## girl scouts

The State of Girls: Thriving or Surviving?
The State Index of Girls' Well-Being

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The research contained in this report was conducted in conjunction with the Population Reference Bureau, an organization that informs people around the world about population, health, and the environment, and empowers them to use that information to advance the well-being of current and future generations.

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## About "The State of Girls"

The State of Girls is a series of first-of-its-kind reports by the Girl Scout Research Institute that examine girls health and well-being in the United States. Using current national statistical indicators, these reports evaluat the health, safety, and educational achievement of girls. The reports also explore relevant
demographic trends
In 2013, the GSRI released the nationally focused The State of Girls: Unfinished Business, which showed that while progress has been made for girls in some areas, including educational attainment and access to technology, many girls are being left behind. In particular, African American and Hispanic girls face significant challenges as they transition to adulthood

The latest report in the series, The State of Girls: Thriving or Surviving, examines girls' well-being in each of the 50 states and the District of Columbia. Each state is ranked according to a state index of girls' wellbeing ${ }^{\star}$ that relies on five indicators:

- Physical health and safety

Economic well-being

- Education

Emotional health
Extracurricular and out-of-school activities

Data in this report is relevant and potentially useful to a broad public audience that includes educators, policy makers, nonprofits, and concerned community leaders. As the population of girls in the United States is changing rapidly with regard to such needs as financial security, the data in our report has a lot to offer youth-serving organizations.

It is also important to recognize that data is not destiny and that, together, we can mobilize resources to address the most pressing issues that impact girls, especially those in underrepresented and Inerable populations

## Summary of Findings

The findings in this report are compelling: in the United States, where girls live matters. When it comes to well-being, there are clear differences between girls who live in the north and those who live in the south. Namely, girls generally fare better in the northern states than in the southern states, the latter of which rank the lowest in terms of girls' well-being. Girls living in the Midwest, Northeast, and Mid-Atlantic regions fare the best overall in this regard.

In considering girls' well-being, the best states in which a girl can live are New Hampshire, North Dakota, South Dakota, Massachusetts, and Vermont, while the most challenging states are Mississippi, Nevada New Mexico, Arizona, and Oklahoma.

State Ranking of Girls' Well-Being


## The State of Girls in the United States

This profile summarizes some of the key social, economic, and health issues affecting the 26.3 million girls ages 5 to 17 living in the United States.


Racial/Ethnic Composition of Girls in the United States


## Girls Ages 5-17 in Poverty, by Race/Ethnicity



All girls
White*
Hispanic/Latina
African American/Black
American Indian/Alaska Native*
Asian/Pacific Islander*
Other Race*
Non-Hispanic

In 2012 about $54 \%$ of girls ages 5 to 17 in the United States were white, $23 \%$ were Latina 14\% were African American, $5 \%$ were Asian 1\% were American Indian, and 4\% identified with other racial groups.
About $24 \%$ of girls ages 5 to 17 in the United States live in immigrant families.*
Chidren who are foreign-born or who residid with at least one foreign-borm paerent.

States with Highest Proportions of Girls Ages 5-17 in Immigrant Families
5-17
60


motional Health and Safety of Girls Ages 6-17 (\%)

Girls Who Are Proficient or Above in 8th Grade Math and 4th Grade Reading (\%)

| Race/Ethnicity | Math | Reading |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| All girls | 34 | 37 |
| White* | 43 | 47 |
| Hispanic/Latina | 19 | 20 |
| African American/Black* | 14 | 20 |
| American Indian/Alaska Native* | 17 | 21 |
| Asian/Pacific Islander* | 57 | 52 |
| Other Race* | 39 | 44 |

School Enrollment and Extracurricular Activities (\%)


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Emotional Health and Safety of Girls Ages 6-17 (\%)


Roughly $33 \%$ of fourth-grade girls in Alabama are proficient in reading and $19 \%$ of eighth-grade girls are proficient in math
n Alabama, 45\% of 3-to 4-year-old girls are enrolled in preschool.
About $78 \%$ of girls ages 6 to 17 participate in at least one extracurricular activity. visit www.girlscouts.org/stateofgirls. see www.girscouts orgistateot fific

In Alabama, about $26 \%$ of school-age girls are living in poverty.
About $37 \%$ of girls ages 10 to 17 are overweight or obese.

Roughly $8 \%$ of girls ages 6 to 17 have experienced neighborhood violence.

Girls Who Are Proficient or Above in 8th Grad Math and 4th Grade Reading (\%)


## School Enrollment and Extracurricula

 Activities (\%)

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Emotional Health and Safety of Girls Ages 6-17 (\%)


Roughly $28 \%$ of fourth-grade girls in Alaska are proficient in reading and $35 \%$ of eighth-grade girls are proficient in math
n Alaska, $35 \%$ of 3 - to 4 -year-old girls are enrolled in preschool.
About 84\% of girls ages 6 to 17 participate in
at least one extracurricular activity visit www.girlscouts.org/stateofgirls. see www giriscouts. orzs/stateon oftrits.

In Alaska, about $13 \%$ of school-age girls are living in poverty.
About $28 \%$ of girls ages 10 to 17 are overweight or obese.

Roughly $16 \%$ of girls ages 6 to 17 have experienced neighborhood violence.

