



Briefing Paper

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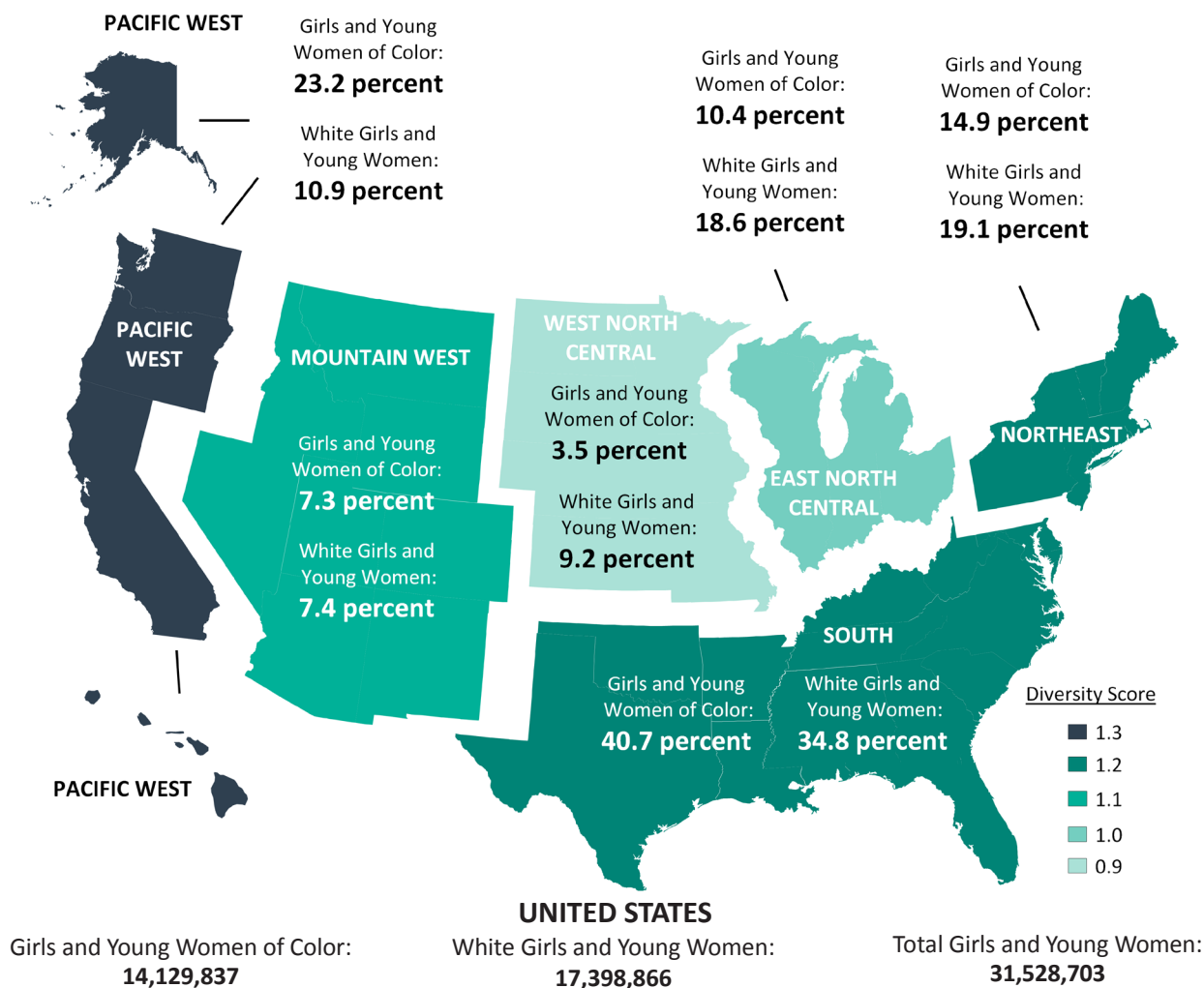
Girls and Young Women of Color: Where They Are in the United States

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Of the 14.1 million girls and young women of color, age 10–24, in the United States, 40.7 percent (5,748,760) live in the South, 23.2 percent in the Pacific West, 14.9 percent in the Northeast, 10.4 percent in East North Central, 7.3 percent in the Mountain West, and 3.5 percent in West North Central, as shown in Map 1.

