



Rhode Island's Rank: **31st out of 51 States** (including Washington D.C)

Rhode Island's Score: **46.73 out of 100 Points**

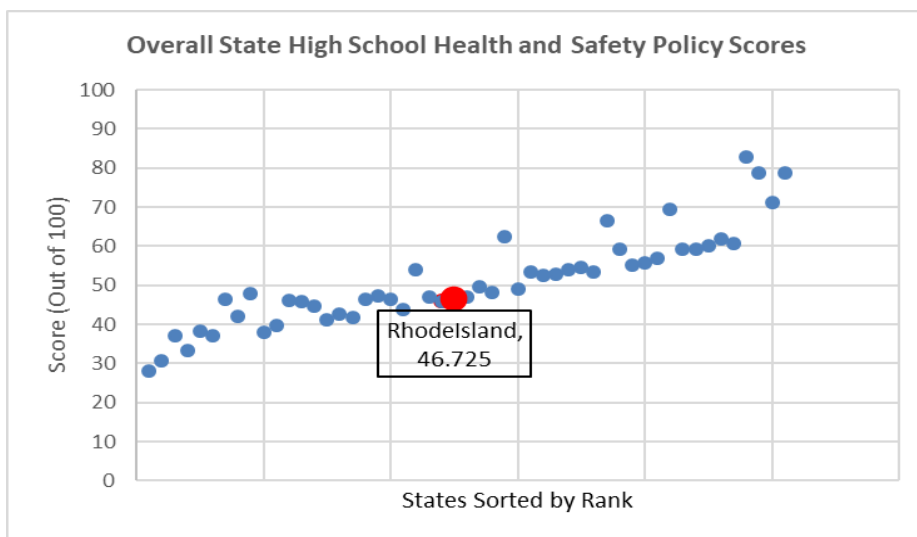
## ABOUT KSI

In the past ten years, 222 children have died from sports related injuries while participating in organized high school athletics. Some of the most common causes of death in sports are sudden cardiac arrest, exertional heat stroke, and traumatic head injury.

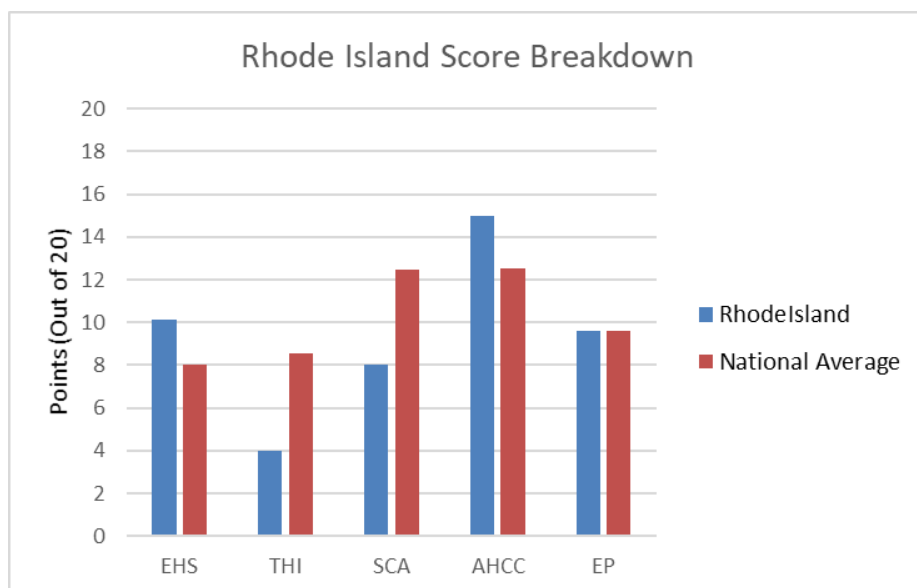
The Korey Stringer Institute is dedicated to preventing sudden death in sports. Recently KSI has published a study that ranked states by their health and safety policies according to best practices established by panels of experts in the field.

Our mission is to inform parents, coaches, and community members about the steps that Rhode Island Interscholastic League (RIIL) and Rhode Island's legislators have taken to protect athletes.

