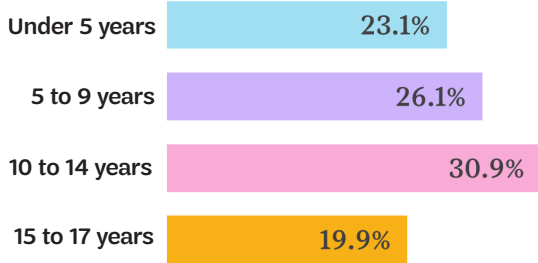# Meigs County

2025 | Ohio State of the Girl **Fact Sheet**

DEMOGRAPHICS

2,199 girls are under 18 years old in Meigs County

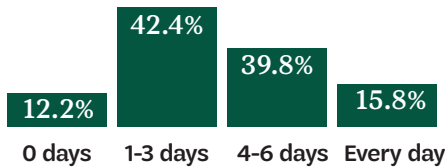### Percent of girls under 18, by age group

- Under 5 years: 23.1%
- 5 to 9 years: 26.1%
- 10 to 14 years: 30.9%
- 15 to 17 years: 19.9%

Race & ethnicity of girls	Meigs County	
	Number	Percent
American Indian	<10	<1%
Asian	<10	<1%
Black	<10	<1%
Hispanic	43	2.0%
Native Hawaiian	<10	<1%
White	2,163	98.4%
Two or more races	36	1.6%
Some other race	<10	<1%

98.0% of girls under 18 have health insurance in Meigs County

27.8% of girls under 18 live below the federal poverty level in Meigs County
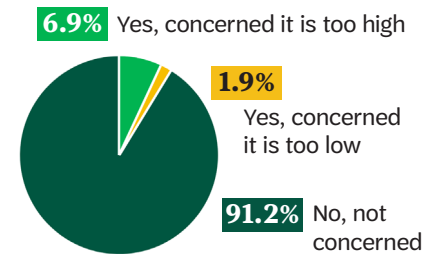
PHYSICAL WELLNESS

Number of days spent exercising
Girls 6 to 17 years old in Ohio

- 0 days: 12.2%
- 1-3 days: 42.4%
- 4-6 days: 39.8%
- Every day: 15.8%

34.9% of girls 6 to 17 years old are considered overweight or obese in Ohio based on their Body Mass Index.

Parent reported concern for their female child's weight

- 6.9% Yes, concerned it is too high
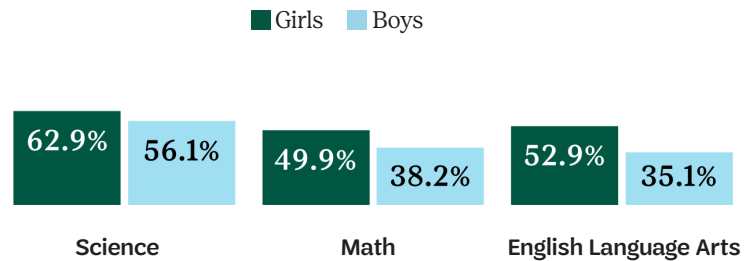- 1.9% Yes, concerned it is too low
- 91.2% No, not concerned

ACADEMIC WELLNESS

In 2023, in Meigs County...

86.1% of girls graduated high school

32.4% of girls were chronically absent from school

42.1% of women ages 29-35 with a Bachelor's degree in Meigs County **declared a science or engineering degree**

8th grade proficiency levels in Meigs County, 2023-24 school year

■ Girls ■ Boys

- Science: Girls 62.9%, Boys 56.1%
- Math: Girls 49.9%, Boys 38.2%
- English Language Arts: Girls 52.9%, Boys 35.1%

EMOTIONAL WELLNESS

1 in 2 Ohio high school girls felt **sad or hopeless**, in 2021

1 in 3 Ohio girls had difficulty in obtaining mental health treatment or counseling, in 2022

54% of Ohio children reported having **a caring adult** who they can talk to about their feelings all or most of the time, in 2022

Represents data found at the state level, that is not available by county.

DEEPER DIVE

When considering the intersection of girls' social, emotional, and physical health as well as academic success, three areas were identified where Ohio girls especially may need more support:

STEM interest
bullying
body image

S.T.E.M. INTEREST

Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics

STEM and STEM-related careers among 25- to 39-year-old women

	2015		2022	
	Female	Male	Female	Male
National Average	38.7%	49.3%	41.1%	50.1%
Ohio Average	36.4%	46.5%	39.2%	47.0%

- The number of **women in STEM careers has increased in recent years,** although women continue to be underrepresented nationally and in Ohio.

- The key to increasing girls' interest in STEM careers is to **provide early and consistent encouragement and education that counteracts negative stereotypes.**
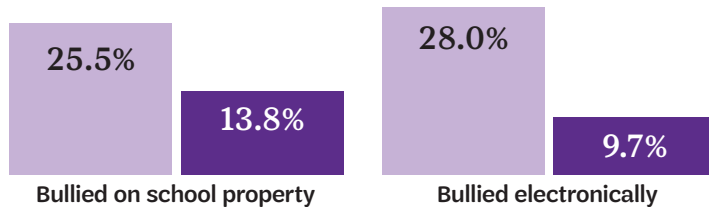
63% of Girl Scouts in middle and high school, who did multiple STEM activities aspire to a career in STEM, compared to 43% among those who did not do STEM activities.

BULLYING

Ohio high school youth who experienced bullying, 2021

Girls   Boys

25.5%   **13.8%**
Bullied on school property

28.0%   **9.7%**
Bullied electronically

- Girls in Ohio consistently report **higher rates of bullying and cyberbullying** than boys.

- **Bullying has significant effects on physical health** such as reduced sleep, increased stress hormones, and impaired brain functioning.

- Nationally, females were more likely than males to perceive that the bullying was related to their gender, sexual orientation, and appearance.

BODY IMAGE

- Nationally, many girls start to worry about their weight from the ages of 6 to 10, and **by age 14, 60-70% of girls start to try to lose weight.**

- Negative body image may be influenced by pressure from relatives and peers, exposure to unrealistic body expectations from traditional and social media, and engagement in social appearance comparisons.

- A national survey found that **57% of girls said that social media makes them want to change how they look.**

A national survey found that...

66% of girls said that **how they feel about their body makes them feel less confident.**

88% of girls said that **they are under pressure to be pretty.**

Strategies to support a healthy body image in girls include:

Participating in sports   Partnering with a mentor   Improving digital literacy

Find the full Ohio State of the Girl Report and more information about this project at OhioGirlReport.org or scan the QR code

girl scouts of black diamond