Map 1. Distribution of Girls and Young Women of Color Across the United States, Ages 10–24

Each Region's Share of the Overall Population of White Girls and Young Women and Girls and Young Women of Color in the United States

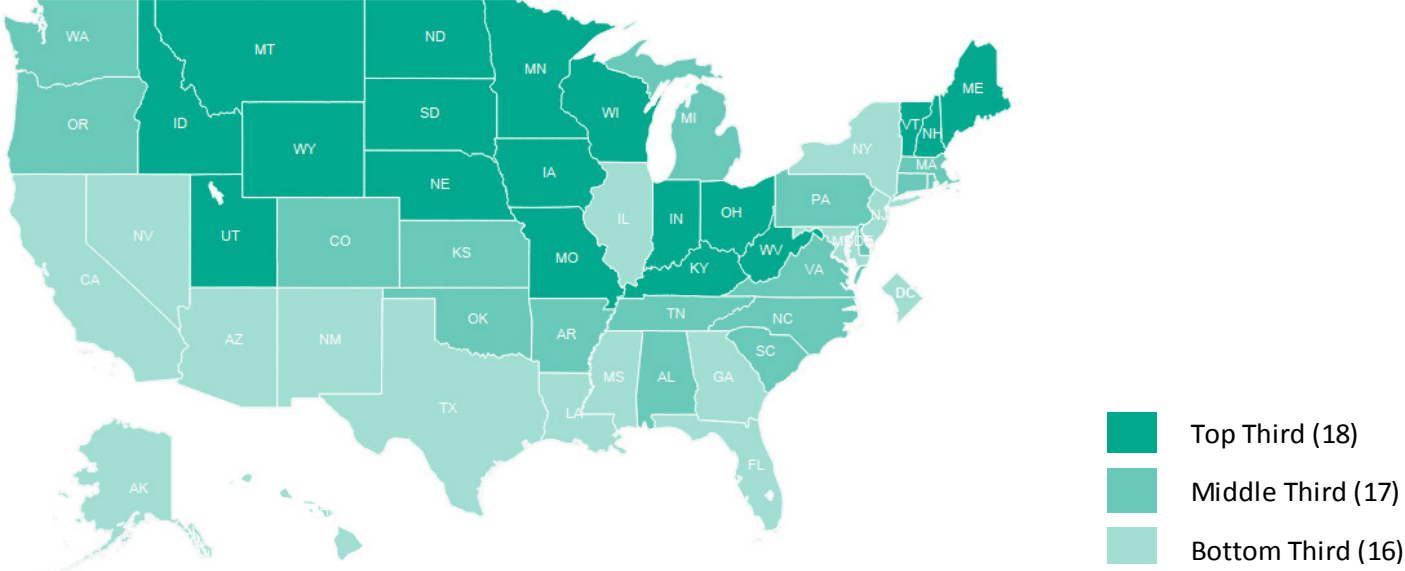


Note and Source: Population includes girls and young women between 10 and 24 years of age. Institute for Women's Policy Research analysis of American Community Survey 2010-2014 microdata, five-year estimates (Integrated Public Use Microdata Series, Version 6.0)

White girls and young women make up the largest share of the population in the West and East North Central regions and many states in the Northeast and Mountain West regions of the United States (Map 2). Within the top third of these states, at least two thirds of all the girls and young women are White, resulting in these states having the lowest diversity scores in the United States (Table 1).

