



**Status of
Women's Health
in Oregon**
GRADE: Unsatisfactory
RANK: 14th

OREGON **Focusing on Women's Health**

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.

Women in Oregon lack necessary health care.

- ♦ 1 in 5 women lacks health insurance, which is worse than the national average of 18 percent.
- ♦ Over 50 percent of Hispanic women and over 40 percent of America Indian/Alaskan Native women are uninsured.
- ♦ 1 in 5 women in the state does not receive prenatal care in her first trimester.
- ♦ Over one-third of adult women have not had their cholesterol checked within the past five years.
- ♦ Nearly 1 in 5 adult women has not had a Pap smear within the past three years.
- ♦ Nearly 1 in 3 women over age 40 has not had a mammogram within the past two years.
- ♦ Working parents earning more than \$16,660 (the federal poverty level for a family of three) are not eligible for Medicaid coverage.

Women in Oregon suffer negative health outcomes.

- ♦ 6 out of 100,000 women die during childbirth – nearly double the national goal.
- ♦ Oregon ranks 45th in the nation for the lung cancer death rate among women.
- ♦ Oregon is in the top five for highest stroke death rate among women.

Oregon should enact and maintain policies that ensure health care access.

- ♦ Marking some progress, Oregon requires private insurance companies to cover FDA-approved forms of contraception if they cover other prescription drugs and devices.
- ♦ In an even greater step forward, Oregon has secured a waiver to expand Medicaid coverage of low-income women for family planning services.
- ♦ Oregon 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>

