



Status of
Women's Health
in New York
GRADE: Unsatisfactory
RANK: 27th

NEW YORK

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 New York.

- Almost 16 percent of women lack health insurance.
- About 25 percent of Hispanic women and 25 percent of Asian Pacific Islander women are uninsured; however, among American Indian/Alaskan Native women, almost 37 percent are uninsured.
- Almost 1 in 5 women in the state does not receive prenatal care in her first trimester.
- An alarming 16 out of 100,000 women die during childbirth.

Given the high percentage of uninsured women, New York 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.

- ♦ New York should raise Medicaid eligibility for families. Working parents earning more than \$24,900 (150% of the federal poverty level for a family of three) are not eligible for Medicaid coverage.
- ♦ New York should increase the pool of eligible people for Medicaid coverage. The state has not eliminated the asset test for parents, which applies parents' assets when determining their eligibility for Medicaid.
- ♦ New York 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.