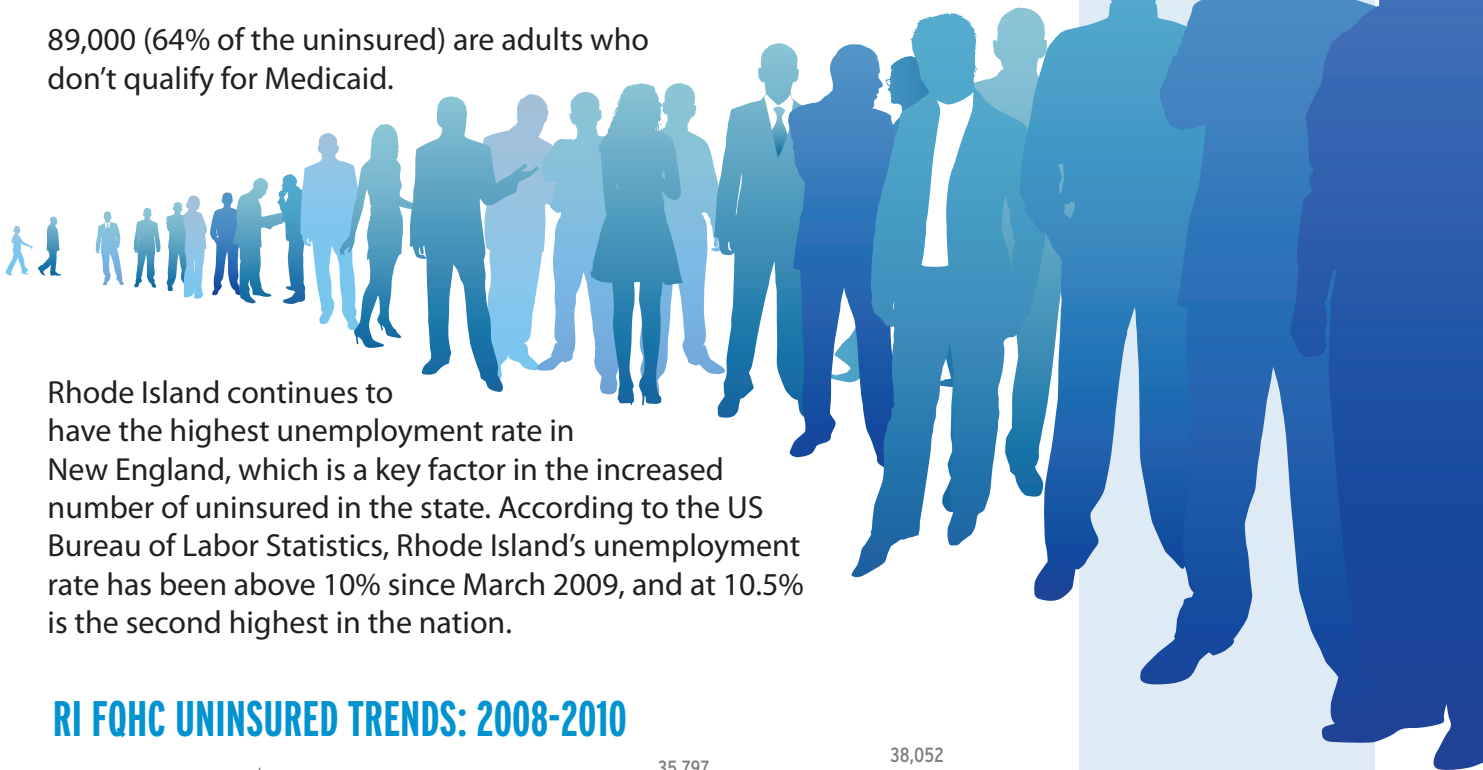


# COMMUNITY HEALTH CENTERS: SERVING THE UNINSURED

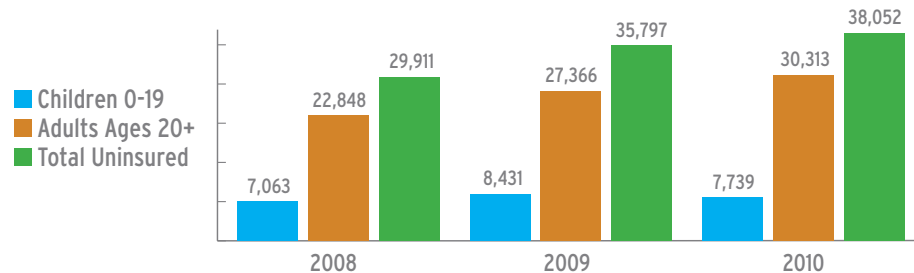
The number of Rhode Islanders without health insurance doubled between 2000 and 2010, with an estimated 140,000 people uninsured at some point in 2010, according to a study by Mathematica.

89,000 (64% of the uninsured) are adults who don't qualify for Medicaid.



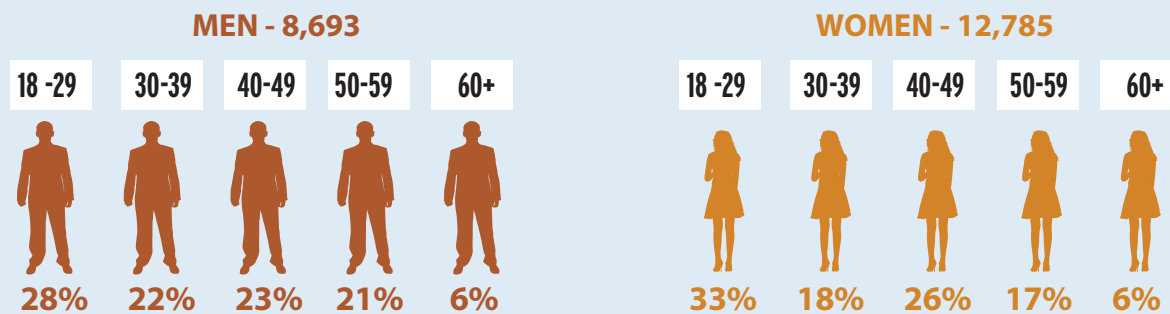
Rhode Island continues to have the highest unemployment rate in New England, which is a key factor in the increased number of uninsured in the state. According to the US Bureau of Labor Statistics, Rhode Island's unemployment rate has been above 10% since March 2009, and at 10.5% is the second highest in the nation.

