents comprise only 8% of the total population, the small Hispanic population nearly tripled and now accounts for 3% overall, compared to 1% for Blacks or African Americans, 1% for Asians, and 2% other. The number of families headed by a single mother grew by one-third. Single-parent families now make

up 18% of all families, a higher rate than characteristic of the Urban Ring.

West Warwick has a lower owner-occupancy rate (54%) than the rest of the Urban Ring (66%), and home ownership rates have declined across all racial and ethnic groups except Whites, which held steady at 55%.

As of 2001, most jobs are in retail trade (29%), followed closely by manufacturing (27%). Jobs in service industries accounts for 22% of locally-based employment. West Warwick has a higher



proportion of manufacturing jobs than most urban communities. The most common types of employment for West Warwick residents are sales and office occupations (32%) and management and professional occupations (26%).

Median family income fell by 7% (in real dollars) during the 1990's. The number of children living in poverty grew by more than half. Nearly one in five children under the age 18 lives in poverty, and one-third of public school students are eligible for free or reduced price lunch; both rates are greater than witnessed in other Urban Ring municipalities.

As in all urban communities, West Warwick experienced an increase in the number of adults with at least a high school education, as well as an increase in those with a bachelor's degree. However, the proportion of adults who have attained these education levels is smaller than corresponding rates in the rest of the Urban Ring.

West Warwick's public school students performed similar to the state average on assessments of reading understanding. While elementary students compared well statewide in math skills, fewer of the city's middle and high school students met the standard in relation to state averages. West Warwick had the most mobile students and the lowest graduation rate among the Urban Ring communities.

CHANGE OVER THE DECADE				
1990 to 2000	TOWN	Since '90	STATE	Since '90
Population ¹	29,581	1%	1,048,319	4%
Households	12,498	7%	408,424	8%
Families	7,700	-1%	265,398	2%
Public School Enrollment ²	3,736	-3%	157,347	17%
1989 to 1999	TOWN	Since '89	STATE	Since '89
Median Family Income*	\$47,674	-7%	\$52,781	3%
Families below Poverty	711	40%	23,608	32%
1994 to 2001	TOWN	Since '94	STATE	Since '94
Private Employment ^{3,4}	7,344	12%	405,051	10%

* Change in Median Family Income incorporates an inflation adjustment, using the Bureau of Labor Statistics' Consumer Price Index.

Rates of Occurrence for Selected Demographic Items

Rates and totals refer to year in column heading unless otherwise denoted.

2000 Comparison Rates

1990 Town Rate	2000 Town Rate		2000 Town Total	Urban Core	Rest of Ring	Non-Urban RI
WEST WARWICK, RI						
POPULATION AND HOUSEHOLD CHARACTERISTICS						
7%	7%	of the population is under age 5.	1,936	7%	5%	6%
15%	16%	of the population is age 5 to 17.	4,696	18%	16%	18%
11%	9%	of the population is age 18 to 24.	2,801	15%	7%	8%
20%	16%	of the population is age 25 to 34.	4,670	16%	14%	11%
33%	38%	of the population is age 35 to 64.	11,313	32%	40%	42%
14%	14%	of the population is age 65 or over.	4,165	12%	18%	14%
1%	3%	of the population is Hispanic or Latino, of any race.	918	23%	3%	1%
97%	92%	of the population is Non-Hispanic White. ^A	27,306	58%	90%	95%
1%	1%	of the population is Non-Hispanic Black or African American. ^A	306	9%	3%	1%
1%	1%	of the population is Non-Hispanic Asian, Native Hawaiian, or Pacific Islander. ^A	414	4%	2%	1%
0%	2%	of the population is Non-Hispanic Some Other Race or Non-Hispanic Two or More Races. ^A	637	6%	3%	1%
14%	14%	of the population speaks a language other than English at home. ^B	3,845	38%	15%	10%
5%	5%	of the population speaks English less than "very well." ^B	1,347	18%	6%	3%
66%	62%	of all households are family households.	7,700	59%	64%	71%
11%	16%	of family households are single parents with own child under age 18.	1,254	26%	11%	9%
36%	40%	of the household population lives in a rental housing unit. ^C	11,789	57%	27%	20%
-	75%	of the population age 18 and over was registered for the 2000 RI General Election. ^{D 5}	17,207	71%	87%	92%
-	47%	of registered voters turned out for the 2000 Rhode Island General Election. ^{D 5}	10,841	36%	56%	61%
11%	8%	of the population age 25 and over has less than a 9th Grade education.	1,660	14%	6%	5%
70%	76%	of the population age 25 and over is at least a High School graduate.	15,319	67%	79%	85%
15%	17%	of the population age 25 and over has a Bachelor's Degree or higher.	3,356	20%	23%	31%
POVERTY AND PUBLIC ASSISTANCE						
7%	9%	of all families live in poverty in 1999.	711	20%	5%	4%
-	43%	of all female single-parent households live in poverty in 1999. ^E	463	53%	25%	20%
12%	18%	of the population under age 18 live in poverty in 1999.	1,186	35%	8%	6%
15%	11%	of the population age 65 and over live in poverty in 1999.	446	16%	8%	7%
-	2%	of all households have a householder enrolled in the Family Independence Program. ^{F 6}	301	7%	1%	1%
-	33%	of all births were to mothers insured through a public source (1996-2000). ⁷	657	56%	25%	14%
-	33%	of public school students were eligible for free or reduced price lunch (school year 2001-02). ²	1,221	72%	21%	12%
CRIME						
-	24	is the rate of crime per 1000 people. ⁸	697 crimes	58	27	22
-	2	is the rate of violent crime per 1000 people. ⁸	69 crimes	6	2	1

