



**Status of
Women's Health
in Pennsylvania**
GRADE: Unsatisfactory
RANK: 32nd

PENNSYLVANIA

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 Pennsylvania.

- More than 11 percent of women lack health insurance.
- About 1 in 5 Black women and more than 1 in 5 Hispanic women are uninsured.
- One-quarter of the women in the state do not receive prenatal care in their first trimester.
- Almost 9 out of 100,000 women die during childbirth.

Given the high percentage of uninsured women, Pennsylvania 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.

- ♦ Pennsylvania should raise Medicaid eligibility for families. Working parents earning more than \$10,104 (61% of the federal poverty level (FPL) for a family of three) and pregnant women earning more than \$29,767 (185% of FPL) are not eligible for Medicaid coverage.
- ♦ Pennsylvania should improve health care access for non-English speakers. The state needs to adopt a comprehensive legal requirement to provide adequate interpretation and translation services.
- ♦ Pennsylvania 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>

