

Adolescents and Health Care: The Girls Inc. Perspective

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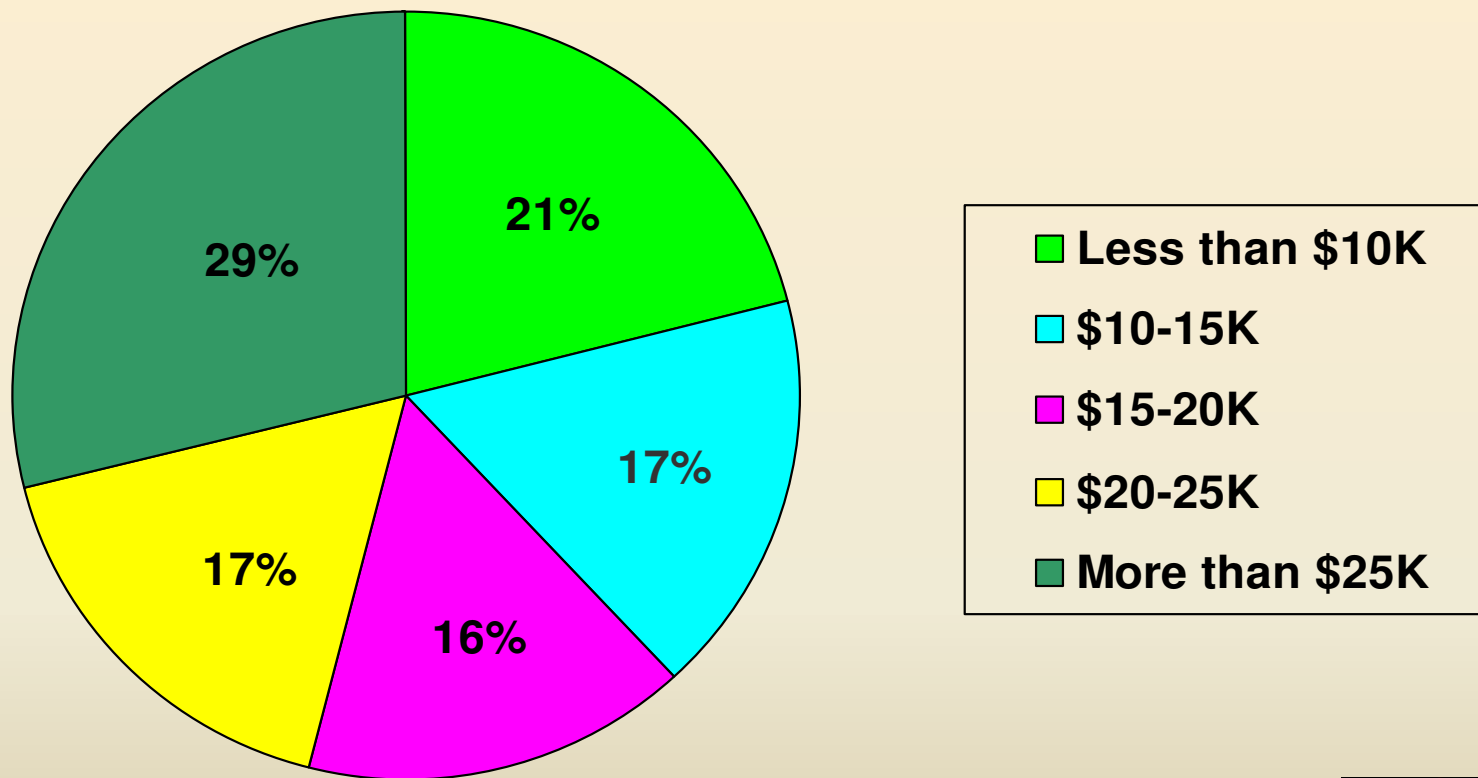


Girls Incorporated®

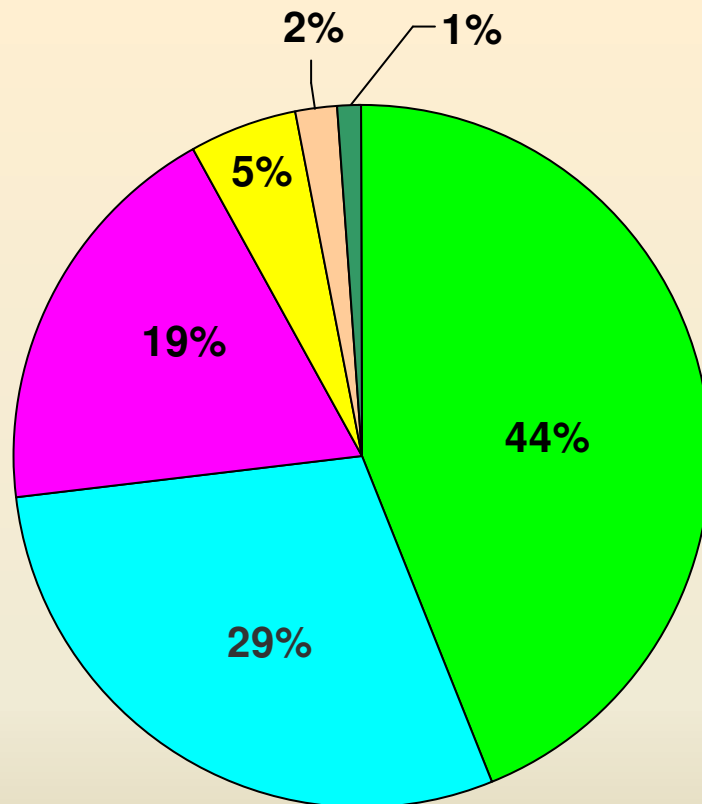
- 1 **Is a nonprofit organization**
- 1 **Roots date back to 1864—national status since 1945**
- 1 **Responds to the changing needs of girls through research-based programs and public education efforts**
- 1 **Inspires all girls to be strong, smart, and boldSM**
- 1 **Empowers girls to understand, value, and assert their rights**



Household Incomes in 2005



Girls Served in 2005



-  Black/African American
-  White/European/American/Anglo
-  Latina/Hispanic
-  Multiracial/mixed heritage
-  Asian/Pacific Islander
-  Native American/American Indian/First Peoples

Issues girls are facing

- Body image issues
- Pregnancy prevention/STIs/reproductive health care
- Stress
- Abuse/neglect/violence
- Nutritional issues
- Lack of physical activity
- Substance use/abuse



Barriers to health care access

- Lack of Insurance
- Cost
- Transportation
- Citizenship status
- Language barrier
- Parent notification
- Girl knowledge
- Parent health care knowledge and literacy
- Knowledge of the provider
- “Warmth” of the provider and staff
- County/State rules and regulations



Girls Inc. Health BridgeSM

- Link girls to health care providers
- Empower girls to take an active role in their health
- Help health care providers be more “girl friendly”
- Identify gaps in the community health care system



Working with parents and the community

- Cooperative agreement with the CDC
- Parent/daughter workshops
- Family nights
- Health fairs



Recommendations

- Reduce the barriers to access
- Increase education for both girls and parents
- Increase funding for SCHIP and Title X programs
- Increase education for practitioners who don't specialize in adolescent medicine
- Comprehensive sex education





**girls
inc.®**

Girls Inc.

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