1990 Town Rate	2000 Town Rate	WEST WARWICK, RI	2000 Town Total	Urban Core	Rest of Ring	Non-Urban RI
HOUSING AND HOMEOWNERSHIP						
94%	95%	of all housing units are occupied.	12,498	92%	96%	91%
55%	54%	of occupied housing units are owner-occupied.	6,796	37%	66%	74%
49%	54%	of occupied housing units have had the same householder for at least 5 years.	6,693	44%	60%	61%
-	11	is the number of people per acre of land in residential use. ⁹	2,621 acres	26	11	4
39%	26%	of Hispanic or Latino householders are homeowners. ^G	66	18%	43%	46%
55%	55%	of White householders are homeowners. ^G	6,611	42%	68%	75%
36%	31%	of Black or African American householders are homeowners. ^G	40	24%	42%	47%
100%	44%	of Asian, Native Hawaiian, or Pacific Islander householders are homeowners. ^G	58	27%	52%	65%
9%	27%	of householders of Some Other Race or Two or More Races are homeowners. ^G	87	22%	48%	50%
23%	26%	of all homeowners are over the age of 65.	1,738	29%	29%	23%
-	7%	of children scheduled to enter kindergarten in 2003 have elevated blood lead levels. ^{H 10}	26	20%	8%	6%
INCOME AND EMPLOYMENT						
-	30%	of households have 1999 incomes under \$25,000.	3,757	44%	28%	21%
-	13%	of households have 1999 incomes of \$25,000 to \$34,999.	1,636	13%	13%	10%
-	19%	of households have 1999 incomes of \$35,000 to \$49,999.	2,425	15%	17%	15%
-	21%	of households have 1999 incomes of \$50,000 to \$74,999.	2,566	15%	22%	23%
-	17%	of households have 1999 incomes of \$75,000 or more.	2,106	13%	20%	31%
41%	27%	of all employment is in the Manufacturing Industry (1994 and 2001). ^{I 3,4}	1,978	16%	17%	19%
29%	29%	of all employment is in the Retail Trade Industry (1994 and 2001). ^{I 3,4}	2,108	18%	24%	25%
4%	6%	of all employment is in Finance, Insurance, and Real Estate (1994 and 2001). ^{I 3,4}	444	7%	9%	7%
14%	22%	of all employment is in the Services Industry (1994 and 2001). ^{I 3,4}	1,584	49%	34%	30%
7.1%	4.9%	of the workforce is unemployed (1990 and 2001). ^{J 11,12}	750	6.3%	4.4%	3.9%
-	26%	of employed residents are in management or professional occupations. ^K	3,942	28%	33%	39%
-	16%	of employed residents are in service occupations. ^K	2,413	17%	16%	15%
-	32%	of employed residents are in sales or office occupations. ^K	4,805	25%	30%	26%
-	17%	of employed residents are in production, transportation, or material moving occupations. ^K	2,508	22%	14%	11%
21%	17%	of workers age 16 and over live and work in the same city or town.	2,515	42%	29%	24%
79%	76%	of commuters age 16 and over travel less than 30 minutes to work, one-way.	10,997	77%	78%	67%
3%	3%	of commuters age 16 and over report commuting to work by public transportation or walking.	361	14%	3%	4%
10%	11%	of households do not have a vehicle available.	1,325	20%	9%	5%

Data Descriptions

- A. Multiple race selections were available *only* for the 2000 Census.; thus, population by race is not directly comparable between 1990 and 2000.
- B. Lingual data items refer to the population age 5 and over.
- C. Household population *excludes* those living in group quarters, such as dormitories or nursing homes.
- D. Number of persons age 18 and over at time of the Census may differ from date of election.
- E. Female single-parent households refer to all such households with *related* children under age 18.
- F. FIP caseload for March 2002. Count of householders enrolled in FIP includes only those householders age 16 to 59. Participation in FIP may vary widely by month.
- G. Race categories for homeowners are inclusive of Hispanic origin. Hence, Black homeowners include both Black Hispanic and Black Non-Hispanic homeowners, and so forth..
- H. Elevated blood lead levels are greater than or equal to 10 microgram per deciliter, at any time prior to December 31, 2001.
- I. Table includes only the four highest employing Major SIC Industry Divisions for the State. Counts are employers-based.
- J. Unemployment total is the average of monthly counts. No seasonal adjustments are made to the rate.
- K. Occupational items deal with the employed civilian workforce age 16 and over. Counts are based on the residence of the employee.

