

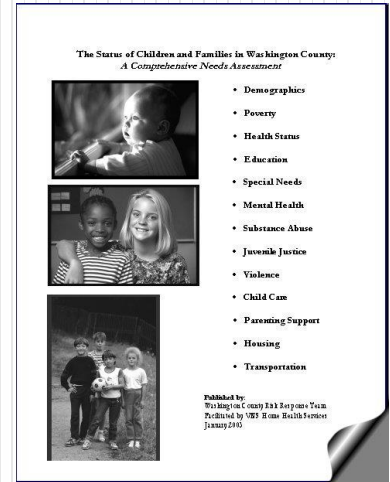


“ . . . and how are the children?”

Scott Mueller, RIC School of Social Work  
Elecia Cardarelli, University of RI Intern

- **Dispel myths about Washington County**
- **Track progress & trends**
- **Advocate for needed services**
- **Foster greater collaboration**
- **Identify & fill gaps**

First needs assessment published in 2003

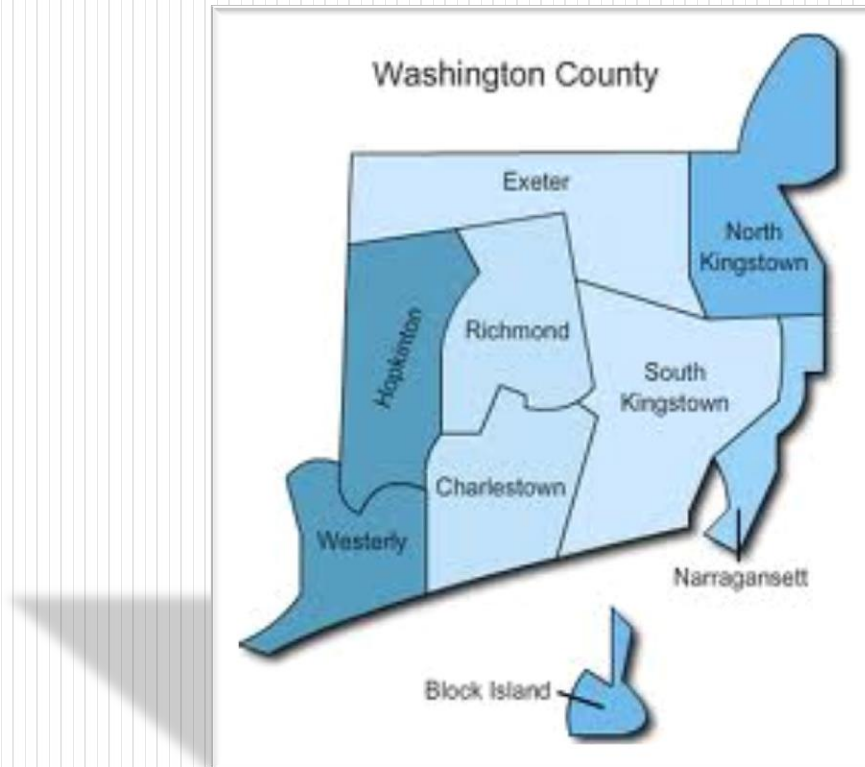


Currently updating latest edition (2015)

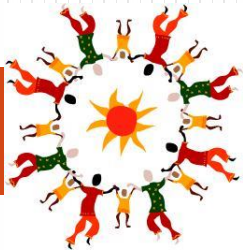


**Why do we track data?**

# Washington County = 9 Southern RI Towns



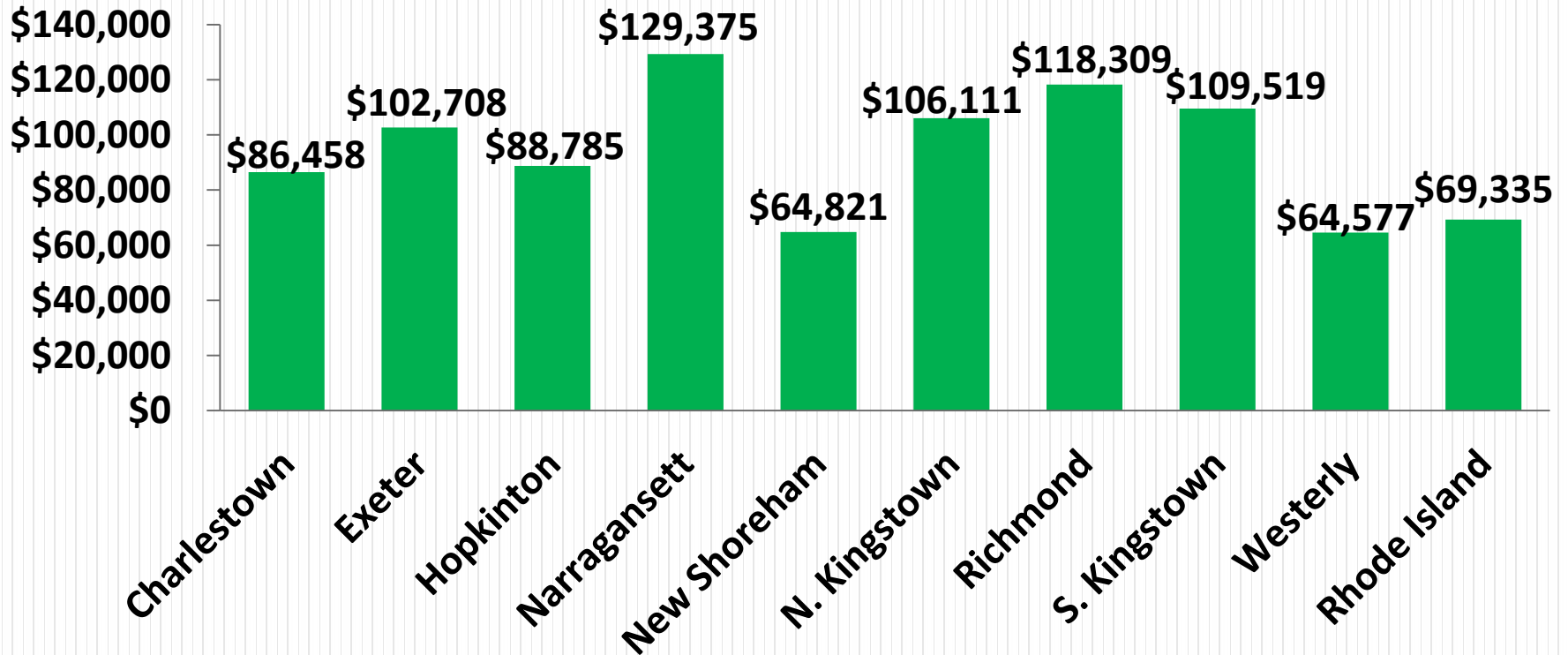
Who are our children?



Are Our Families Financially Secure?