Girls Who Are Proficient or Above in 8th Grad Math and 4th Grade Reading (\%)


School Enrollment and Extracurricular Activities (\%)


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Emotional Health and Safety of Girls Ages 6-17 (\%)


Roughly 29\% of fourth-grade girls in Arizona are proficient in reading and $29 \%$ of eighth-grade girls are proficient in math.

In Arizona, 36\% of 3- to 4-year-old girls are enrolled in preschool.
About $79 \%$ of girls ages 6 to 17 participate in at least one extracurricular activity

In Arizona, about 25\% of school-age girls are living in poverty.
About $33 \%$ of girls ages 10 to 17 are overweight or obese.

Roughly $13 \%$ of girls ages 6 to 17 have experienced neighborhood violence.

Girls Who Are Proficient or Above in 8th Grade Math and 4th Grade Reading (\%)


School Enrollment and Extracurricular Activities (\%)


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Emotional Health and Safety of Girls Ages 6-17 (\%)


Roughly 32\% of fourth-grade girls in Arkansas are proficient in reading and $28 \%$ of eighth-grad girls are proficient in math

Arkansas, 42\% of 3- to 4-year-old girls ar enrolled in preschool.
About $78 \%$ of girls ages 6 to 17 participate in at least one extracurricular activity.

In Arkansas, about 26\% of school-age girls are living in poverty.
About 31\% of girls ages 10 to 17 are overweight or obese.

Roughly 11\% of girls ages 6 to 17 have experienced neighborhood violence.

Girls Who Are Proficient or Above in 8th Grade Math and 4th Grade Reading (\%)


School Enrollment and Extracurricular Activities (\%)


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Source: PRB analysis of the U.S.C Census Bureau 2012 American Community Surrey Public Use Microdata Samples, U.S. Census Bureau 2012PPopulation Estimates,






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Emotional Health and Safety of Girls Ages 6-17 (\%)


Roughly 44\% of fourth-grade girls in Colorado are proficient in reading and $43 \%$ of eighth-grad girls are proficient in math
in Colorado, $46 \%$ of 3 - to 4 year-old girls ar enrolled in preschool.
About $84 \%$ of girls ages 6 to 17 participate in at east one extracurricular activity

Girls Who Are Proficient or Above in 8th Grade Math and 4th Grade Reading (\%)


## School Enrollment and Extracurricular

 Activities (\%)

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Source: PRB analysis of fthe U.S. Census Bureau 2012 American Community Surrey Public U Se Microdata Samples, U.S. C Census Bureau 2012 Population Estimates,
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## The State of Girls in the District of Columbia

This profile summarizes some of the key social, economic, and health issues affecting the 35,139 girls ages 5 to 17 living in the District of Columbia.
In 2012, about $12 \%$ of girls ages 5 to 17 in the District of Columbia were Latina, $16 \%$ were white, $0.2 \%$ were American Indian, $67 \%$ were African American, $2 \%$ were Asian, and $3 \%$ identified with ther racial groups.
About 21\% of girls ages 5 to 17 in the District of Columbia live in immigrant families,* compared with $24 \%$ of school-age girls nationwide

## overty, by Race/Ethnicity

$\qquad$ Allant
African American/Black* Non-Hispanic

Girls Ages 5-17 in Immigrant Families (\%)
30



Emotional Health and Safety of Girls Ages 6-17 (\%)


Roughly $22 \%$ of fourth-grade girls in the District of Columbia are proficient in reading and $17 \%$ of eighth-grade girls are proficient in math.
n the District of Columbia, $81 \%$ of 3 - to 4 -yearold girls are enrolled in preschool. About $81 \%$ of girls ages 6 to 17 participate in at eastone extracurricular activity

In the District of Columbia, about $28 \%$ of schoolage girls are living in poverty
About $37 \%$ of girls ages 10 to 17 are overweight or obese.
Roughly $28 \%$ of girls ages 6 to 17 have experienced neighborhood violence.

Girls Who Are Proficient or Above in 8th Grad Math and 4th Grade Reading (\%)


School Enrollment and Extracurricular Activities (\%)


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 Note: ACS and NSCH estimates are based on surveys of the populution and are subject to both sampling and nonsamplingerror.



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Emotional Health and Safety of Girls Ages 6-17 (\%)


Roughly $39 \%$ of fourth-grade girls in Florida are proficient in reading and $27 \%$ of eighth-grad girls are proficient in math
In Florida, 52\% of 3- to 4-year-old girls are enrolled in preschool.
About $79 \%$ of girls ages 6 to 17 participate in at least one extracurricular activity.

Girls Who Are Proficient or Above in 8th Grade Math and 4th Grade Reading (\%)


School Enrollment and Extracurricular Activities (\%)


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## The State of Girls in Hawaii

This profile summarizes some of the key social, economic, and health issues affecting the 103,861 girls ages 5 to 17 living in Hawaii. Girls in Hawaii rank 27th out of 50 states on an overall index of well-being that includes measures of girls' physical health and safety, economic well-being, education, emotional health, and extracurricular activities.