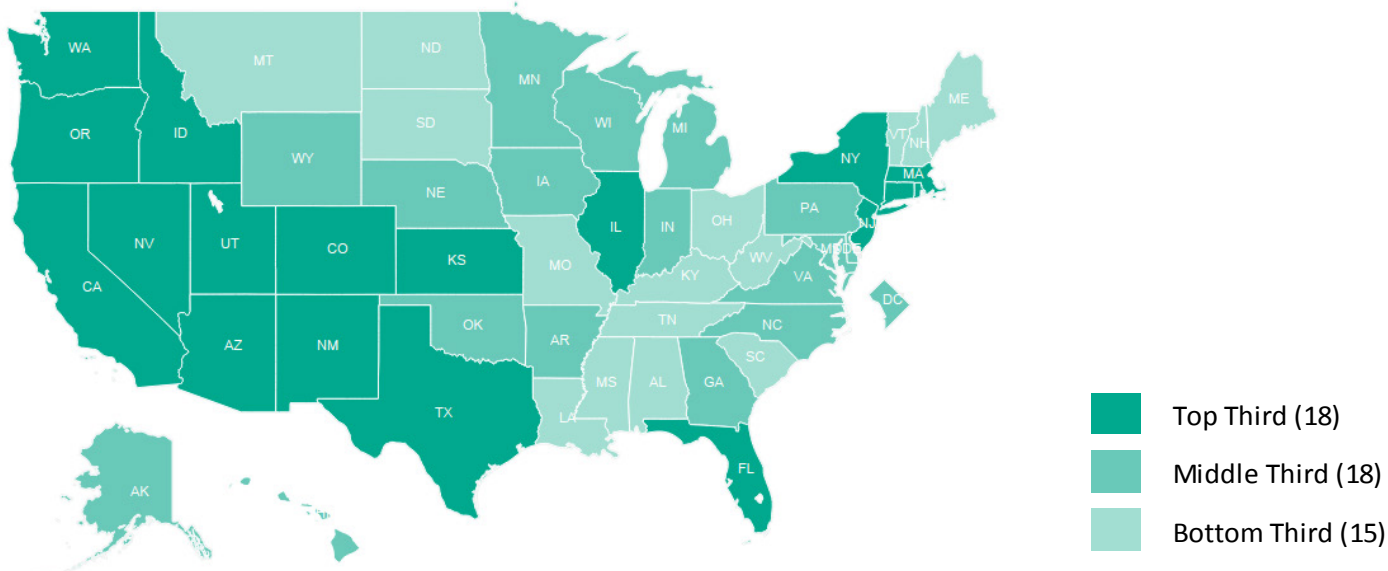
The states with the largest share of Hispanic girls and young women can mostly be found in the Pacific and Mountain West region—where Hispanic girls and young women’s share of the population is the highest in the country—though a few states in the Northeast as well as Florida, Texas, Kansas, and Illinois are also included in the top third (Map 3). The largest shares of Black girls and young women are found in the southern states, with high concentration in a few northeast states as well as Illinois and Michigan (Map 4). Interventions for girls and young women in the western United States should be sure to address

Map 2. White Girls’ and Young Women’s Share of the Population, 2014



Note and Source: Population includes girls and young women between 10 and 24 years of age. Institute for Women’s Policy Research analysis of American Community Survey 2010-2014 microdata, five-year estimates (Integrated Public Use Microdata Series, Version 6.0)