# Median Family Income, 2012-2016

Washington County Median Family Income = \$94,253



Source: US Census Bureau - 2012-2016 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates



**How many county children are enrolled  
in SNAP?**

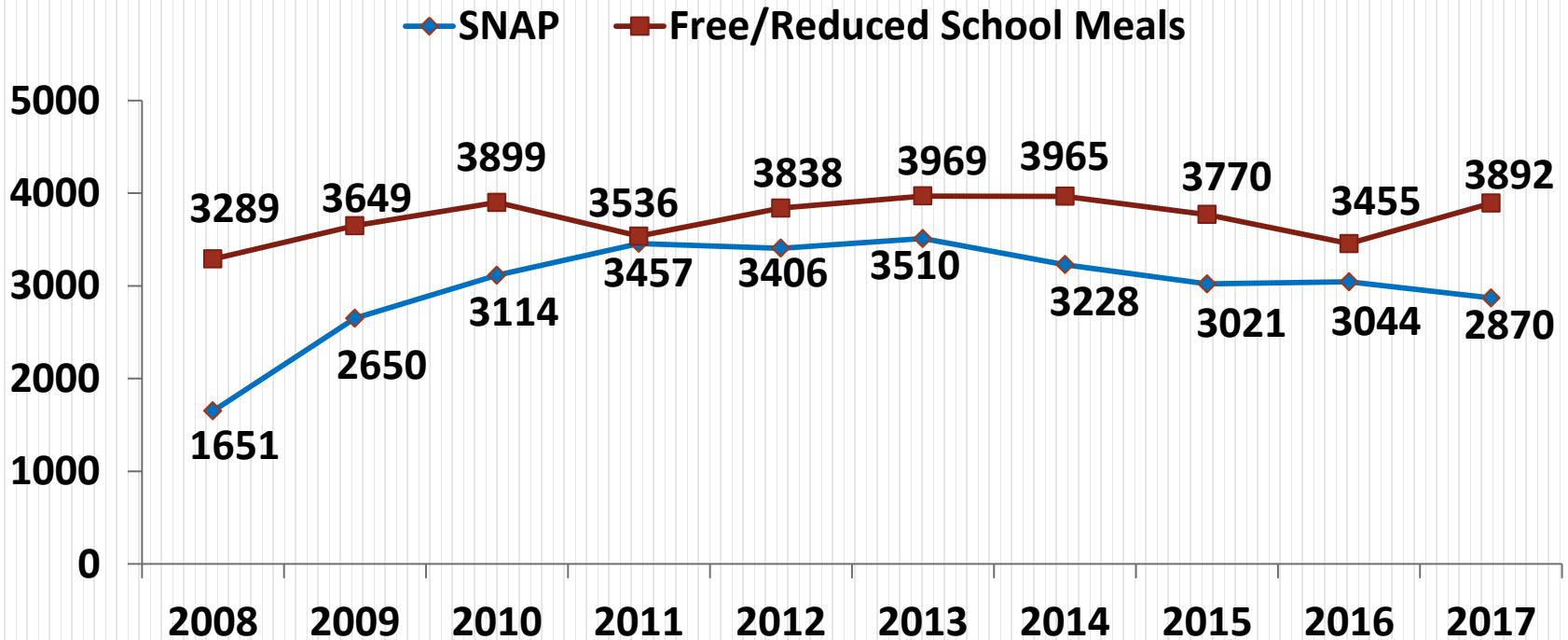


- a) 2870**
- b) 3021**
- c) 3510**



**QUIZ QUESTION**

# Comparison of Washington County SNAP & Free/Reduced School Meal Enrollment, 2008-2017



Source: RI DHS & RIDE as cited in *RI KIDS COUNT Factbooks 2009-2018*



# Free Reduced School Meal Enrollment by School District, 2008-2017

School District	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
Chariho	681	788	799	673	844	888	692	661	612	703
Exeter-WG	263	267	265	229	249	247	238	212	219	265
Narragansett	168	211	271	101	315	289	280	247	259	306
New Shoreham	17	16	16	10	15	12	20	18	21	22
N. Kingstown	717	811	822	872	769	820	894	899	885	898
S. Kingstown	543	590	657	609	591	640	642	715	524	637
Westerly	895	966	1069	1042	1055	1073	1199	1018	935	1061
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>3289</b>	<b>3649</b>	<b>3899</b>	<b>3536</b>	<b>3838</b>	<b>3969</b>	<b>3965</b>	<b>3770</b>	<b>3455</b>	<b>3892</b>

Source: RIDE as cited in *RI KIDS COUNT Factbooks 2009-2018*







Are Our Children Safe?