## State Rankings of Girls' Overall Well-Being

| Top States | Rank |
| :--- | :---: |
| New Hampshire | 1 |
| North Dakota | 2 |
| South Dakota | 3 |
| Massachusetts | 4 |
| Vermont | 5 |
| Hawaii | $\mathbf{2 7}$ |

Racial/Ethnic Composition of Girls in Hawaii


| Race/Ethnicity | Percent |
| :---: | :---: |
| All girls | 18 |
| White* | 21 |
| Hispanic/Latina | 37 |
| Asian/Pacific Islander* | 15 |
| Other Race* | 13 |

Girls Ages 5-17 in Immigrant Families (\%) 40


## Areas of Girls' Well-Being in Hawaii

Area State Rank Physical Health and Safety 16 Economic Well-Being Education Emotional Health
Extracurricular Activities

In 2012, about $15 \%$ of girls ages 5 to 17 in Hawaii were Latina, $13 \%$ were white, $0.2 \%$ were American Indian, $2 \%$ were African American, $40 \%$ were Asian, and $31 \%$ identified with other racial groups. About $30 \%$ of girls ages 5 to 17 in Hawaiil live in immigrant families,* compared with $24 \%$ of school-age girls nationwide.
*Chidren who are foreign-born or who reside with at leastone foreign-borr parent.


Emotional Health and Safety of Girls Ages 6-17 (\%)


Roughly $30 \%$ of fourth-grade girls in Hawaii are proficient in reading and $30 \%$ of eighth-grade girls are proficient in math.
In Hawaii, 47\% of 3- to 4 -year-old girls are enrolled in preschool.
About $88 \%$ of girls ages 6 to 17 participate in
at least one extracurricular activity.

In Hawaii, about $18 \%$ of school-age girls are living in poverty.
About $24 \%$ of girls ages 10 to 17 are overweight or obese.
Roughly $13 \%$ of girls ages 6 to 17 have experienced neighborhood violence.

Girls Who Are Proficient or Above in 8th Grade Math and 4th Grade Reading (\%)


School Enrollment and Extracurricular Activities (\%)


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 Note: ACS and NSCH estimatesare



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Emotional Health and Safety of Girls Ages 6-17 (\%)


Roughly $37 \%$ of fourth-grade girls in Indiana are proficient in reading and $34 \%$ of eighth-grad girls are proficient in math.
n Indiana, 39\% of 3- to 4-year-old girls are enrolled in preschool.
About $81 \%$ of girls ages 6 to 17 participate in at least one extracurricular activity.

In Indiana, about 20\% of school-age girls are living in poverty.
About 30\% of girls ages 10 to 17 are overweight or obese.

Roughly $14 \%$ of girls ages 6 to 17 have experienced neighborhood violence.

Girls Who Are Proficient or Above in 8th Grade Math and 4th Grade Reading (\%)


School Enrollment and Extracurricular Activities (\%)


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Source: PRB analysis of of Ue U.S. Census Bureau 2012 American Community Survey Public Use Microdata Samples, U.s. Census Bureau 2012 Population Estimates.





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Source: PRB analysis of the U.S.C Census Bureau 2012 American Community Surrey Public U Se Microdata Samples, U.S. Census Sureau 2012 Population Estimates
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## The State of Girls in Massachusetts

This profile summarizes some of the key social, economic, and health issues affecting the 506,705 girls ages 5 to 17 living in Massachusetts. Girls in Massachusetts rank 4th out of 50 states on an overall index of well-being that includes measures of girls physical health and safety, economic well-being, education, emotional health, and extracurricular activities.


## Girls Ages 5-17 in Poverty, by Race/Ethnicity

Race/Ethnicity

Percent
Allgirls
15
White*
Hispanic/Latina
African American/Black*
Asian/Pacific Islander*
Non-Hispanic
Data aris not shownow forall racialethnic group because of the smal sample size.

## Areas of Girls' Well-Being in Massachusetts

Area State Rank Physical Health and Safety 21 Economic Well-Being 7 Education
Emotional Health
Extracurricular Activities

In 2012, about 15\% of girls ages 5 to 17 in Massachusetts were Latina, $68 \%$ were white $0.2 \%$ were American Indian, $8 \%$ were African American, $6 \%$ were Asian, and $3 \%$ identified with other racial groups.

About 25\% of girls ages 5 to 17 in Massachusetts live in immigrant families,* compared with $24 \%$ of school-age girls nationwide.

Children who are foreign-borm orwhoresitan east one foreign-borm parent

Girls Ages 5-17 in Immigrant Families (\%) 30



Emotional Health and Safety of Girls Ages 6-17 (\%)


Roughly $54 \%$ of fourth-grade girls in
Massachusetts are proficient in reading and $51 \%$ of eighth-grade girls are proficient in math. In Massachusetts, $57 \%$ of 3- to 4 -year-old girls are enrolled in preschool.
About $87 \%$ of girls ages 6 to 17 participate in at least one extracurricular activity.

In Massachusetts, about 15\% of school-age girls are living in poverty
About $25 \%$ of girls ages 10 to 17 are overweight or obese.
Roughly $10 \%$ of girls ages 6 to 17 have experienced neighborhood violence.

Girls Who Are Proficient or Above in 8th Grade Math and 4th Grade Reading (\%)


School Enrollment and Extracurricular Activities (\%)


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Source: PRB analysis of of U U.S. Census Bureau 2012 American Community Survey Public Use Mirorodata Samples, U.S.C Census Bureau 2012 Population Estimates,
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## The State of Girls in Michigan

This profile summarizes some of the key social, economic, and health issues affecting the 825,561 girls ages 5 to 17 living in Michigan. Girls in Michigan rank 28th out of 50 states on an overall index of well-being that includes measures of girls' physical health and safety, economic well-being, education, emotional health, and extracurricula activities.

