



Community Connectedness

Many Rhode Islanders describe their communities as respectful, accepting, and supportive, but opportunities remain to strengthen connection across all communities.



69% of Core City* residents and **88% of Non-Core** area residents report people generally get along with each other in their neighborhood.

Community Perception



74%
SAY PEOPLE TREAT EACH OTHER WITH RESPECT



70%
AGREE NEIGHBORS ARE WILLING TO HELP



61%
SAY PEOPLE ARE ACCEPTING OF OTHERS

Neighborhood Connectedness and Support



67%
RECOGNIZE MOST NEIGHBORS



59%
BELIEVE NEIGHBORS WOULD HELP IN NEED



52%
FEEL A SENSE OF COMMUNITY IN THEIR NEIGHBORHOOD

“Continually remind ourselves to pay attention to our neighbors, especially those who are elderly or have any health issues, to try to offer help or companionship if needed.”
Responding to “In your opinion, what is the most important thing that we can do in Rhode Island to help residents feel less socially isolated?”

Perceptions of Community Action



52%
THINK NEIGHBORS WOULD INTERVENE IN VIOLENCE



52%
BELIEVE NEIGHBORS WOULD ORGANIZE TO KEEP A FIRE STATION OPEN



46%
THINK NEIGHBORS WOULD ADDRESS GRAFFITI

“I think it’s important to choose to be part of the kinds of connections we want to have. Belong to community groups, join a library book club, drop off groceries to your local food pantry, recycle your books into the Little Free Libraries in your area.”
Responding to “In your opinion, what is the most important thing that we can do in Rhode Island to help residents feel less socially isolated?”

Personal Connectedness



48%
FEEL VERY CONNECTED TO OTHERS



35%
FEEL MODERATELY CONNECTED



17%
FEEL LOW CONNECTEDNESS

“Reach out to them. Be a friendly hand and help them to be less isolated. Have programs where these people can go to be with others. Just be a good human!”
Responding to “In your opinion, what is the most important thing that we can do in Rhode Island to help residents feel less socially isolated?”

Age and Geographic Differences



72%
OF OLDER RESIDENTS RECOGNIZE NEIGHBORS (VS. 62% YOUNGER)



66%
IN NON-CORE AREAS EXPECT HELP (VS. 40% IN CORE CITIES)



64%
OF OLDER RESIDENTS BELIEVE NEIGHBORS WOULD ORGANIZE (VS. 40% YOUNGER)

“Better public transportation for those without cars or those who can’t drive. Outside of the cities public transport is a challenge.”
Responding to “In your opinion, what is the most important thing that we can do in Rhode Island to help residents feel less socially isolated?”

Support for Strategies



82%
SUPPORT INVESTING IN PUBLIC SPACES



80%
SUPPORT BASIC INTERNET ACCESS



59%
SUPPORT MIXED-INCOME ZONING

***CORE CITIES:**
Core Cities are Rhode Island communities with the highest proportions of children living below the federal poverty level. At the time of this survey (October–December 2025), Core Cities included Central Falls, Pawtucket, Providence, and Woonsocket. Newport was added in January 2026.