**What % of Grade 3-5 students reported they were bullied on school property in your district?**

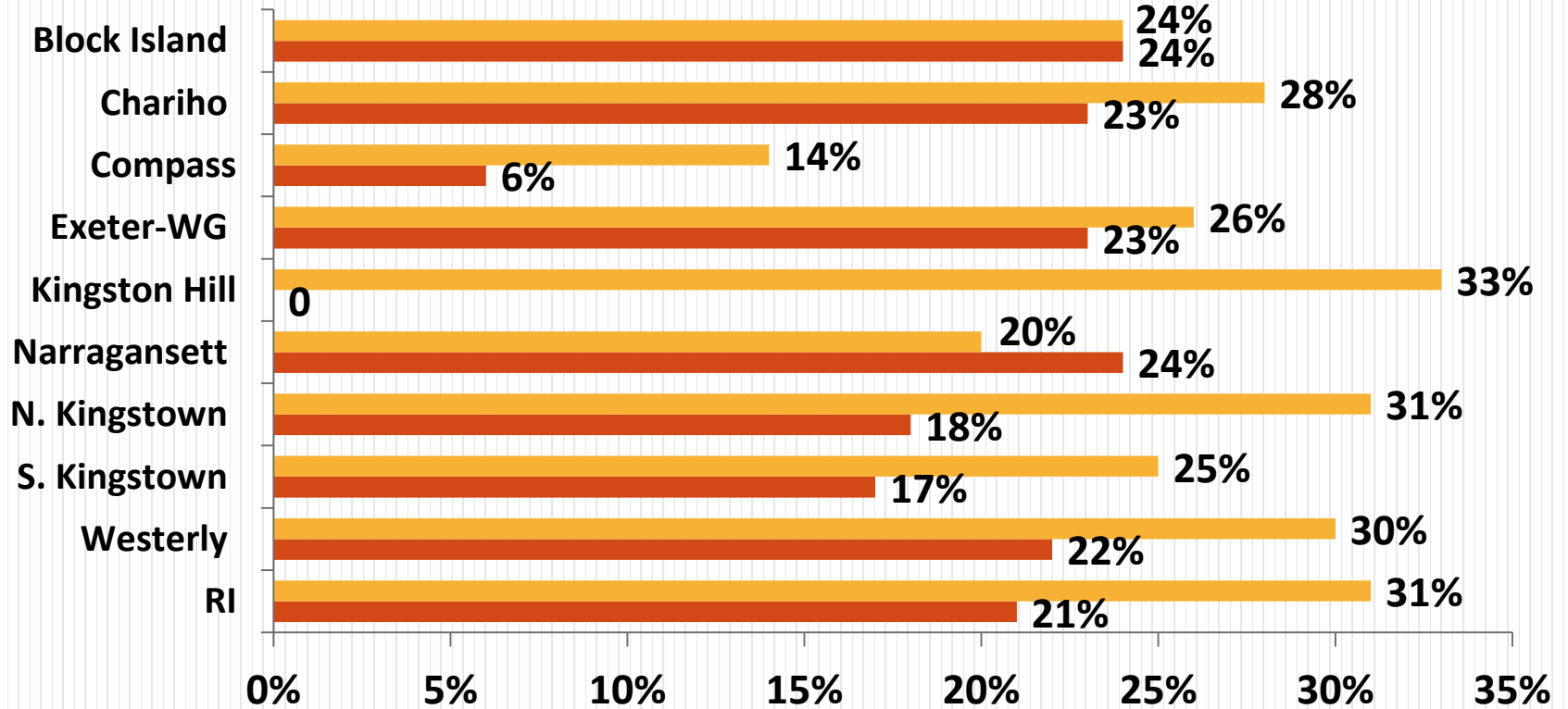


**QUIZ QUESTION**

# Self Reports of Bullying on School Property

■ Grade 3-5 % bullied at school - Countywide Total=27% (878 Students)

■ Grade 6-12 % bullied at school - Countywide Total=20% (1525 Students)



Source: RIDE SurveyWorks Student Survey, Spring 2017 District Results



**How many Washington County students reported they were victims of electronic bullying?**

**a) 978**

**b) 1001**

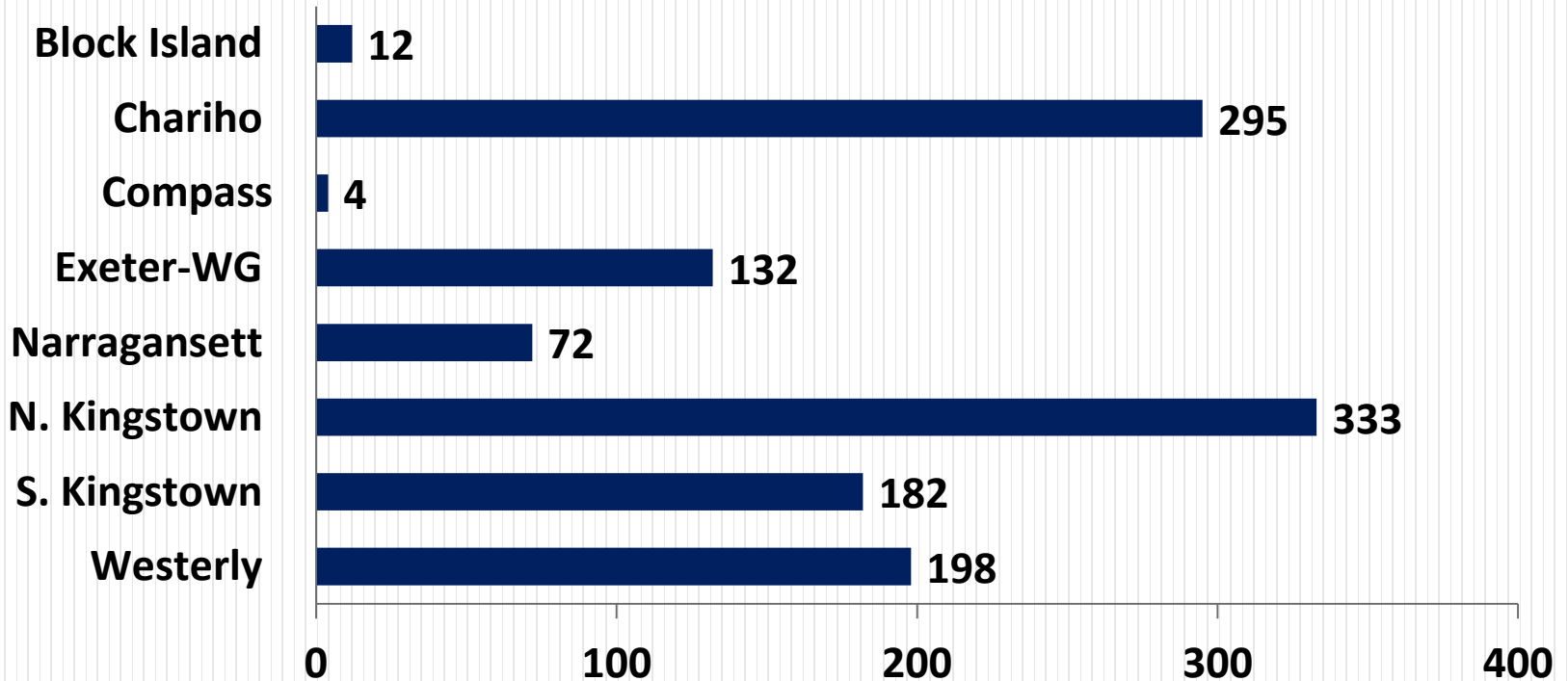
**c) 1228**



**QUIZ QUESTION**

# Self Reports of Cyberbullying in Past Year

■ # Students Cyberbullied (Total Washington County Students Cyberbullied=1228)



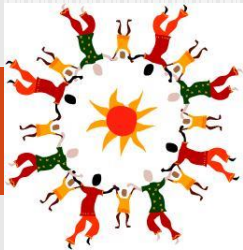
Source: RIDE SurveyWorks Student Survey, Spring 2017 District Results



Is the number of child abuse/neglect victims in the county increasing or decreasing?

a) **↑** Increasing

b) **↓** Decreasing



**QUIZ QUESTION**

# Child Abuse/Neglect Victims by Town-2017



2016 County Total = 206

Town	Number	Victim/1000
Charlestown	12	8.0
Exeter	11	8.2
Hopkinton	34	18.4
Narragansett	16	7.1
New Shoreham	1	6.1
North Kingstown	60	9.5
Richmond	3	1.6
South Kingstown	43	7.9
Westerly	81	16.9
<b>2017 County Total</b>	<b>261</b>	<b>10.2</b>

RI Statewide Rate = 14.6



## Child Abuse & Neglect

Source: RI DCYF RICHIST as cited in *2018 Rhode Island KIDS COUNT Factbook*

How many children were present during domestic violence arrests in 2015?