*Non-Hispanic

## Girls Ages 5-17 in Poverty, by Race/Ethnicity

| Race/Ethnicity | Percent |
| :--- | :---: |
| All girls | 24 |
| White | 17 |
| Hispanic/Latina | 31 |
| African American/Black* | 49 |
| Other Race $^{\star}$ | 32 |
| *Non-Hispanic |  |


\left.| Areas of Girls' Well-Being in Michigan |  |
| :--- | :---: |
| State Rank |  |$\right]$| Area | 36 |
| :--- | :---: |
| Physical Health and Safety | 27 |
| Economic Well-Being | 28 |
| Education | 19 |
| Emotional Health | 31 |
| Extracurricular Activities |  |

In 2012, about 7\% of girls ages 5 to 17 in Michigan were Latina, $69 \%$ were white, $1 \%$ were American Indian, $16 \%$ were African American, $3 \%$ were Asian, and $4 \%$ identified with other racial groups. About 12\% of girls ages 5 to 17 in Michigan live in immigrant families,* compared with $24 \%$ of school-age girls nationwide

Children who are foreign-borno or who reside with at leastone foreign-borrn parent.

Girls Ages 5-17 in Immigrant Families (\%)
30



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Source: PRB analysis of the U.S. Census Bureau 2012 American Community Surrey Public U Se Microdata Samples, U.S. Census Sureau 2012P Population Estimates,
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## The State of Girls in Minnesota

This profile summarizes some of the key social, economic, and health issues affecting the 453,548 girls ages 5 to 17 living in Minnesota. Girls in Minnesota rank 7th out of 50 states on an overall index of well-being that includes measures of girls' physical health and safety, economic well-being, education, emotional health, and extracurricular activities.

Areas of Girls' Well-Being in Minnesota
Area State Rank Physical Health and Safety 3 Economic Well-Being Education
Emotional Health
Extracurricular Activitie



Emotional Health and Safety of Girls Ages 6-17 (\%)


Roughly $38 \%$ of fourth-grade girls in Minnesota are proficient in reading and $48 \%$ of eighth-grad girls are proficient in math

Minnesota, 48\% of 3-to 4-year-old girls are enrolled in preschool.
About $89 \%$ of girls ages 6 to 17 participate in at least one extracurricular activity.

In Minnesota, about 14\% of school-age girls are living in poverty.
About 20\% of girls ages 10 to 17 are overweight or obese.
Roughly $10 \%$ of girls ages 6 to 17 have experienced neighborhood violence.

Girls Who Are Proficient or Above in 8th Grade Math and 4th Grade Reading (\%)


School Enrollment and Extracurricular Activities (\%)


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## The State of Girls in New Hampshire

This profile summarizes some of the key social, economic, and health issues affecting the 101,956 girls ages 5 to 17 living in New Hampshire. Girls in New Hampshire rank 1st out of 50 states on an overall index of well-being that includes measures of girls physical health and safety, economic well-being, education, emotional health, and extracurricular activities.

| Top States | Rank |
| :--- | :---: |
| New Hampshire | 1 |
| North Dakota | 2 |
| South Dakota | 3 |
| Massachusetts | 4 |
| Vermont | 5 |
| New Hampshire | $\mathbf{1}$ |


| Area | State Rank |
| :--- | :---: |
| Physical Health and Safety | 6 |
| Economic Well-Being | 3 |
| Education | 2 |
| Emotional Health | 7 |
| Extracurricular Activities | 19 |

In 2012, about $5 \%$ of girls ages 5 to 17 in New Hampshire were Latina, $88 \%$ were white, $0.2 \%$ were American Indian, $2 \%$ were African American, $3 \%$ were Asian, and $3 \%$ identified with other racial groups.
About 11\% of girls ages 5 to 17 in New Hampshire live in immigrant families,* compared with 24\% of school-age girls nationwide.

$$
\begin{aligned}
& \text { Girls Ages 5-17 in Poverty, by } \text { Race/Ethnicity } \\
& \begin{array}{lc}
\text { Race/Ethnicity } & \text { Percent }
\end{array} \\
& \hline \text { All girls } \\
& \hline \text { White* }
\end{aligned}
$$




Emotional Health and Safety of Girls Ages 6-17 (\%)


Roughly 50\% of fourth-grade girls in New Hampshire are proficient in reading and $44 \%$ of eighth-grade girls are proficient in math. In New Hampshire, 53\% of 3- to 4-year-old girls are enrolled in preschool.
About 91\% of girls ages 6 to 17 participate in at least one extracurricular activity.

In New Hampshire, about $13 \%$ of school-age girls are living in poverty
About $23 \%$ of girls ages 10 to 17 are overweight or obese.
Roughly 8\% of girls ages 6 to 17 have experienced neighborhood violence.

Girls Who Are Proficient or Above in 8th Grade Math and 4th Grade Reading (\%)


School Enrollment and Extracurricular Activities (\%)


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 Note: ACS Sand NSCH Hestimates are



Emotional Health and Safety of Girls Ages 6-17 (\%)


Roughly $46 \%$ of fourth-grade girls in New Jersey are proficient in reading and $46 \%$ of eighth-grade girls are proficient in math
in New Jersey, 63\% of 3- to 4-year-old girls are enrolled in preschool.
About 82\% of girls ages 6 to 17 participate in at least one extracurricular activity.