Map 3. Hispanic Girls’ and Young Women’s Share of the Population, 2014

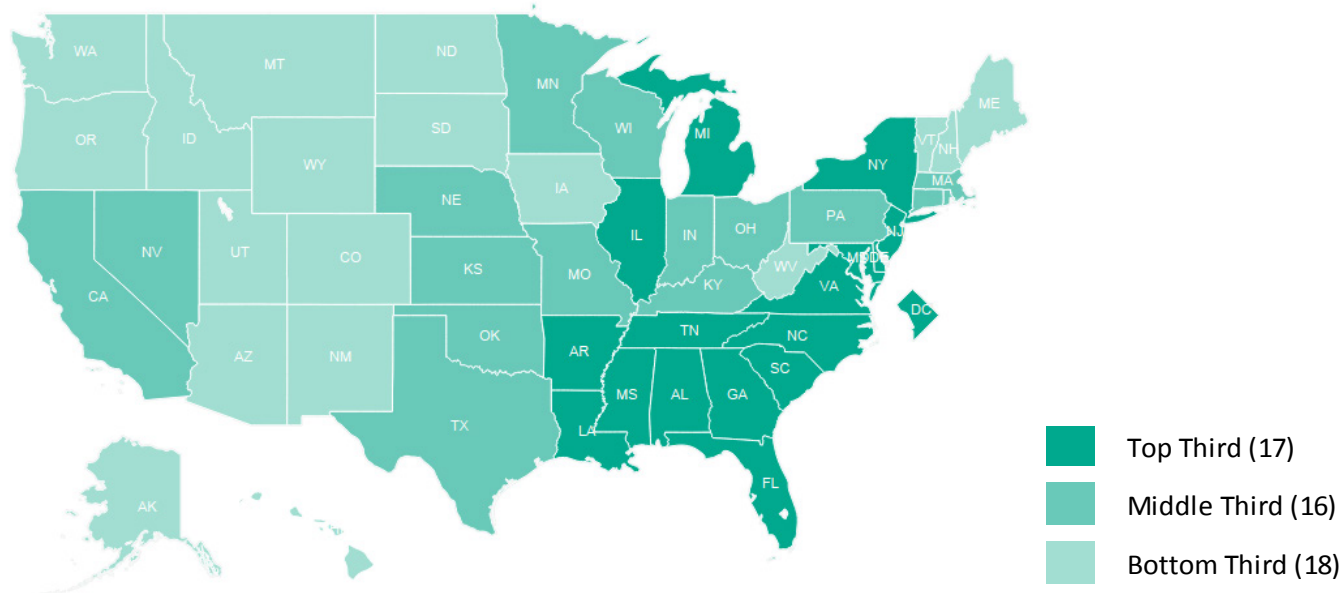


Note and Source: Population includes girls and young women between 10 and 24 years of age. Institute for Women’s Policy Research analysis of American Community Survey 2010-2014 microdata, five-year estimates (Integrated Public Use Microdata Series, Version 6.0)

the unique challenges facing Hispanic girls and young women, while intervention in southern states would do well to focus on Black girls and young women’s barriers to well-being.

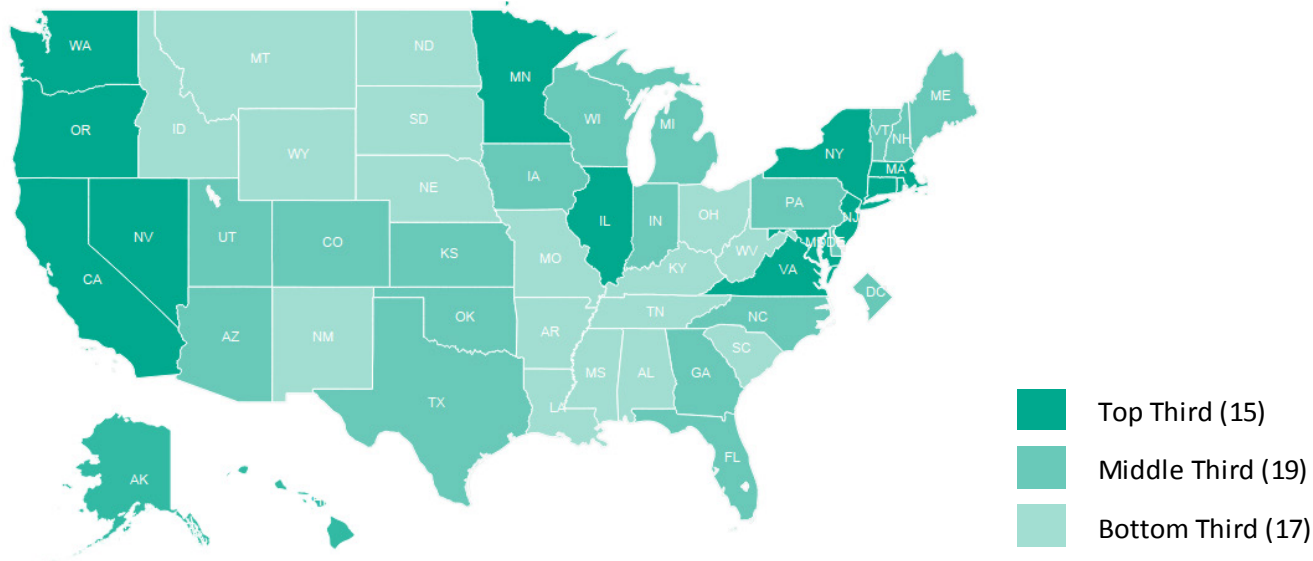
Asian and Pacific Islander girls and young women are most concentrated in states in the Pacific West—with by far the highest concentrations in Hawai‘i (38.4 percent) and California (11.7 percent)—in the Northeast, and in Nevada, Minnesota, Illinois, Maryland, and Virginia (Map 5). The highest concentrations of American Indian and Alaska Native girls and young women can be found in Alaska (17.7 percent), several states in the Mountain West region, and North and South Dakota and Oklahoma (Map 6). Any interventions in these states will want to be sure to address the distinctive challenges facing Asian and Pacific Islander and American Indian and Alaska Native girls and young women.