A. 144

B. 169

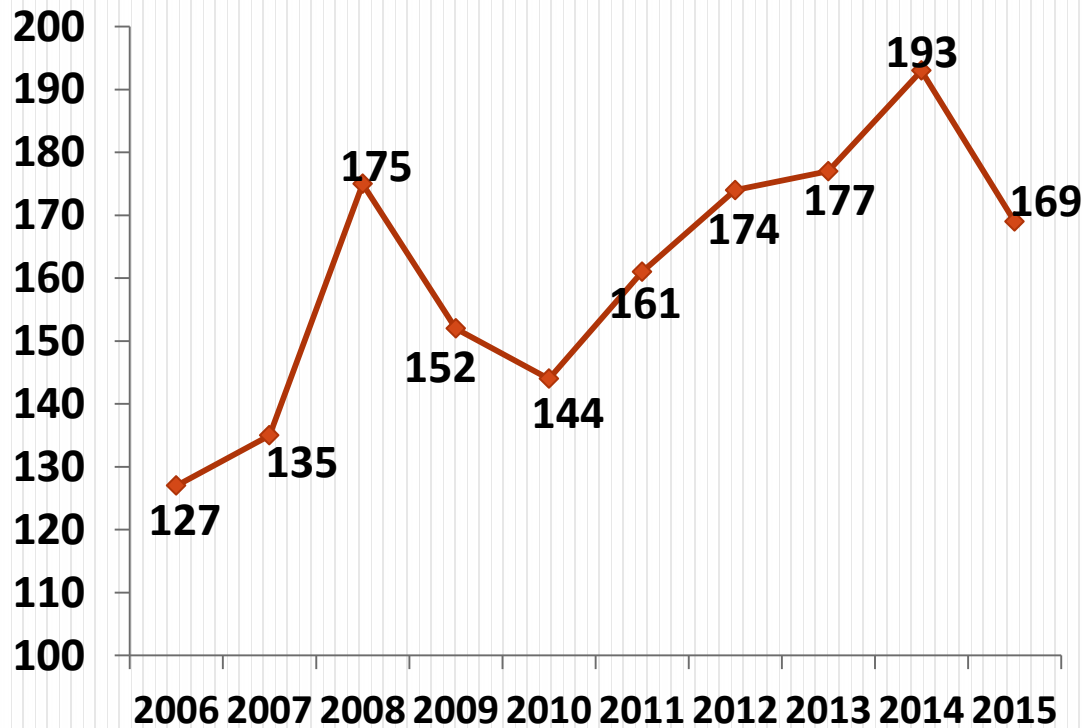
C. 193



QUIZ QUESTION



# Children Present During Domestic Violence Arrests - 2015



Town	Number
Charlestown	9
Exeter	N/A
Hopkinton	15
Narragansett	18
New Shoreham	1
North Kingstown	18
Richmond	11
South Kingstown	26
Westerly	71
<b>County Total</b>	<b>169</b>

Source: Domestic Violence Training & Monitoring Unit, RI Supreme Court





Are Our Children Healthy?

**How many county children under age 18 are enrolled in Medical Assistance?**



**a) 5338**

**b) 6087**

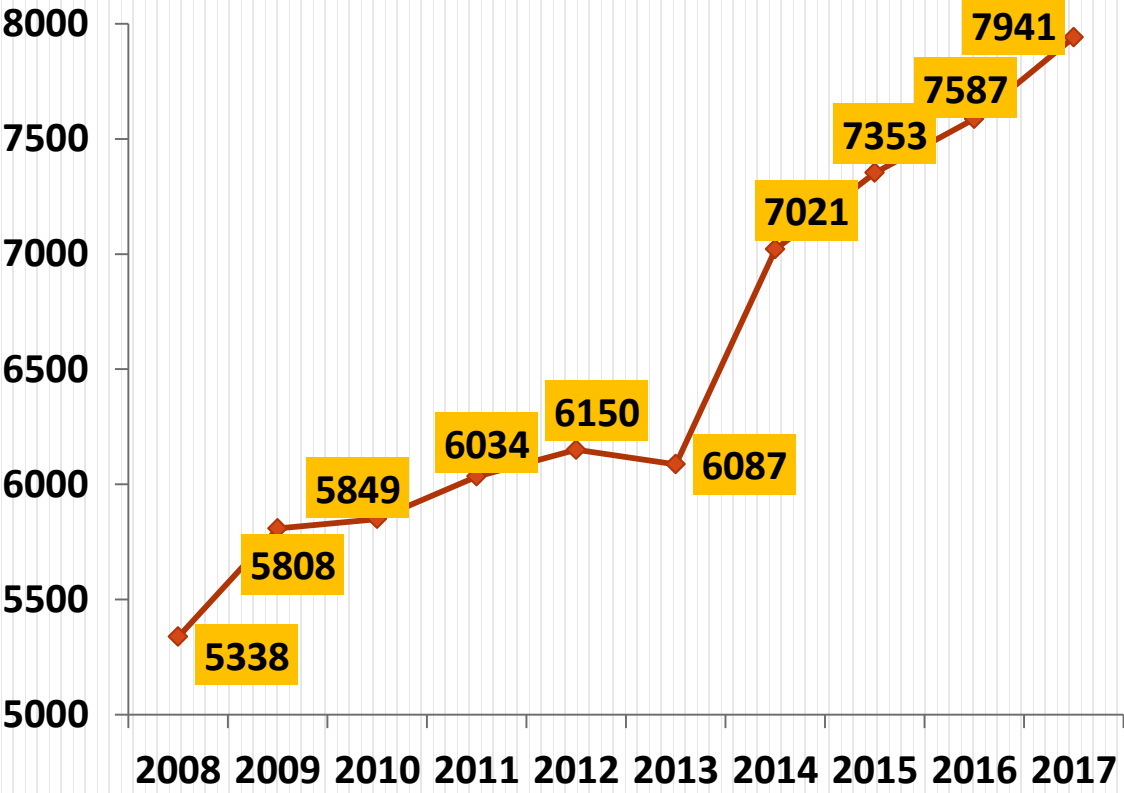
**c) 7941**



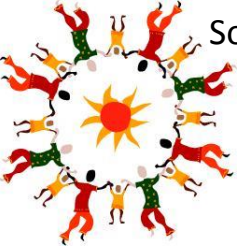
**QUIZ QUESTION**

# Children <19 Covered by Medical Assistance 2008-2017

Town	Number
Charlestown	533
Exeter	333
Hopkinton	653
Narragansett	541
New Shoreham	65
North Kingstown	1860
Richmond	294
South Kingstown	1497
Westerly	2165
<b>County Total</b>	<b>7941 (31%)</b>



Source: RI EOHHS, MMIS Database, December 31, 2017, as cited in *2008-2017 RI KIDS COUNT Factbooks*



