

## **Notes on Girl Scouts**

**The data derives from three sources:**

- (1) File from national Girl Scout headquarters upon permission from all six Girl Scout Councils in Massachusetts. These data include the grade level for each member.**
- (2) File from the RI Girl Scout Council for the Massachusetts communities that are part of that Council: Bellingham, Blackstone/Millville, Rehoboth, and Seekonk**
- (3) U.S. Census 2000 information in Table**

**The Girl Scout file contained the girl and adult members in each zip code for the 2003 membership year, which runs from October 2002 through September 2003.**

**The breakdowns for the Program Age Levels in Girl Scouts are:**

**Age 5-6 or grade K-1: Daisy Girl Scout**

**Age 6-8 or grade 1-3: Brownie Girl Scout**

**Age 8-11 or grade 3-6: Junior Girl Scout**

**Age 11-14 or grade 6-9: Cadette Girl Scout**

**Age 14-17 or grade 9-12: Senior Girl Scout**

**There are some slight discrepancies between town totals and the numbers at each grade level. These are due to invalid school grades that were entered in the membership form. None of the MetroWest communities were affected by this problem. Some comparison communities, however, will have their age-specific totals lowered because of these coding errors. This analysis includes only those girls whose grade level was valid.**

**All girls grade 1-6 are included in the analysis. Some towns have no girls participating below Grade 1, and the numbers of girls participating falls dramatically in the high school years. Therefore, this analysis covers only Brownie and Junior Girl Scouts.**

**There is clearly some overlap between grades and ages so some caution must be used in interpreting rate differences among the towns.**

**For the rate denominator the U.S. Census 2000 total for girls aged 6-11 was utilized.**

