RI LONGITUDINAL DATA SYSTEM FACT SHEET
2024-2025

RILDS integrates, links and centralizes data from over the past three decades and across sectors to provide the most accurate information about Rhode Island. RILDS uses a comprehensive data governance framework to guide the collection, sharing, and use of data across multiple agencies, strengthening collaboration, access, accountability, and transparency. Anyone with a research need can make a request for data from RILDS. Past requests came from various sources, including policymakers, leaders in K-12 districts, higher education institutions, state agencies, the Legislature, and other outside researchers.

Overview
RILDS is managed and operated by the RILDS Center which is located within the Office of the Postsecondary Commissioner. The center's staff successfully handles both the administrative tasks surrounding research projects and conducts data analysis and reporting. The nature of the center's work requires personnel skilled in data engineering, analysis, visualization, and governance. The center's team includes data engineers to optimize the accuracy and efficiency of linkage and data analysts to conduct thorough, comprehensive and reliable analyses.

2024-2025 Key Achievements
RILDS achievements this past year were both administrative and research based. Starting in spring 2024, the center navigated a smooth leadership transition from an interim director to its newly appointed full-time director, all while outputting an impressive number of projects and establishing data sharing agreements. This ensured continuity and growth for the Center. The center also established the Data Governance Committee which created policies for data requests, data release and data governance. This committee is responsible for reviewing and approving research requests ensuring they comply with state and federal privacy laws; evaluating the benefits and risks to the state of releasing the requested data; and determining whether requests align with RILDS's priorities, including whether the request benefits Rhode Islanders. Finally, the center added 12 research partnerships in addition to its five existing data sharing agreements. There are currently eight data-sharing agreements in the approval process.

Major Ongoing Projects

- **FY19 SLDS**: Federal FY19 SLDS grant in partnership with RIDE, RIOPC and DLT to enhance existing SLDS structures in Rhode Island and create a data and planning tool for school/district leaders to identify disparities within their population and provide evidence supported information on how to improve.

- **FY23 SLDS**: Federal FY23 SLDS grant in partnership with RIDE, RIOPC and DLT to redesign and streamline the K-12 datasets essential for the new Readiness-Based Graduation Requirements, to enhance the capacities for RILDS to share data with districts, schools, parents, and students with the goals of informing decisions about college and career pathways and reducing inequities in student opportunities and outcomes.
- **Lead Data Story**: data story update on the impacts of lead exposure to educational outcomes and expansion to include the justice impacts of lead exposure.
- **Postsecondary Affordability Mechanisms**: data set to support the evaluation of Rhode Island's postsecondary affordability mechanisms and their impact on students' educational and workforce outcomes analyzing the state's investment in financial aid programs and assessing the return on investment (ROI) for individual students and the State's economy.
- **Dual Enrollment**: explore the feasibility of implementing direct admission in Rhode Island and support RIDE and RIOPC with ensuring the appropriate data is collected to allow RI to implement Direct Admissions.
- **WIOA Title II**: annual reporting for Title II funded Adult Education Participant Employment Outcomes.

Data Set Requests

- **Revision: Healthcare Graduates' Employment Outcomes** — aggregate data set on healthcare graduates by employment status. (RIDLT, RIOPC, DLT).
- **CS4RI: Computer Science for Rhode Island** — data support for RIDE to produce student level data for RIDE's grant researcher (EDC) assessing the impact of high-quality computer science (CS) learning experiences for students. (RIDE).
- **Revision: Arts Course Taking** — data set on arts course taking to analyze access to and participation in arts education across all Rhode Island schools. (Quadrant Research).
- **RI AmeriCorps Service Data Story (ServeRI)**: data update on RI AmeriCorps for ServeRI, Rhode Island's Commission for National and Community Service at RIDE, of descriptive statistics about AmeriCorps participation in Rhode Island.
- **Teacher Demographics**: aggregate statistics for Clemson University Teacher Demographics analysis of district-level teacher workforce diversity and student academic outcomes. (Clemson University).
- **Boys & Girls Club of America Evaluation**: data set for request in partnership with Boys & Girls Club of America to evaluate whether Boys & Girls Clubs' services and programming helps to support student success and improve educational outcomes for youth participants. (Research for Action).

- **Enrollment & Attendance Statistics**: aggregate statistics request for the City of Central Falls related to enrollment and attendance patterns among students residing in Central Falls and attending Central Falls schools. (Central Falls & RIDE).
- **Foster Youth Higher Education Outcomes**: aggregate data set to provide evidence to support or refine the proposed Tuition Waiver Program for Children in RI Foster Care Act.
- **XQ + RI Partnership**: continuation of data set request for partnership that began in 2018. (UNK).
- **RIDE Computer Science for Rhode Island (CS4RI)**: data request to assess the impact of the CS4RI initiative on students and their pursuit of computer science education in the post-secondary space.
- **Multi-State Teacher Workforce Report**: Coleridge Initiative's Multi-State Teacher Workforce Report (TWR) — aggregate dataset for an online dashboard developed for using an innovative approach to assessing teacher migration across states in partnership with NJ, (Rutgers University), analyzing teaching positions by certification area in high demand in the state and existing vacancies. (Coleridge/Rutgers). (in progress)
- **RIDE's XQ Super School Evaluation**: data for RIDE's XQ Super School Evaluation to assess the impacts of the XQ school experience on high school students' academic, socio-emotional, and employment-related outcomes. (in progress)
- **PCP Report Card**: aggregate reports ("Report Cards") evaluating Rhode Island pediatric offices' compliance with lead screening laws, regulations, and national best practices of monitoring childhood blood lead screening rates and results, with a focus on children under six, the age group most vulnerable. (in progress)
- **CS4RI (Computer Science for Rhode Island)**: data support for RIDE to produce student level data for RIDE's grant researcher (EDC) assessing the impact of high-quality computer science learning experiences for students. (contract extension). (in progress)

Dashboards
- **van Beuren Charitable Foundation Dashboard**: dashboard for education and employment patterns of Greater Newport's high school graduates.
- **Rhode Island Foundation Education in Rhode Island Dashboard**: annual update of the RIF Education in Rhode Island Dashboard (EiRI) for their 10-year plan for pre-K through 12 education in Rhode Island.
- **Executive Climate Change Coordinating Council Dashboard**: dashboard to foster public transparency by developing public metrics and an online public dashboard that tracks both emissions reductions and sources of energy consumed by the state. (in progress)

Municipal Compliance Projects

- Tax Assessor Lead Certificate of Conformance rental unit analysis, Newport
- Tax Assessor Lead Certificate of Conformance rental unit analysis, Providence
- Tax Assessor Lead Certificate of Conformance rental unit analysis, Cranston

Other Projects

- WIOA Title II funded Adult Education Participant Employment Outcomes: annual reporting.
- Multi-State Postsecondary Report: Multi-State Postsecondary Report (MSPR) for the Coleridge Initiative Democratizing our Data Challenge grant analyzing cross-state education to workforce outcomes by and migration between institutions and states. (Coleridge/Rutgers).