# Early Experiences Matter!

1 Million new neural connections form every second during a baby's first 3 years



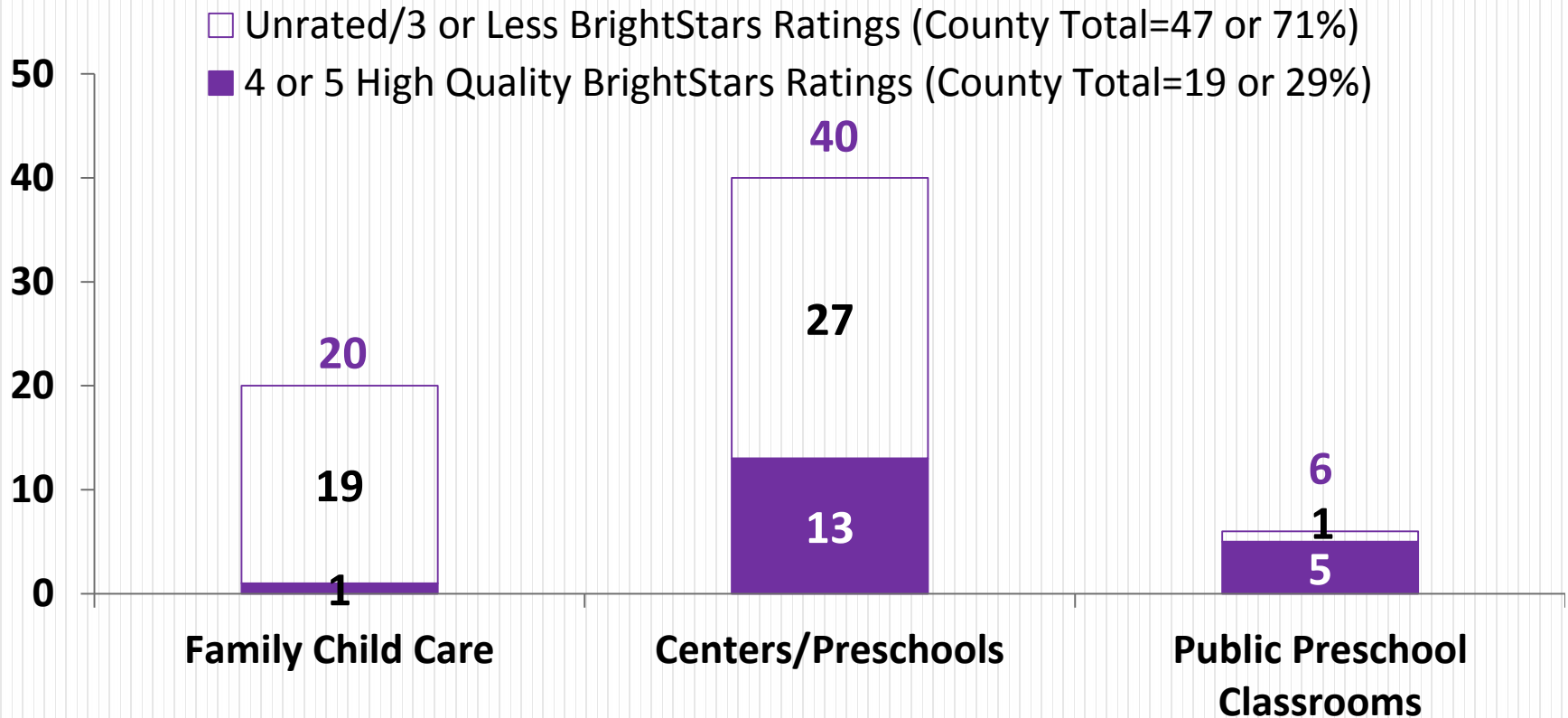
- Nurturing relationships
  - Quality early learning experiences
  - Good nutrition
- are all key to optimum health, growth, and neurodevelopment across the lifespan -  
Also pivotal for school success

How many high quality early childhood sites do we have in the county?



## QUIZ QUESTION

# High Quality Early Care & Education Sites January 2018



Source: BrightStars as cited in *2018 Rhode Island KIDS COUNT Factbook*

# 19 Youth Suicides (Ages 10-24) Occurred in Washington County between 2008-2017



Average age: **20.5 years**

Most common means: **Asphyxia**

73% had a known mental health diagnosis

31% received some treatment for substance use

31% had known history of childhood trauma

52% had history of involvement with law enforcement

42% screened (+) for alcohol at time of death

31% screened (+) for marijuana at time of death

Source: RI Dept . of Health, Suicide Prevention Program



What % of 6<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> graders report they are "frequently" or "almost always"



worried?

