



Status of
Women's Health
in Colorado
GRADE: Unsatisfactory
RANK: 6th

COLORADO

Focusing on Women's Health for Health Care Reform

Making the Grade on Women's Health: A National and State-by-State Report Card by the National Women's Law Center and Oregon Health & Science University finds that necessary health care is absent for too many women and better access to health insurance is needed.

Necessary health care is absent for too many women in Colorado.

- 1 in 5 women lacks health insurance, which is worse than the national average of 18 percent.
- 40 percent of Hispanic women and nearly 50 percent of American Indian/Alaskan Native women are uninsured.
- 1 in 5 women in the state does not receive prenatal care in her first trimester.
- An alarming 11 out of 100,000 women die during childbirth.

Given the high percentage of uninsured women, Colorado should enact policies to help women gain access to health coverage and care. While the state has made some progress in ensuring that low-income women receive care, there are considerably more steps to be taken.

- ♦ Colorado should raise Medicaid eligibility for families. Working parents earning more than \$11,040 (67% of the federal poverty level for a family of three) are not eligible for Medicaid coverage.
- ♦ Colorado should ensure family planning coverage for low-income women. The state has not secured a waiver to expand Medicaid coverage for family planning services.
- ♦ Colorado should improve health care access for non-English speakers. The state fails to provide adequate interpretation and translation services.
- ♦ Colorado should pass health reform that would expand coverage for all.

The 2007 *Report Card* compares the nation and individual states to goals set by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services' Healthy People 2010 agenda. The health status of women across the country needs significant improvement.



For more information,
complete report findings are online at
<http://hrc.nwlc.org>