Map 4. Black Girls’ and Young Women’s Share of the Population, 2014



Note and Source: Population includes girls and young women between 10 and 24 years of age. Institute for Women’s Policy Research analysis of American Community Survey 2010-2014 microdata, five-year estimates (Integrated Public Use Microdata Series, Version 6.0)

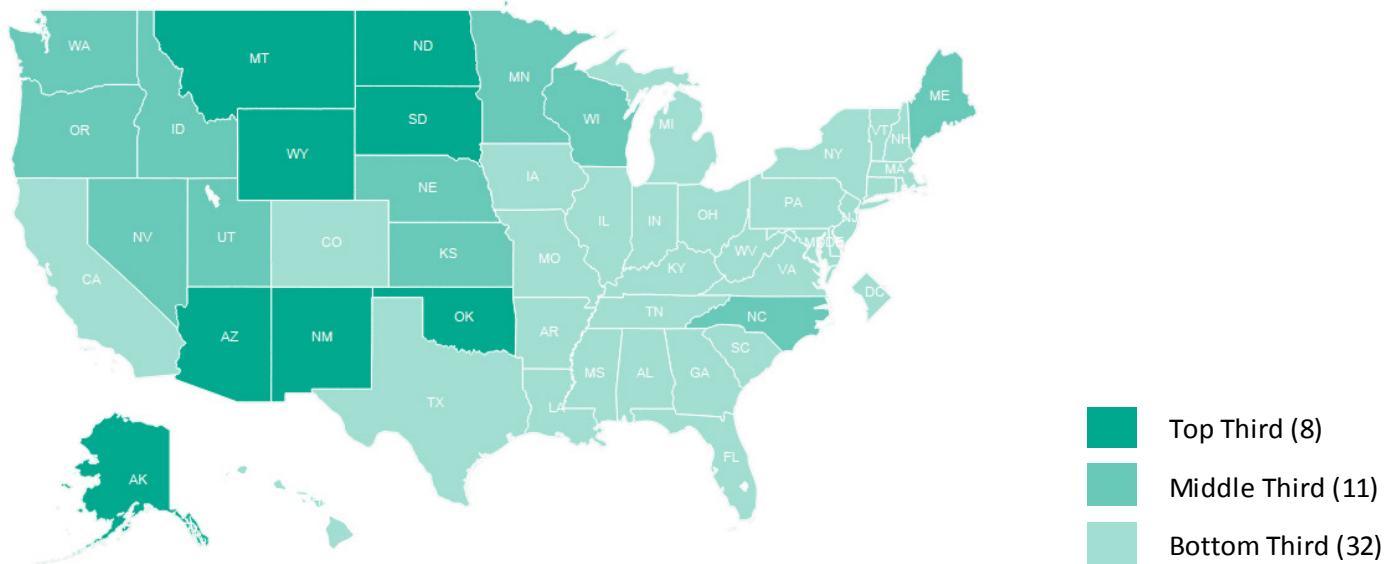
Map 5. Asian and Pacific Islander Girls’ and Young Women’s Share of the Population, 2014



Note and Source: Population includes girls and young women between 10 and 24 years of age. Institute for Women’s Policy Research analysis of American Community Survey 2010-2014 microdata, five-year estimates (Integrated Public Use Microdata Series, Version 6.0)