a) 25%

b) 40%

c) 60%



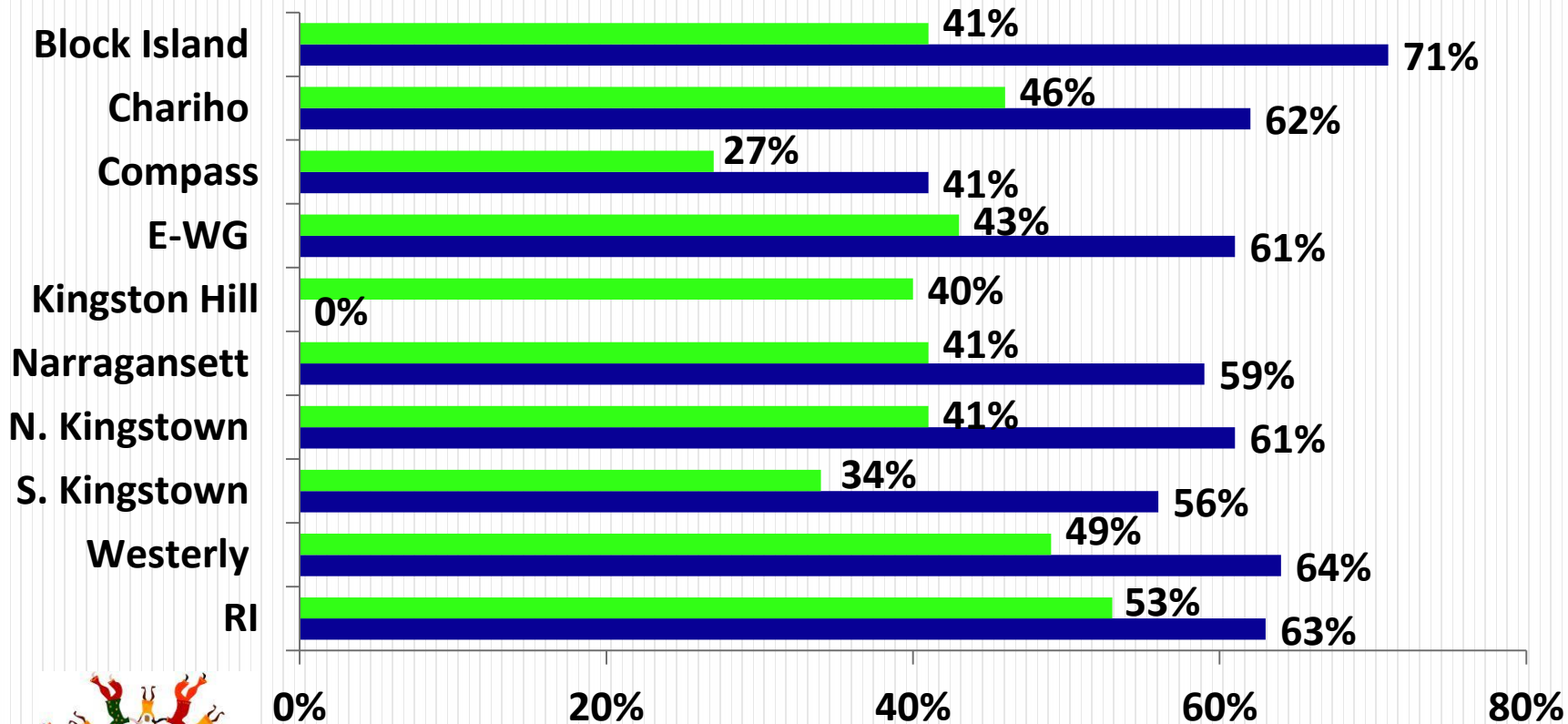
QUIZ QUESTION



# Student Self Reports of Frequently or Almost Always Worrying, 2017

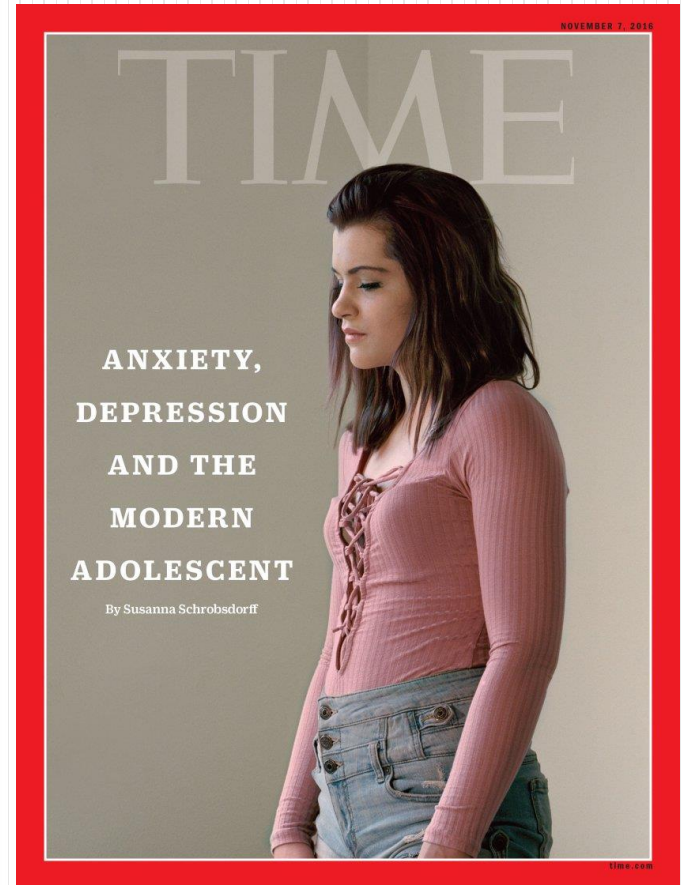
■ Grade 3-5 Students Worried - Countywide=41% (1348 Students)

■ Grade 6-12 Students Worried - Countywide=60% (4431 Students)



Source: RIDE SurveyWorks Student Survey, Spring 2017 District Results

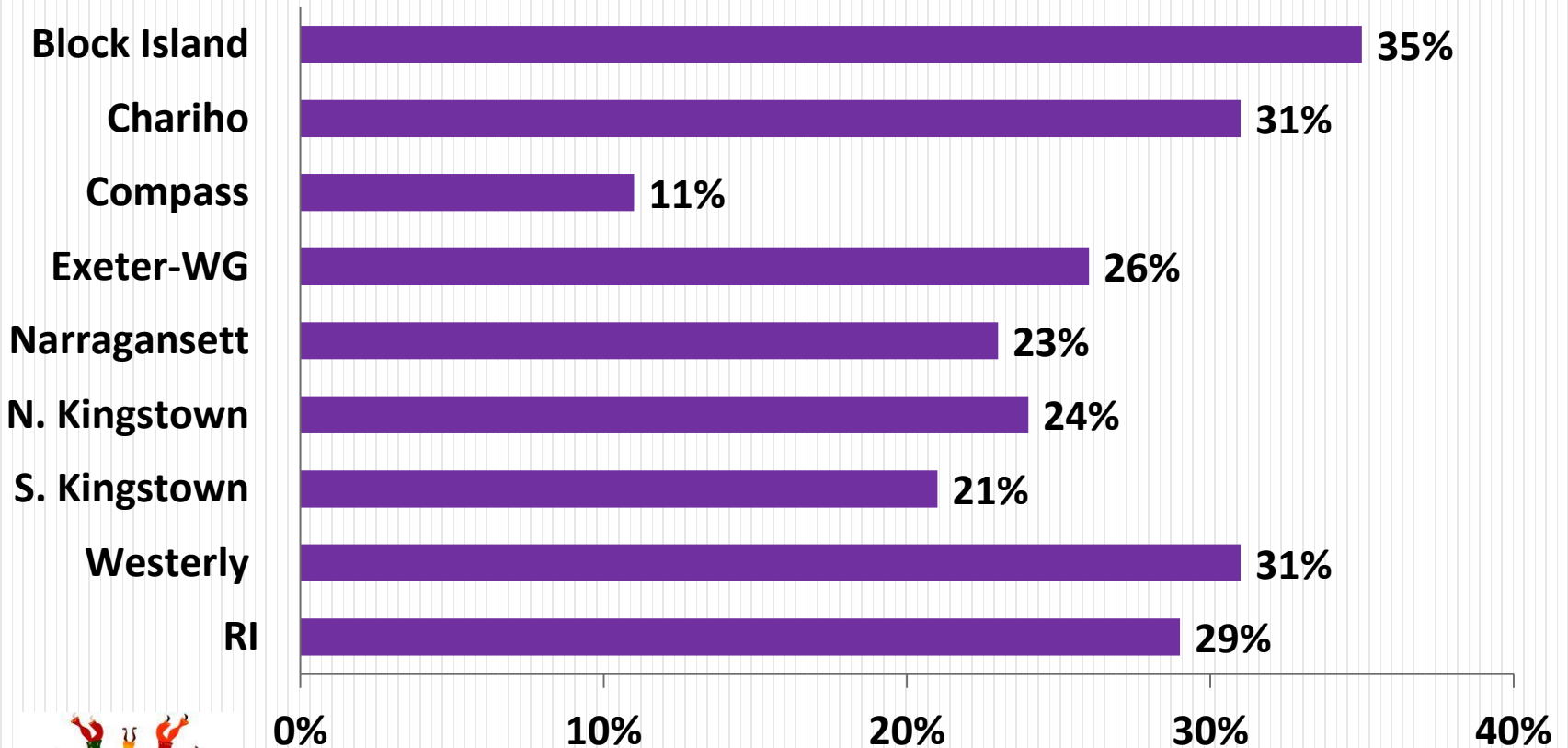
What % of students in your district reported they felt “*so sad or hopeless almost everyday for 2 weeks or more in a row that they stopped doing some usual activities?*”



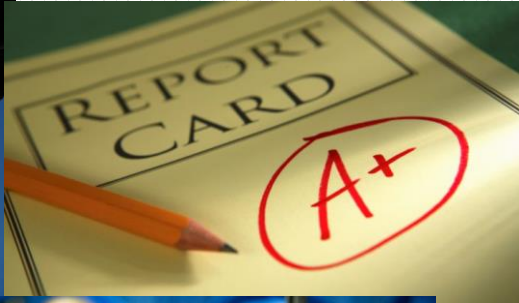
QUIZ QUESTION

# Student Reports of Feeling Sad or Hopeless Everyday for 2 Weeks in Past Year, 2017

■ % 6-12th Grade Respondents Sad or Hopeless - Countywide=26% (1960 Students)



Source: RIDE SurveyWorks Student Survey, Spring 2017 District Results



Are Our Children Successful in School?