Ranks and Scores are accurate as of August 2019



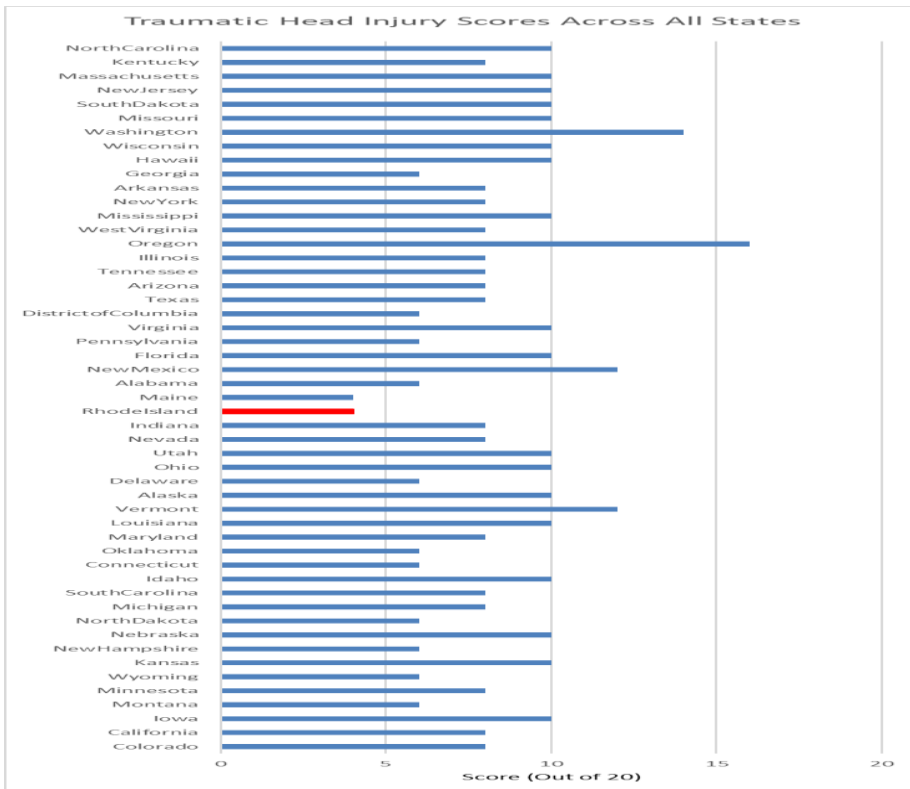
Strengths	Areas for Improvement
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Healthcare Coverage</li> <li>Heat Stroke</li> <li>Emergency Preparedness</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Head Injuries</b></li> <li>Cardiac Arrest</li> </ul>



### Definitions:

AHCC (Appropriate Healthcare Coverage), EHS (Exertional Heat Stroke), EP (Emergency Preparedness), SCA (Sudden Cardiac Arrest), THI (Traumatic Head Injuries)

# Rhode Island and Traumatic Head Injuries



Rhode Island leads the nation when it comes to providing appropriate healthcare coverage, and also performs well in heat stroke and emergency preparedness.

However, Rhode Island has room to grow with traumatic head injuries and sudden cardiac arrest.

The area that Rhode Island falls the farthest behind is traumatic head injuries. Improving policies will bring Rhode Island into the top 6 states overall according to current rankings!

Every Day **153 People Die** From Traumatic Brain-Related Injuries.

## Specific Head Injury Policies

### What Can You Do?

Reach out to the Rhode Island Interscholastic League (RIIL). Make sure the officials responsible for student-athlete safety are using best practices.

**RIIL Executive Director**  
Thomas Mezzanotte  
Phone: 401-272-9844

**RIIL Assistant Executive Director**  
Michael Lunney  
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**RIIL Administrative Assistant**  
Gail Lepore  
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### Policies Currently in Place for Rhode Island

**Policy 3THI:** Athletes not permitted to return to activity on the same day if a concussion is suspected

**Policy 4THI:** Athletes not permitted to return to activity until cleared by an appropriate healthcare professional (MD, ATC, PA, APRN)

### Possible Improvements for Rhode Island

**Policy 1THI:** Heads up Football training for football coaches

**Policy 2THI:** Heads up Football Training for all coaches

**Policy 5THI:** Athletes are not permitted to return to play until they fully return to school

**Policy 6THI:** A minimum of a 5-step graduated return to play protocol before full return to activity. No more than 2 phases in any one day. If symptoms return during any one step, athlete must regress to previous step

**Policy 7THI:** Require 4th Edition PPE forms from American Academy of Pediatrics of equivalent - Concussion