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# Circle of Sisterhood 101

The Facts about Girls' Education

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One World. One Sisterhood. ®



The facts below can be used in a multitude of ways to educate your community as well as your whole campus about the importance of access to educational opportunities for girls and women. Make every effort to increase awareness and educate your community when hosting events on behalf of the Circle of Sisterhood Foundation.

**Around the world, 119 million girls are out of school.**

Source: UNICEF, *Girls' education*. (n.d) <https://www.unicef.org/education/girls-education>

**There are 5.5 million more out-of-school girls than boys, worldwide.**

Source: UNICEF, *Education*. (2022, June) <https://data.unicef.org/topic/gender/gender-disparities-in-education/>

**Two-thirds of the world's 754 million illiterate adults are women.**

Source: UNESCO, *Literacy*. (2024, September 17). <https://www.unesco.org/en/literacy/need-know?hub=401>

**In some developing countries, investing in girls' education could increase GDP by as much as 10%.**

Source: U.S. Agency for International Development. *Girls' Education*. Retrieved from <https://2017-2020.usaid.gov/education/girls>

**One additional school year can increase a woman's earnings by 10% to 20% toward her future annual income.**

Source: UNESCO, *Progress on girls' access to education: What the new UNESCO data reveals*. (2024, March 15) <https://www.unesco.org/en/articles/progress-girls-access-education-what-new-unesco-data-reveals>

**Less than two thirds of girls in low-income countries complete primary school, and only one in three girls completes lower secondary school.**

Source: Montenegro, Claudio; Wodon, Quentin; Nguyen, Hoa; Onagoruwa, Adenike. (2018) *Missed Opportunities: The High Cost of Not Educating Girls. The Cost of Not Educating Girls Notes Series*. <http://hdl.handle.net/10986/29956>

**If all girls were to complete secondary school, the level of child marriage would likely fall by two thirds.**

Source: UNICEF, *The power of education to end child marriage*. (2022) <https://data.unicef.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/09/The-power-of-education-to-end-child-marriage.pdf>

**About 1 in 4 girls continue to be married as children.**

Source: UN Women, *The Gender Snapshot 2024*. (2024) <https://unstats.un.org/sdgs/gender-snapshot/2024/>

**A child whose mother can read is 50 percent more likely to live past age five.**

Source: U.S. Agency for International Development. *Girls' Education*. <https://2017-2020.usaid.gov/education/girls>

**Girls in crisis-affected countries will receive on average only 8.5 years of education in their lifetime.**

Source: Bentaouet Kattan, Raja; Murad Khan, Myra. *Girls' education in conflict is most at risk: Here's how to reach them* (2024, March 12) <https://blogs.worldbank.org/en/education/girls-education-conflict-most-risk-heres-how-reach-them>

**One in three girls and women worldwide will experience physical or sexual violence during their lifetime.**

Source: World Health Organization, *Violence against women*. (2024, March 25) <https://www.who.int/news-room/fact-sheets/detail/violence-against-women>

**One in every ten women is living in extreme poverty.**

Source: UN Women, *1 in every 10 women in the world lives in extreme poverty*. (2024, March 8) <https://www.unwomen.org/en/news-stories/press-release/2024/03/1-in-every-10-women-in-the-world-lives-in-extreme-poverty>

**Girls' education strengthens economies and reduces inequality. It contributes to more stable, resilient societies that give all individuals – including boys and men – the opportunity to fulfil their potential.**

Source: UNICEF, *Girls' education*. (n.d) <https://www.unicef.org/education/girls-education>