What school district had the highest number of absences by teens due to lack of sleep?



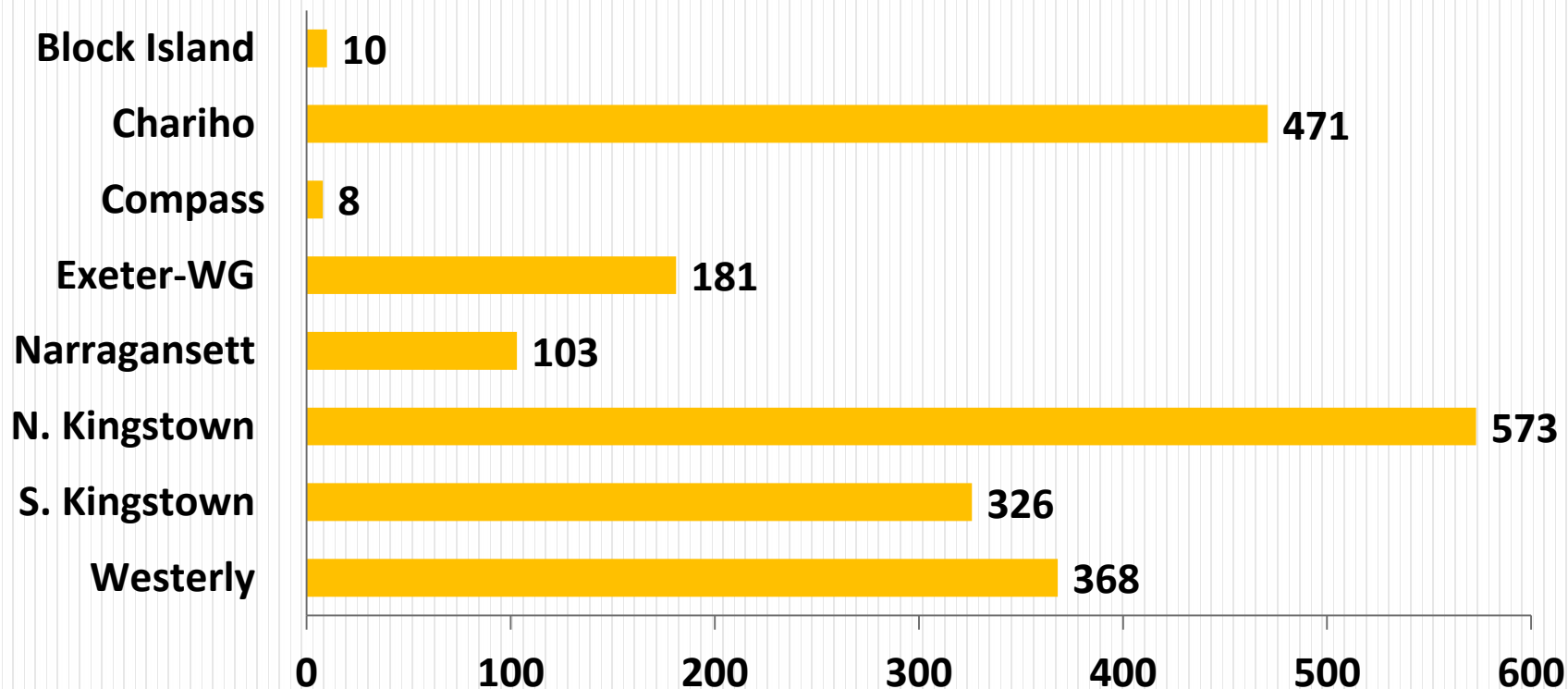
*Block Island  
Chariho  
Compass  
Exeter-WG  
Narragansett  
N. Kingstown  
S. Kingstown  
Westerly*



QUIZ QUESTION

# School Absences Due to Lack of Sleep, 2017

■ # Grade 6-12 Students Reporting Absences for Sleep-Countywide Total=2040



Source: RIDE SurveyWorks Student Survey, Spring 2017 District Results



Do most county children report having at least **1 caring adult at school** they can talk to?

