

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## **Girl Scouts of Citrus Council Presents: “State of the Florida Girl Report”**

ORLANDO, FL, July 23, 2025

As the 2025–2026 academic year approaches, Girl Scouts of Citrus Council is proud to share key findings from the newly released State of the Florida Girl Report, a data-driven study examining the well-being of girls across the state. Developed by the Girl Scouts of Florida Association and peer-reviewed by leading Florida universities, this comprehensive analysis explores girls’ experiences across four critical dimensions: physical health, academic performance, emotional wellness, and social well-being.

### **Key Highlights from the Report:**

#### **Physical Health & Body Image**

36% of girls believe they are overweight, yet only 32% meet clinical criteria—highlighting a concerning disconnect between perception and reality.

#### **Academic Performance**

Nearly half (46%) of K–12 female students are not meeting grade-level math standards, with a notable 13% drop post-COVID. However, girls are graduating high school at a 90% rate—5% higher than boys.

#### **Emotional Wellness**

Mental health concerns are rising: 52% of high school girls report feeling sad or hopeless for extended periods, and one in four have seriously considered suicide.

#### **Safety & Support**

One in eight girls missed school due to feeling unsafe, and girls are 1.5 times more likely than boys to experience bullying or cyberbullying. Additionally, girls are three times more likely than boys to experience sexual violence.

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## Why This Matters & How Girl Scouts Makes a Difference

These statistics emphasize that girls in Florida face unique challenges—many overlooked in broader data sets. Girl Scouts of Citrus Council provides a proven supportive environment designed to address these gaps. By offering safe, all-girl spaces, leadership opportunities, hands-on learning, and strong mentorship, Girl Scouts empowers girls to build confidence, resilience, and essential life skills.

## Join Us in Making an Impact

With the start of the new school year just around the corner, now is the perfect time to get involved:

- Start/Join a troop and give girls the community they need.
- Volunteer to mentor and guide the next generation of leaders.
- Support our mission through donations and sponsorships to expand programming.

“Girl Scouts delivers immersive, non-classroom learning—like entrepreneurship, outdoor exploration, and community service—that directly supports girls’ growth and counters the alarming trends highlighted in the report” said Jennifer Wilcox, CEO of Girl Scouts of Citrus Council.

To download the full State of the Florida Girl Report, learn more about local troop opportunities, or to contribute, please visit [www.citrus-gs.org](http://www.citrus-gs.org)

## About Girl Scouts of Citrus Council:

*Founded in 1956, Girl Scouts of Citrus is dedicated to building girls of courage, confidence, and character who make the world a better place. Serving more than 13,000 members across Brevard, Lake, Orange, Osceola, Seminole, and Volusia counties, we deliver girl-centered programs focused on STEM, the outdoors, life skills, and entrepreneurship. Guided by passionate adult volunteers, we prepare girls for success in school, careers, and the world beyond, investing in the future leaders of our community.*

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