In New Jersey, about 15\% of school-age girls are living in poverty.
About 20\% of girls ages 10 to 17 are overweight or obese.
Roughly $6 \%$ of girls ages 6 to 17 have experienced neighborhood violence.

Girls Who Are Proficient or Above in 8th Grade Math and 4th Grade Reading (\%)


School Enrollment and Extracurricular Activities (\%)


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Source: PRB analysis of of Ue U.S. Census Bureau 2012 American Community Survey Public Use Microdata Samples, U.S.C Census Bureau 2012 Population Estimates,





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Emotional Health and Safety of Girls Ages 6-17 (\%)


Roughly $39 \%$ of fourth-grade girls in North Dakota are proficient in reading and $40 \%$ feighth-grade girls are proficient in math
n North Dakota, 48\% of 3- to 4-year-old girls are enrolled in preschool.
About $88 \%$ of girls ages 6 to 17 participate in at least one extracurricular activity.

In North Dakota, about 10\% of school-age girls are living in poverty
About $29 \%$ of girls ages 10 to 17 are overweight or obese.
Roughly 9\% of girls ages 6 to 17 have experienced neighborhood violence.

Girls Who Are Proficient or Above in 8th Grade Math and 4th Grade Reading (\%)


School Enrollment and Extracurricular Activities (\%)


Data is not destiny! As the premier leadership organization for girls, Girl Scouts is committed to ensuring that all girls develop to their full potential. To learn more, visit www.girlscouts.org/stateofgirls.
Source: PRB analysis of of Ue U.S. Census Bureau 2012 American Community Survey Public Use Microdata Samples, U.S.C Census Bureau 2012 Population Estimates.





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Source: PRB analysis of the U.S.C Census Bureau 2012 American Community Surrey Public Use Microdata Samples, U.S. Census Sureau 2012PPopulation Estimates
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Emotional Health and Safety of Girls Ages 6-17 (\%)


Roughly 28\% of fourth-grade girls in Oklahoma are proficient in reading and $26 \%$ of eighth-grade girls are proficient in math
n Oklahoma, $44 \%$ of 3 - to 4 -year-old girls are enrolled in preschool.
About 81\% of girls ages 6 to 17 participate in at least one extracurricular activity.

In Oklahoma, about 23\% of school-age girls are living in poverty.
About $29 \%$ of girls ages 10 to 17 are overweight or obese.
Roughly $16 \%$ of girls ages 6 to 17 have experienced neighborhood violence.

Girls Who Are Proficient or Above in 8th Grade Math and 4th Grade Reading (\%)


School Enrollment and Extracurricular Activities (\%)


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## The State of Girls in Oregon

This profile summarizes some of the key social, economic, and health issues affecting the 306,615 girls ages 5 to 17 living in Oregon. Girls in Oregon rank 23rd out of 50 states on an overall index of well-being that includes measures of girls' physical health and safety, economic well-being, education, emotional health, and extracurricula activities.

*Non-Hispanic
Girls Ages 5-17 in Poverty, by Race/Ethnicity
$\qquad$
All girls
Percent
White* 15
Hispanic/Latina 39
*Non-Hispanic

Areas of Girls' Well-Being in Oregon
Area
State Rank Physical Health and Safety 29 Economic Well-Being 31 Education Emotional Health Extracurricular Activities

In 2012, about 21\% of girls ages 5 to 17 in Oregon were Latina, $66 \%$ were white, $1 \%$ were American Indian, $2 \%$ were African American, $4 \%$ were Asian, and $5 \%$ identified with other racial groups.

About $23 \%$ of girls ages 5 to 17 in Oregon live in immigrant families,* compared with 24\% of school-age girls nationwide

Girls Ages 5-17 in Immigrant Families (\%) 30



Emotional Health and Safety of Girls Ages 6-17 (\%)


Roughly $35 \%$ of fourth-grade girls in Oregon are proficient in reading and $30 \%$ of eighth-grad girls are proficient in math

In Oregon, $43 \%$ of 3 - to 4 -year-old girls are enrolled in preschool.
About $84 \%$ of girls ages 6 to 17 participate in at least one extracurricular activity

In Oregon, about 20\% of school-age girls are living in poverty.
About 22\% of girls ages 10 to 17 are overweight or obese.
Roughly $10 \%$ of girls ages 6 to 17 have experienced neighborhood violence.

Girls Who Are Proficient or Above in 8th Grade Math and 4th Grade Reading (\%)


School Enrollment and Extracurricular Activities (\%)


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Emotional Health and Safety of Girls Ages 6-17 (\%)


Roughly 45\% of fourth-grade girls in Pennsylvania are proficient in reading and $38 \%$ of eighth-grade girls are proficient in math
In Pennsylvania, 51\% of 3- to 4-year-old girls are enrolled in preschool.
About $86 \%$ of girls ages 6 to 17 participate in at east one extracurricular activity

In Pennsylvania, about 20\% of school-age girls are living in poverty
About $19 \%$ of girls ages 10 to 17 are overweight or obese.
Roughly $8 \%$ of girls ages 6 to 17 have experienced neighborhood violence.