a) Yes

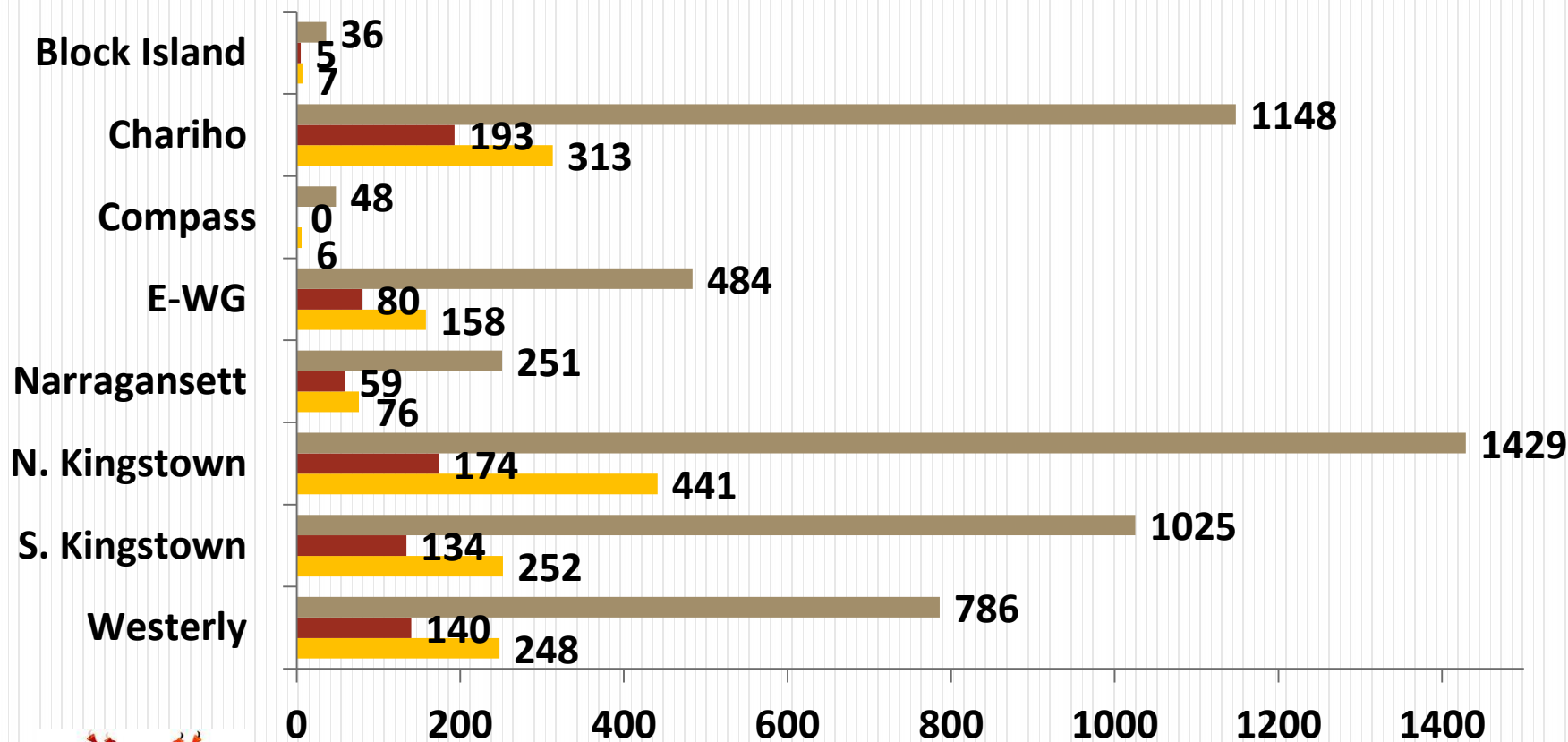
b) No



QUIZ QUESTION

# Self Reports of Caring Adult Connection at School Among 6<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> Graders, 2017

■ Yes (County Total=5207) ■ No (County Total=785) ■ Don't Know (County Total=1511)



Source: RIDE SurveyWorks Student Survey, Spring 2017 District Results





# Have school suspensions remained constant over the years?



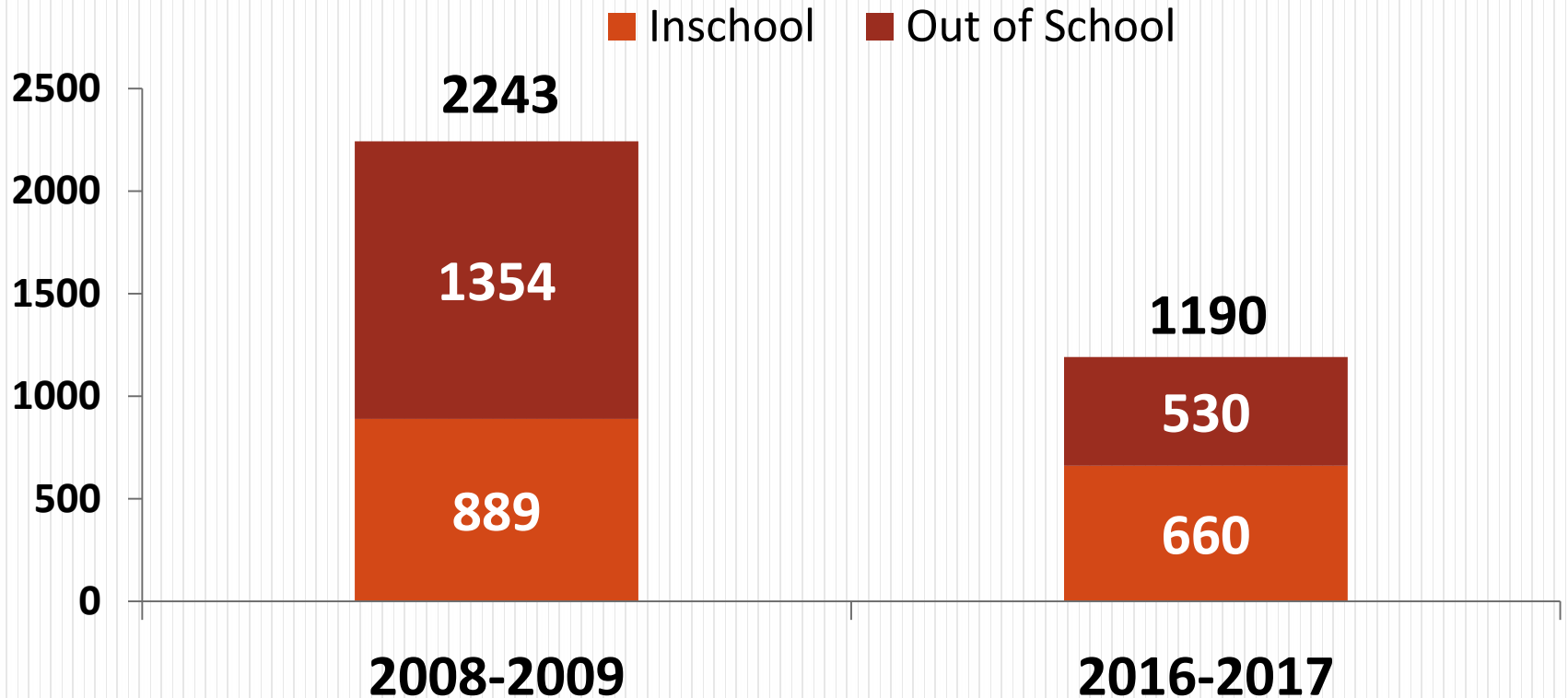
a) Yes

b) No



## QUIZ QUESTION

# School Suspensions—Washington County



Source: RIDE as cited in 2009 & 2018 *RI KIDS COUNT Factbooks*



# School Suspensions-10 Year Comparison

Overall **↓47%** Countywide

School District	2007-2008			2016-2017			Outschool % Change
	Inschool	Out of School	TOTAL	Inschool2	Out of School2	TOTAL2	
Chariho	0	444	<b>444</b>	237	83	<b>320</b>	<b>↓81%</b>
Exeter- WG	0	122	<b>122</b>	29	42	<b>71</b>	<b>↓66%</b>
Narragansett	201	48	<b>249</b>	56	62	<b>118</b>	<b>↑29%</b>
N. Kingstown	105	223	<b>328</b>	258	86	<b>344</b>	<b>↓61%</b>
S. Kingstown	583	327	<b>910</b>	31	49	<b>80</b>	<b>↓85%</b>
Westerly	0	190	<b>190</b>	49	208	<b>257</b>	<b>↑9%</b>
Countywide	<b>889</b>	<b>1354</b>	<b>2243</b>	<b>660</b>	<b>530</b>	<b>1190</b>	<b>↓61%</b>

Source: RIDE as cited in 2009 & 2018 *RI KIDS COUNT Factbooks*



Note - New Shoreham not reported as #'s <10

# Do our children have access to the services/supports they need to thrive?

Access to Affordable Childcare

Support for Single Fathers and Single Parent Homes

Therapeutic Child Care?

Transportation?

Healthy Foods?

Youth Development Programs?

Wellness Programs?

Recreation Opportunities for Children with Behavioral Issues?

Educational Opportunities for Parents

Emergency Mental Health Services?

Afterschool Programs?

Affordable Housing?



Now Give Us Your Input