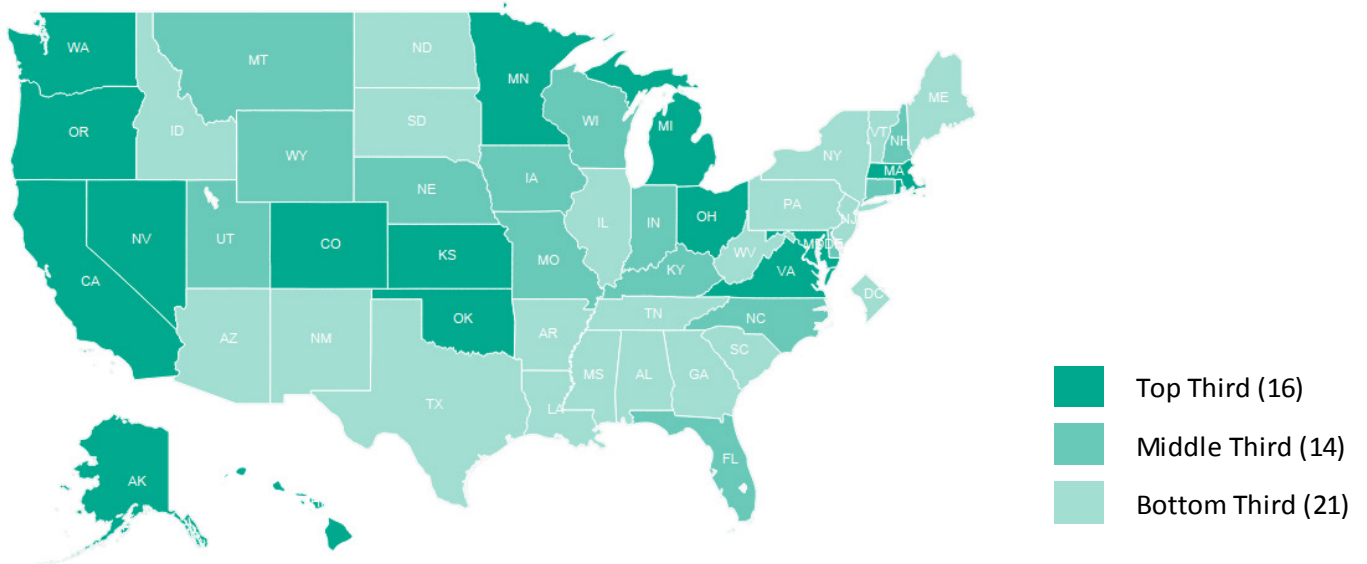
Girls and young women of a race not discussed above, or of two or more races, are most concentrated in the Pacific West region, especially in Hawai'i and Alaska and in at least two states in every other region, including those states in the South (Map 7). Projects focused on girls and young women will want to look at the unique challenges this group of girls and young women might face, especially when working in the states where they make up a disproportionate share of the population.

Map 6. American Indian and Alaskan Native Girls' and Young Women's Share of the Population, 2014



Note and Source: Population includes girls and young women between 10 and 24 years of age. Institute for Women's Policy Research analysis of American Community Survey 2010-2014 microdata, five-year estimates (Integrated Public Use Microdata Series, Version 6.0)

Map 7. Other Race or Two or More Race Girls' and Young Women's Share of the Population, 2014



Note and Source: Population includes girls and young women between 10 and 24 years of age. Institute for Women's Policy Research analysis of American Community Survey 2010-2014 microdata, five-year estimates (Integrated Public Use Microdata Series, Version 6.0)

Table 1. Distribution of Girls and Young Women by Race and Ethnicity, by State and Region, 2014

