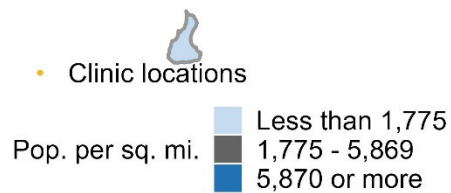
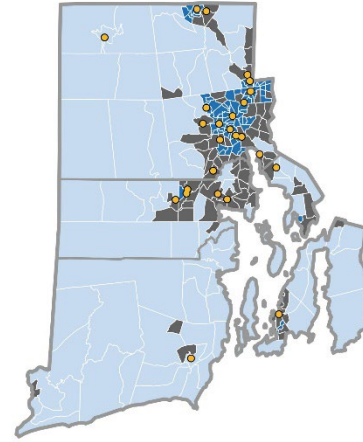


# Rhode Island Department of Health

The Family Planning Program at the Rhode Island Department of Health (RIDOH) has been a statewide Title X grant recipient since the 1970s. It delivers services to approximately 29,000 clients through subrecipients operating nearly 30 clinics across Rhode Island.<sup>1</sup>





## Stats at a Glance<sup>2</sup>

- ▶ Number of family planning (FP) encounters – 37,347
- ▶ FP users with incomes below 100% Federal Poverty Level (FPL) – 6,901 (24%); all FP users with incomes below 250% of FPL – 10,590 (36%)
- ▶ Number of tests performed for gonorrhea – 23,446, syphilis – 12,295, and HIV – 25,326
- ▶ Number of female users who received a chlamydia test – 13,892 or a Pap test – 7,702



## Overview of Services Offered

As a Title X recipient, RIDOH provides a broad range of FP services including pregnancy prevention and birth spacing, pregnancy testing and counseling, assistance to achieve pregnancy, basic infertility services, sexually transmitted infection (STI) services, and other preconception health services. The services are voluntary, confidential, and provided regardless of ability to pay.<sup>3</sup> The infographic below is an Overview of Services Offered within the RIDOH network. The data shown below are not specific to any particular site but rather are representative of the broader grantee network. For information on services available at individual service sites, please refer to the [OPA clinic locator](#).

 Pregnancy assistance and counseling	 Contraceptive services	 STI services	 Other preventative health services
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Counseling on achieving pregnancy</li> <li>● Preconception health services</li> <li>● Pregnancy testing and counseling</li> <li>● Basic infertility services</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● FDA approved long-acting contraceptives</li> <li>● FDA approved short-acting contraceptives</li> <li>● Natural family planning methods</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● STI and HIV education and counseling</li> <li>● STI and HIV screening and testing</li> <li>● STI and HIV treatment</li> <li>◐ STI self-testing</li> <li>● Expedited partner therapy</li> <li>● PrEP counseling and risk assessment</li> <li>● PrEP prescription services</li> <li>● PEP counseling</li> <li>● PEP prescription services</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Screening for breast cancer</li> <li>● Screening for cervical cancer</li> <li>● HPV vaccinations</li> <li>● Screening for intimate partner violence</li> <li>● Screening for mental health</li> <li>● Screening for obesity</li> <li>● Screening for smoking, drug, and alcohol use</li> <li>● Adolescent-friendly health services</li> </ul>
<p><b>LEGEND</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Available at all service sites</li> <li>◐ Available at service sites and through referrals</li> <li>○ Available through referral only</li> </ul>			

<sup>1</sup> Source: Data collected by Mathematica in 2023 for the Title X Implementation Study.

<sup>2</sup> Source: Family Planning Annual Report (FPAR): [2022 National Summary](#).

<sup>3</sup> See the [Title X Service Grants web page](#) for more information on the requirements and regulations guiding Title X projects.

## Equity in Practice



To improve community access to care, the RIDOH Family Planning Program partners the state's Health Equity Zones (HEZ). HEZs are community collaboratives that promote health in their local communities. RIDOH works with these zones to promote Title X services, offer expertise and facilitation in meetings, and connect communities to resources. The grantee's level of involvement in a community is driven by communities' sexual and reproductive health needs. For example, RIDOH partnered with a youth arts organization to create a video that raised awareness about Title X services in their community. The program provided relevant and accurate information, but the youth led and produced the video. The video, which was shared via social media, helped one of the local Title X sites promote their new text messaging line that allows clients to schedule services via text. The video was well received, and after its launch, use of the text messaging service increased. For RIDOH, understanding communities' needs and priorities and being responsive to these needs are essential to building strong partnerships with communities. RIDOH strives to learn from communities and support community ownership and leadership so it can tailor resources to align with specific population needs and preferences.

## Innovations in Practice



Using multiple funding streams including Title X, RIDOH supports a mobile and web-based app, the Right Time. The app provides information about sexual and reproductive health topics to communities, but is specifically designed to appeal to youth and increase their use of services. It also shows available services by offering a Find Services feature to locate Title X clinics and find supplies like condoms. The goal is to help youth overcome barriers to accessing contraception, such as cost and a lack of privacy or transportation. The app was developed collaboratively; RIDOH partners with the Rhode Island Healthy Schools Coalition and the state's STI/HIV program to keep the app updated and ensure it is youth-friendly.

## Did You Know?



For 20 years, RIDOH has provided sexual and reproductive health services at a correctional facility for women. The program ensures continuous care by connecting these clients to community resources and ongoing care once they are discharged. Clients can even choose to continue care with their provider upon release if they are staying in the local community. If not, warm transfers are arranged. As part of this work, a social worker counsels women who are recently admitted to or about to be discharged from the facility. The worker visits the facility weekly, and if there is a need for STI testing or additional services, they refer clients to clinical services within the facility. The role of the social worker is to counsel, educate, and refer women to the internal clinical staff so they can access a broad range of contraceptive methods, including long-acting reversible methods.



RIDOH provides technical assistance tailored to sites' needs and facilitates peer-to-peer learning opportunities for its Title X network. The network collects information about the needs, challenges, and innovations happening across the network and integrates these topics into quarterly network meetings. For example, network members share strategies and provide tools that promote services such as the integration of pregnancy intention screening into clinical care, a topic several network members were interested in. RIDOH has also brought in external trainers and hosts an annual summit for learning and engagement across the network. Because some network members cannot attend the summit, RIDOH conducts a "road show" to share information with each site and give sites templates to help them update their protocols.



As part of annual site visits, chart reviews focus on priority areas identified by RIDOH and the service site. These visits help identify challenges, recommendations, and promising practices that are specific to each site, which RIDOH can share with network members. RIDOH also supports quality assurance checks for data collection on a quarterly basis. The grantee provides trend data from prior years and data that can be compared across subrecipient agencies. This process helps subrecipients conduct high-quality internal quality assurance without the burden of additional data analysis and reporting.

## About the Title X Program

The Title X Family Planning Program, created in 1970 and authorized under Title X of the Public Health Service Act, is administered by the Office of Population Affairs (OPA) in the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. For more information, please refer to OPA's [website](#).

Grant number: FPHPA006535

Website: <https://health.ri.gov/>