Girls Who Are Proficient or Above in 8th Grade Math and 4th Grade Reading (\%)


School Enrollment and Extracurricular Activities (\%)


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Source: PRB analysis of the U.S.C Census Bureau 2012 American Community Surrey Public Use Microdata Samples, U.S. Census Bureau 2012PPopulation Estimates,





Emotional Health and Safety of Girls Ages 6-17 (\%)


Roughly 39\% of fourth-grade girls in Rhode sland are proficient in reading and $33 \%$ of ishth-grade girls are proficient math.

In Rhode Island, 44\% of 3- to 4-year-old girls are enrolled in preschool.
About $84 \%$ of girls ages 6 to 17 participate in at least one extracurricular activity.

In Rhode Island, about 18\% of school-age girls are living in poverty
About $27 \%$ of girls ages 10 to 17 are overweight or obese.
Roughly $11 \%$ of girls ages 6 to 17 have experienced neighborhood violence.

Girls Who Are Proficient or Above in 8th Grade Math and 4th Grade Reading (\%)


School Enrollment and Extracurricular Activities (\%)


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Source: PRB analysis of the U.S.C Census Bureau 2012 American Community Surrey Public Use Microdata Samples, U.S. Census Bureau 2012PPopulation Estimates





Emotional Health and Safety of Girls Ages 6-17 (\%)


Roughly 32\% of fourth-grade girls in South Carolina are proficient in reading and $32 \%$ feighth-grede girls are proficient in math

In South Carolina, 45\% of 3- to 4-year-old girls are enrolled in preschool.
About 81\% of girls ages 6 to 17 participate in
at least one extracurricular activity

In South Carolina, about 26\% of school-age girls are living in poverty
About $38 \%$ of girls ages 10 to 17 are overweight or obese.
Roughly $12 \%$ of girls ages 6 to 17 have experienced neighborhood violence.

Girls Who Are Proficient or Above in 8th Grade Math and 4th Grade Reading (\%)


School Enrollment and Extracurricular Activities (\%)


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Source: PRB analysis of the U.S.C Census Bureau 2012 American Community Surrey Public Use Microdata Samples, U.S. Census Sureau 2012PPopulation Estimates,





Emotional Health and Safety of Girls Ages 6-17 (\%)


Roughly 35\% of fourth-grade girls in South Dakota are proficient in reading and $41 \%$ of ighth-grade girls are proficient in math

In South Dakota, 34\% of 3- to 4-year-old girls are enrolled in preschool.
About $88 \%$ of girls ages 6 to 17 participate in at least one extracurricular activity.

Girls Who Are Proficient or Above in 8th Grade Math and 4th Grade Reading (\%)


School Enrollment and Extracurricular Activities (\%)


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Source: PRB analysis of of Ue U.S. Census Bureau 2012 American Community Survey Public Use Microdata Samples, U.s. Census Bureau 2012 Population Estimates,
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## Emotional Health and Safety of Girls

 Ages 6-17 (\%)

Roughly 29\% of fourth-grade girls in Tennessee are proficient in reading and $22 \%$ of eighth-grade girls are proficient in math

In Tennessee, 46\% of 3- to 4-year-old girls are enrolled in preschool.
About 75\% of girls ages 6 to 17 participate in at least one extracurricular activity.

In Tennessee, about 25\% of school-age girls are living in poverty
About $28 \%$ of girls ages 10 to 17 are overweight or obese.
Roughly $12 \%$ of girls ages 6 to 17 have experienced neighborhood violence.

Girls Who Are Proficient or Above in 8th Grade Math and 4th Grade Reading (\%)


School Enrollment and Extracurricular Activities (\%)


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Source: PRB analysis of fthe U.S. Census Bureau 2012 American Community Survey Public Use Microdata Samples, U.s. Census Bureau 2012 Population Estimates.
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Emotional Health and Safety of Girls Ages 6-17 (\%)


Roughly $36 \%$ of fourth-grade girls in Utah are proficient in reading and $33 \%$ of eighth-grade sirls are proficient in math.
n Utah, 41\% of 3- to 4-year-old girls are enrolled in preschool.
About 84\% of girls ages 6 to 17 participate in at least one extracurricular activity.

Girls Who Are Proficient or Above in 8th Grade Math and 4th Grade Reading (\%)


School Enrollment and Extracurricular Activities (\%)


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Source: PRB analysis of of Ue U.s. Census Bureau 2012 American Community Survey Public Use Microdata Samples, U.S.C Census Bureau 2012 Population Estimates


Note:ACS and NSCH Hestimatesara



Emotional Health and Safety of Girls Ages 6-17 (\%)


Roughly $43 \%$ of fourth-grade girls in Virginia are proficient in reading and $40 \%$ of eighth-grad girls are proficient in math.

In Virginia, 46\% of 3- to 4-year-old girls are enrolled in preschool.
About $84 \%$ of girls ages 6 to 17 participate in at east one extracurricular activity

In Virginia, about 16\% of school-age girls are living in poverty.
About $28 \%$ of girls ages 10 to 17 are overweight or obese.
Roughly 9\% of girls ages 6 to 17 have experienced neighborhood violence.