State by Region	Diversity Score	Total Number of Girls and Young Women	White	Hispanic	Black	Asian and Pacific Islander	American Indian and Alaska Native	Other Race or Two or More Races	Total Percent
Alaska	1.4	75,886	54.2%	8.5%	2.4%	7.0%	17.7%	10.3%	100%
California	1.3	3,948,842	29.5%	48.3%	5.9%	11.7%	0.4%	4.1%	100%
Hawaii	1.4	127,201	15.9%	12.8%	2.2%	38.4%	0.2%	30.5%	100%
Oregon	1.0	366,631	69.0%	18.0%	2.0%	4.9%	1.0%	5.1%	100%
Washington	1.2	666,938	63.2%	16.7%	3.9%	7.9%	1.4%	6.9%	100%
Pacific West	1.3	5,185,498	36.7%	40.6%	5.3%	11.3%	0.8%	5.3%	100%
Arizona	1.2	667,806	44.2%	40.8%	4.4%	2.7%	5.1%	2.9%	100%
Colorado	1.1	506,755	60.7%	27.6%	4.3%	3.2%	0.5%	3.7%	100%
Idaho	0.7	168,629	78.6%	15.2%	0.9%	1.5%	1.3%	2.5%	100%
New Mexico	1.1	213,606	28.1%	55.9%	1.7%	1.4%	10.7%	2.2%	100%
Montana	0.8	96,039	80.0%	5.7%	0.5%	1.1%	9.3%	3.4%	100%
Utah	0.8	344,808	76.5%	15.1%	1.1%	3.0%	1.1%	3.1%	100%
Nevada	1.3	264,661	40.5%	37.4%	9.0%	7.4%	1.0%	4.7%	100%
Wyoming	0.7	55,108	80.8%	10.7%	1.4%	1.3%	2.6%	3.3%	100%
Mountain West	1.1	2,317,412	55.5%	31.1%	3.7%	3.1%	3.4%	3.3%	100%
Iowa	0.7	309,519	83.3%	6.9%	4.4%	2.1%	0.3%	3.0%	100%
Kansas	1.0	300,453	71.0%	14.9%	6.1%	2.8%	1.0%	4.3%	100%
Minnesota	0.9	523,658	76.0%	6.4%	7.0%	5.6%	1.0%	4.0%	100%
Missouri	0.8	601,926	75.3%	5.0%	14.1%	1.8%	0.3%	3.4%	100%
Nebraska	0.9	190,506	75.7%	12.8%	5.4%	1.8%	1.0%	3.1%	100%
North Dakota	0.7	71,779	83.9%	3.2%	1.7%	1.5%	7.3%	2.4%	100%
South Dakota	0.8	84,608	78.4%	3.8%	1.8%	1.2%	12.2%	2.7%	100%
West North Central	0.9	2,082,449	76.5%	7.7%	8.0%	2.9%	1.4%	3.5%	100%
Indiana	0.8	675,798	75.9%	8.3%	10.6%	2.0%	0.1%	3.1%	100%
Illinois	1.2	1,298,310	54.9%	20.7%	17.1%	4.5%	0.1%	2.7%	100%
Michigan	1.0	1,009,463	70.1%	6.3%	16.5%	2.8%	0.5%	3.8%	100%
Ohio	0.8	1,147,997	75.6%	4.2%	14.5%	1.9%	0.1%	3.7%	100%
Wisconsin	0.9	567,564	75.9%	8.3%	8.3%	3.5%	1.0%	3.0%	100%
East North Central	1.0	4,699,132	68.8%	10.3%	14.3%	3.0%	0.3%	3.3%	100%

¹ The “Diversity Score” column displays multigroup entropy scores, also known as Theil’s Entropy Scores (hereafter, “diversity scores;” See Henri Theil, *Statistical Decomposition Analysis: With Applications in the Social and Administrative Sciences*, North-Holland Pub. Co., 1972; and John Iceland, “Beyond Black and White: Metropolitan Residential Segregation in Multi-Ethnic America,” *Social Science Research* 33: 2 (2004): 248-71). Diversity scores indicate how diverse each state and region is in terms of the six racial and ethnic groups—the number of different groups in each state or region as well as the size of each of the groups—making it a rich measure of multi-group diversity. The maximum possible score for the six groups we are examining is 1.8, which indicates perfect diversity such that each racial and ethnic group composes an equal share of the population, and a minimum score of 0.0 indicates that only one racial or ethnic group exists in the location. The diversity score is not a measure of segregation—it does not indicate whether the groups are integrated in housing, education, or the workforce.

The Diversity Scores in Table 1 are a measure of the proportional size of all population subgroups in each state or region and indicate how diverse each state and region is in terms of the six racial and ethnic groups shown here.¹ The United States as a whole receives a diversity score of 1.2 out of a possible maximum score of 1.8. The Pacific West, with a score of 1.3, is the only region that is more diverse than the United States overall. The Northeast and South regions are equally as diverse as the United States, also receiving scores of 1.2. The Mountain West, West North Central, and East North Central regions are less diverse than the nation as a whole, with scores of 1.1, 0.9, and 1.0, respectively (see Map 1).

Alaska and Hawaii are the most diverse states in the nation, receiving diversity scores of 1.4. California, Florida, New Jersey, New York, Nevada, and Oklahoma are also more diverse than the nation as a whole, all with diversity scores of 1.3. Eight states—Arizona, Illinois, Georgia, Maryland, North Carolina, Texas, Virginia, and Washington—and the District of Columbia are equally diverse as the nation as a whole, scoring 1.2. However, the majority of states (33) are less diverse than the United States as a whole, receiving diversity scores of 1.1 or below. West Virginia (0.4) and Maine and Vermont (0.5) are the least diverse states in the United States.

Table 1. Distribution of Girls and Young Women by Race and Ethnicity, by State and Region, 2014, cont.