## RI FQHC UNINSURED TRENDS: 2008-2010



Rhode Island's community health centers continue to have one of the highest uninsured rates in New England at 31%. From 2009 to 2010, the rate of uninsured patients at Rhode Island's community health centers increased by 6% as services were provided to an additional 2,255 uninsured patients. From 2009 to 2010 the percentage of uninsured children decreased by 8% whereas the percentage of adults increased by 11%.

# DEMOGRAPHICS OF UNINSURED COMMUNITY HEALTH CENTER PATIENTS\*



## CHC PROVIDERS' CONCERNS REGARDING UNINSURED PATIENTS

- Unable to afford follow up care
- Lack of transportation to care sites
- Those with chronic conditions don't come in unless acute symptoms occur
- Care is interrupted by difficulty communicating due to unstable living arrangements, loss of phone service, and lack of access to email
- Difficulty in helping patients manage their medications (including filling prescriptions)
- Lack of medical history data
- Over-reliance on emergency room
- Lack of health literacy and awareness of care options

## TOP PRIORITIES FOR THE NEWLY INSURED

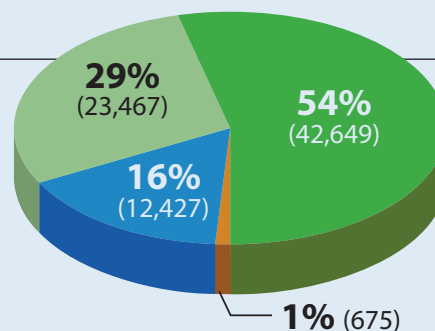
In 2014, health care reform will help many uninsured Rhode Islanders afford coverage. CHC physicians named their top priorities for their new patients:

- Educate the newly enrolled about access options and self-management, pro-active health care decision making and informed utilization decisions
- Encourage people to remain with current medical homes once they have coverage, since providers will know their medical history
- Ensure access to preventive and primary care, including dental and behavioral health care
- Provide nurse care management support to patients
- Managing patients with chronic conditions who have delayed care due to cost

## TYPE OF VISIT

(79,218 Total, Avg. 3.88 Per Patient)

- Primary Care
- Urgent Care
- Specialty Care Including OB/GYN
- Dental



### \*Source Notes:

- NHPRI/RIHCA survey of 5 RI Community Health Centers, Sept. 2012
- Data based on 21,478 patients out of 39,004 uninsured RI FQHC patients seen in 2011, per Uniform Data System, Health Resources and Services Administration
- Not all quantitative data points based on full cohort

# MOST COMMON PRESCRIPTIONS FOR UNINSURED PATIENTS



**ALBUTEROL SULFATE**  
(Asthma)



**Naproxin**  
(Pain Relief)



**Omeprazole**  
(Acid Reflux)



**LISINAPRIL**  
(Blood Pressure)



**NORGESTIMATE-ETHINYL  
ESTRADIOL** (Birth Control)

Speaking about their current uninsured patients, a CHC provider said, *“This population’s biggest unmet medical need is self-management resources and tools to help our patients with two or more chronic diseases stay healthy. This is especially true if one of the diagnoses is a behavioral health diagnosis.”*

## MOST COMMON REASON FOR VISIT

**METABOLIC DISORDERS**  
**RESPIRATORY**  
**CONDITIONS** **ENDOCRINE**  
**CIRCULATORY SYSTEM** **DISORDER**  
**BEHAVIORAL**  
**OTHER** **HEALTH**

## AVERAGE NUMBER OF SCRIPTS

PER UNINSURED PATIENT

2.5

## WHAT ARE THE GREATEST NEEDS AMONG UNINSURED CHC PATIENTS?

- Access to chronic disease management, specialty and sub-specialty care (including dental), and diagnostic testing
- Access to sub-specialty behavioral health care - many uninsured patients have co-diagnoses of mental health condition
- Lack of access to pediatric behavioral health care
- Even with 340B programs, many unable to afford prescriptions
- Self-management resources

According to one community health center physician, *“The top priority for our new patients will be to complete full evaluations for each person. We will have to make up for the delays that these patients have had in receiving care due to their financial situation.”*

# ABOUT RHODE ISLAND'S COMMUNITY HEALTH CENTERS

**Rhode Island's nine community health centers provide comprehensive preventive and primary care services, including dental services, to over 123,000 Rhode Islanders at 29 locations across the state.**

## PRIMARY MEDICAL CARE

Rhode Island's nine community health centers provide comprehensive preventive and primary medical care for people of all ages. Community health centers employ a highly skilled and culturally diverse workforce of primary care physicians, registered nurses, nurse practitioners, certified nurse midwives and physician assistants.

## MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES

In addition to providing medical and dental care, all community health centers provide their patients with access to licensed mental health providers, psychiatrists and licensed clinical counselors.

## DENTAL SERVICES

Over the last ten years, Rhode Island's community health centers have worked with state, federal, and private partners to increase the state's dental infrastructure for low-income patients. All of Rhode Island's community health centers offer dental services.

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