PUBLIC EDUCATION

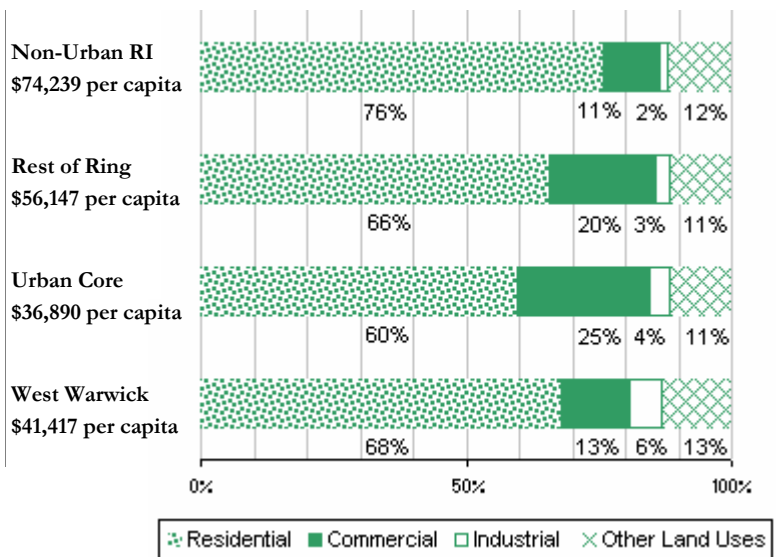
\$4,853	Per pupil expenditure for General Instruction in 2000-01, compared to the State average of <u>\$4312</u> per pupil ²
3%	Portion of students receiving Limited English Proficiency services ²
24	Mobility Index: district avg. of per school movement into or out of a school, with respect to fall enrollments; Index of <u>18</u> for the State ¹³
72%	Graduation Rate for 2001, compared to rate of <u>81%</u> for the State ¹³
940	Average 2001 SAT score for participating test-takers, compared to the State average of <u>982</u> on the combined Math and Verbal sections ²
49%	Portion of district funds from State or Federal sources in 2000-01 ¹³

Meeting or Exceeding the Standard on 2001 State Assessment Tests, Math Skills and Reading Understanding ¹³		
	TOWN	STATE
Grade 4 Math	57%	58%
Grade 4 Reading	72%	70%
Grade 8 Math	34%	41%
Grade 8 Reading	47%	49%
Grade 10 Math	35%	38%
Grade 10 Reading	35%	36%

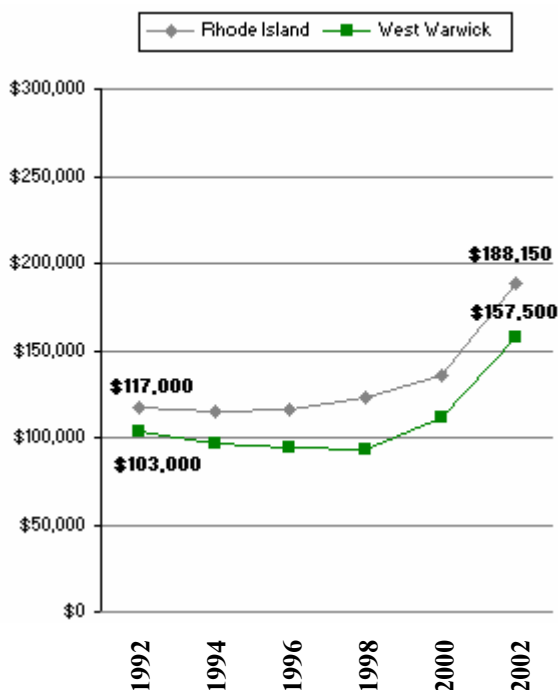
FISCAL HEALTH

Baa1	Moody's Bond Rating, as of June 2002 ¹⁴
\$318,291	Residential Value <i>per Acre</i> in 2000, compared to <u>\$289,158</u> for the State ⁹
\$4,523	Estimated tax on a \$150,000 home in 2000 ¹³
\$41,417	Overall Property Value <i>per Capita</i> in 2000, compared to <u>\$57,122</u> for the State ⁹

Composition of Property Value Per Capita by Land Use ⁹



Median Sales Price of Single Family Home ¹⁵



For additional copies of this profile and further information regarding Cities Count, please visit WWW.RIPEC.ORG

Data Sources

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