State by Region	Diversity Score	Total Number of Girls and Young Women	White	Hispanic	Black	Asian and Pacific Islander	American Indian and Alaska Native	Other Race or Two or More Races	Total Percent
Connecticut	1.1	351,539	62.0%	18.9%	11.5%	4.2%	0.1%	3.3%	100%
Maine	0.5	118,848	90.6%	2.0%	1.6%	2.0%	0.9%	2.8%	100%
Massachusetts	1.0	667,725	67.7%	14.0%	8.0%	6.5%	0.1%	3.7%	100%
New Jersey	1.3	835,680	51.7%	22.1%	15.2%	8.1%	0.1%	2.8%	100%
New Hampshire	0.5	127,271	88.3%	4.6%	1.5%	2.5%	0.1%	3.0%	100%
New York	1.3	1,930,790	51.3%	21.3%	16.6%	7.6%	0.3%	2.9%	100%
Pennsylvania	0.9	1,239,394	71.9%	8.7%	13.1%	3.5%	0.1%	2.7%	100%
Rhode Island	1.1	110,093	65.9%	18.2%	6.9%	4.4%	0.3%	4.3%	100%
Vermont	0.5	61,930	89.9%	2.8%	1.5%	2.7%	0.3%	2.8%	100%
Northeast	1.2	5,443,270	61.2%	16.4%	13.1%	6.0%	0.2%	3.0%	100%
Alabama	1.0	492,700	60.0%	4.4%	32.0%	1.3%	0.5%	1.9%	100%
Arkansas	1.0	295,010	67.2%	8.6%	19.5%	1.4%	0.6%	2.8%	100%
Delaware	1.1	90,448	56.6%	10.8%	25.9%	3.3%	0.2%	3.0%	100%
District of Columbia	1.2	65,060	32.9%	9.4%	51.1%	3.9%	0.1%	2.6%	100%
Florida	1.3	1,771,309	46.5%	26.9%	20.6%	2.6%	0.2%	3.2%	100%
Georgia	1.2	1,041,594	47.7%	10.6%	35.3%	3.5%	0.2%	2.8%	100%
Kentucky	0.7	426,255	82.3%	3.7%	9.2%	1.5%	0.2%	3.1%	100%
Louisiana	1.0	476,855	52.8%	4.6%	38.2%	1.8%	0.6%	2.0%	100%
Maryland	1.2	574,680	47.4%	10.0%	33.1%	5.3%	0.3%	3.9%	100%
Mississippi	0.9	319,844	50.0%	2.7%	44.6%	0.9%	0.4%	1.3%	100%
North Carolina	1.2	970,877	57.3%	10.6%	25.1%	2.5%	1.3%	3.1%	100%
Oklahoma	1.3	389,101	59.4%	11.9%	8.8%	2.0%	8.9%	8.9%	100%
South Carolina	1.0	472,991	56.8%	5.9%	32.7%	1.5%	0.3%	2.8%	100%
Tennessee	0.9	640,525	68.7%	5.8%	21.1%	1.4%	0.2%	2.7%	100%
Texas	1.2	2,797,365	36.1%	45.5%	12.6%	3.6%	0.2%	2.1%	100%
Virginia	1.2	805,359	58.3%	9.9%	21.9%	5.6%	0.1%	4.2%	100%
West Virginia	0.4	170,969	90.2%	2.0%	4.2%	0.9%	0.1%	2.7%	100%
South	1.2	11,800,942	51.3%	19.7%	22.6%	2.9%	0.6%	3.0%	100%
United States	1.2	31,528,703	55.2%	21.2%	14.5%	4.9%	0.8%	3.5%	100%

Notes: Population includes girls and young women between 10 and 24 years of age. Racial categories are non-Hispanic and Hispanic is exclusive of other racial categories. Due to the exclusion of other racial categories among Hispanics, these data will not align with what is reported by the Census Bureau, as their definition of Hispanic includes individuals who also identify as other races. The Census Bureau is currently testing a questionnaire that combines the questions about origin and race into one question, and dropping use of the terms “race” and “origin.” This revision will allow respondents to select as many categories as apply, as well as write in a specific national origin for any category. If approved, the revised questionnaire will be distributed in 2020.

Source: IWPR analysis of American Community Survey 2010-2014 microdata, five-year estimates (Integrated Public Use Microdata Series, Version 6.0).

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