Girls Who Are Proficient or Above in 8th Grade Math and 4th Grade Reading (\%)


School Enrollment and Extracurricular Activities (\%)


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Source: PRB analysis of the U.S.C Census Bureau 2012 American Community Surrey Public Use Microdata Samples, U.S. Census Bureau 2012PPopulation Estimates
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## Emotional Health and Safety of Girls

 Ages 6-17 (\%)

Roughly $31 \%$ of fourth-grade girls in West Virginia are proficient in reading and $21 \%$ of eighth-grade girls are proficient in math

In West Virginia, 43\% of 3- to 4-year-old girls are enrolled in preschool.
About $80 \%$ of girls ages 6 to 17 participate in at least one extracurricular activity.

In West Virginia, about 24\% of school-age girls are living in poverty
About $28 \%$ of girls ages 10 to 17 are overweight or obese.
Roughly $16 \%$ of girls ages 6 to 17 have experienced neighborhood violence.

Girls Who Are Proficient or Above in 8th Grade Math and 4th Grade Reading (\%)


School Enrollment and Extracurricular Activities (\%)


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## Appendix

## About the State Index of Girls' Well-Being

The State Index of Girls' Well-Being is a composite measure designed to summarize the well-being of girls in each of the 50 states across several different dimensions. It uses a methodology similar to that of the Annie E. Casey Foundation's KIDS COUNT Index', to compare state-level outcomes for girls across five key domains of child well-being:


Physical health and safety
Economic well-being
Education
Emotional health
Extracurricular and out-of-school activities
The data in the index, which comes from a variety of different sources, reflects outcomes for girls during the 2011-2012 period. Topics and indicators for the index were selected by staff at the Girl Scout Research Institute and the Population Reference Bureau. (See Table 1 for a list of indicators.)

The index was created by first converting the state values for each of the 23 indicators into standard scores (z-scores). Standard scores were created because each indicator has a unique distribution, with different minimum and maximum values. Standardizing the indicators put each of the measures on the same scale and gave each measure an equal weight in the index. To put the indicators on the same scale, we also re-verse-coded several of the indicators so that higher values always reflected more negative outcomes.

For each indicator, standard scores were created by subtracting the mean state value from the state estimate and dividing the result by the standard deviation for that distribution of state estimates, as shown in the following formula. In this formula, x represents the state estimate, the Greek letter Mu represents the mean across the 50 state values, and the Greek letter Sigma represents the standard deviation:

$$
z=\frac{x-\mu}{\sigma}
$$

We then summed the standard scores across the 23 variables to create an overall index of girls' well-being for each of the 50 states. We also created domain-specific indices of girls' well-being (e.g., an Index of Girls' Educational Outcomes) by summing standard scores across indicators within each of the five topical areas. Inally, we ranked the states based on their overall standard scores in order from highest/best (1) to lowest worst (50). State rankings were calculated separately for each of the five domains and for the overall index.

For more information, contact Mark Mather at the Population Reference Bureau: mmather@prb.org.

## Table 1: State-Level Indicators of Girls' Well-Being

## hysical Health and Safety

Teen birth rate (births per 1,000 females 15-19), 2012
Girls ages 10-17 who are overweight or obese (parental report), 2011-12
Girls ages 6-17 in households where someone has a problem with alcohol (parental report), 2011-12
Girls ages 6-17 who exercised less that four days during the past week (parental report), 2011-12

## conomic Well-Being

Girls ages $5-17$ in poverty 2012
Girls ages 5-17 in single-parent families, 2012
Girls ages 5-17 without health insurance, 2012
Girls ages 16-19 who are disconnected from work and school, 2012

## Education

Girls ages 3-4 not enrolled in preschool, 2012
Girls ages 16-19 who are high school dropouts 2012
Gils in 4th grable
Girls in 8th grade below proficient in math, 2011
Women ages 18-24 not enrolled in college or graduate school, 2012

## Emotional health

Girls ages 6-17 who need treatment for an emotional/behavioral/developmental issue (parental report), 2011-12
Girls ages 6-17 who don't feel safe at school (parental report), 2011-12
Girls ages 6-17 who have experienced violence in their neighborhood (parental report), 2011-12
Girls ages 6-17 who bully or are cruel to others (parental report), 2011-12

## Extracurricular and Out-of-School Activities

Girls ages 6-17 not participating in one or more organized activites outside of school (parental report), 2011-12 Girls ages 6-17 who are not engaged in school activities (parental report), 2011-12
Girls ages 12-17 not involved in community or volunteer work (parental report), 2011-12
Girls ages 6-17 whowho watch television three or more hours per day (parental report), 2011-12
Girls ages 6-17 who use electronic devices three or more hours per day (parental report), 2011-12
Girls ages 6-17 who don't attend weekly religious services (parental report), 2011-12
Note: Data are from the U.S. Census Bureau 2012 American Community Survey Public Use Microdata Samples, U.S. Centers
Edicationsciences Nation Center for EdueationStatistics 2011 Nation Assessmentof Education Progess (NAEP)

