WOMEN IN KENTUCKY

Women in Kentucky have made considerable advances over the years, but they continue to face inequities that often prevent them from reaching their full potential. Additionally, the recent global pandemic had a disproportionate impact on women and girls, physically, socially, emotionally, academically and economically. The Kentucky Commission on Women is charged with educating policymakers and the public about the status of Kentucky women and girls, and to that end, we partnered with the Kentucky Center for Statistics, the Kentucky Department for Public Health and others and researched other publicly available data to help us prepare this snapshot of Kentucky's women and girls. The Commission's goal is to use this information as a starting point to a more comprehensive and ongoing review to bring about actionable policy recommendations to improve the status of women and girls in the commonwealth.



REPRESENTATION IN GOVERNMENT

Kentucky Women in Congress	0%
Statewide Elected Officials Who Are Women	
Women Members of the General Assembly	
Kentucky Mayors Who Are Women	
County Judge/Executives Who Are Women	0.06%

Women and girls make up approximately **50.5%** of the population of Kentucky.

40.6% of Kentucky businesses are Women-owned

WORKFORCE PARTICIPATION



69.1% of Kentucky women participate in the labor force, compared with **76.7%** of men.







women in Kentucky will experience sexual or physical violence or stalking by an intimate partner within their lifetime.



EDUCATIONAL ACHIEVEMENT

48% of girls are ready for kindergarten compared to only **40%** of boys, and more women than men obtain both bachelor's and postgraduate degrees.

Women make up 58.2% of those enrolled in postsecondary



education in Kentucky.

Kentucky ranks **37th** in states with 3- and 4-year-olds enrolled in early childhood education.

HEALTH OF WOMEN AND GIRLS

76.3% of Kentucky women reported good or better health.

93.1% of women ages 19-44 are covered by either private or public health insurance – Kentucky ranks tenth nationwide.

31% of 10th grade girls reported serious psychological distress.

21% of Kentucky women ages 18-44 reported that their mental health was not good for 14 or more of the last 30 days.



Published March 2024. — The Kentucky Commission on Women recognizes that the data represented in this document is not a comprehensive representation of every woman in Kentucky and that it does not address any disparities that may be identified upon a deeper review. This information about Kentucky women and girls, as well as sources and citations, can be found at women.ky.gov.