Table 2: State Rankings of Girls' Well-Being, 2011-12

|  | Overall Index | Physical <br> Health and <br> Safety <br> Ranking | Economic <br> Well- <br> Being Ranking | Educational <br> Outcomes <br> Ranking | Emotional <br> Health <br> Ranking | Extracurric- <br> ular and Out- <br> of-School <br> Activities <br> Ranking |
| :--- | :---: | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| Alabama | 30 | 33 | 34 | 42 | 21 | 26 |
| Alaska | 39 | 37 | 35 | 45 | 29 | 41 |
| Arizona | 47 | 48 | 46 | 47 | 35 | 47 |
| Arkansas | 41 | 41 | 40 | 39 | 45 | 36 |
| California | 29 | 31 | 32 | 30 | 37 | 12 |
| Colorado | 18 | 14 | 24 | 16 | 10 | 25 |
| Connecticut | 6 | 12 | 8 | 4 | 11 | 16 |
| Delaware | 31 | 34 | 19 | 22 | 46 | 44 |
| Florida | 35 | 13 | 42 | 25 | 33 | 48 |
| Georgia | 42 | 38 | 45 | 37 | 38 | 39 |
| Hawaii | 27 | 16 | 22 | 38 | 36 | 24 |
| Idaho | 26 | 35 | 23 | 33 | 28 | 13 |
| Illinois | 20 | 23 | 17 | 19 | 40 | 3 |
| Indiana | 36 | 44 | 29 | 31 | 44 | 29 |
| lowa | 15 | 22 | 2 | 21 | 13 | 17 |
| Kansas | 14 | 17 | 16 | 17 | 8 | 10 |
| Kentucky | 37 | 45 | 37 | 27 | 39 | 35 |
| Louisiana | 45 | 43 | 44 | 46 | 43 | 45 |
| Maine | 11 | 4 | 14 | 13 | 17 | 9 |
| Maryland | 19 | 26 | 13 | 6 | 22 | 32 |
| Massachusetts | 4 | 21 | 7 | 1 | 15 | 20 |
| Michigan | 28 | 36 | 27 | 28 | 19 | 31 |
| Minnesota | 7 | 3 | 4 | 9 | 9 | 8 |
| Mississippi | 50 | 50 | 50 | 44 | 50 | 46 |
| Missouri | 22 | 20 | 33 | 34 | 6 | 11 |
| Montana | 32 | 27 | 39 | 43 | 24 | 28 |
| Nebraska | 12 | 8 | 6 | 18 | 32 | 6 |
| Nevada | 49 | 25 | 48 | 50 | 31 | 50 |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |


|  | Overall Index | Physical <br> Health and <br> Safety <br> Ranking | Economic <br> Well- <br> Being <br> Ranking | Educational <br> Outcomes <br> Ranking | Emotional <br> Health <br> Ranking | Extracurric- <br> ular and Out- <br> of-School <br> Activities <br> Ranking |
| :--- | :---: | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| New Hampshire | 1 | 6 | 3 | 2 | 7 | 19 |
| New Jersey | 9 | 10 | 9 | 3 | 14 | 30 |
| New Mexico | 48 | 47 | 49 | 49 | 26 | 33 |
| New York | 21 | 19 | 26 | 10 | 27 | 22 |
| North Carolina | 34 | 24 | 36 | 23 | 47 | 42 |
| North Dakota | 2 | 15 | 1 | 7 | 2 | 7 |
| Ohio | 33 | 28 | 30 | 26 | 41 | 38 |
| Oklahoma | 46 | 49 | 41 | 48 | 42 | 37 |
| Oregon | 23 | 29 | 31 | 24 | 5 | 27 |
| Pennsylvania | 13 | 11 | 25 | 11 | 12 | 5 |
| Rhode Island | 25 | 30 | 21 | 15 | 18 | 43 |
| South Carolina | 38 | 46 | 47 | 40 | 30 | 15 |
| South Dakota | 3 | 7 | 10 | 20 | 1 | 1 |
| Tennessee | 43 | 40 | 38 | 41 | 49 | 40 |
| Texas | 40 | 42 | 43 | 36 | 34 | 34 |
| Utah | 10 | 9 | 11 | 32 | 3 | 2 |
| Vermont | 5 | 2 | 5 | 5 | 25 | 4 |
| Virginia | 8 | 5 | 12 | 8 | 4 | 14 |
| Washington | 24 | 32 | 20 | 29 | 16 | 21 |
| West Virginia | 44 | 39 | 28 | 35 | 48 | 49 |
| Wisconsin | 16 | 1 | 15 | 14 | 20 | 23 |
| Wyoming | 17 | 18 | 18 | 12 | 23 | 18 |
| District of |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Columbia | $n . r$ | $n . r$ | $n . r$ | $n . r$ | $n . r$ | $n . r$ |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |

n.r. = not ranked.

Source: Population Reference Bureau.


## About the Girl Scout Research Institute

The Girl Scout Research Institute (www.girlscouts.org/research), formed in 2000, is a vital extension of Girl Scouts of the USA's commitment to addressing the complex and ever-changing needs of girls. Composed of a dedicated staff and advisors who are experts in child development, academia, government, business, and the not-for-profit sector, the institute conducts original research, evaluation, and outcomes-measurement studies; releases critical facts and findings; and provides resources essential for the advancement of well-being and safety of girls living in today's world. The GSRI also informs program, public policy, and advocacy for Girl Scouting.

## About Girl Scouts of the USA

Founded in 1912, Girl Scouts of the USA is the preeminent leadership development organization for girls, with 3.2 million girl and adult members worldwide. Girl Scouts is the leading authority on girls' healthy development, and builds girls of courage, confidence, and character, who make the world a better place. The organization serves girls from every corner of the United States and its territories. Girl Scouts of the USA also serves American girls and their classmates attending American or international schools overseas in 90 countries. For more information on how to join, volunteer or reconnect with, or donate to Girl Scouts, call 800-GSUSA-4-U or visit www.girlscouts.org.

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