



**Status of
Women's Health
in Vermont**

GRADE: Satisfactory Minus
RANK: 1st

VERMONT
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.

Many women in Vermont have adequate health care.

- ♦ Only 1 in 10 lacks health insurance.
- ♦ Only 1 in 10 women does not receive prenatal care in her first trimester.
- ♦ Vermont has the 3rd lowest maternal mortality rate in the nation.
- ♦ Nearly 90 percent of women over age 18 have had Pap tests within the past three years.
- ♦ Nearly 80 percent of adult women have had their cholesterol checked within the past five years.
- ♦ Nearly 75 percent of women over age 40 have had a mammogram within the past two years.

Vermont has enacted policies to ensure that women have satisfactory access to health care coverage and care.

- ♦ Marking some progress, the state requires private insurance plans that cover prescription drugs to cover all five FDA-approved forms of contraception.
- ♦ In another step forward, Vermont provides comprehensive health coverage for low-income adults otherwise ineligible for Medicaid and has adopted health reform to expand access to health coverage for all Vermonters.

But, there are more steps to be taken.

- ♦ Vermont should improve health coverage for minority women – 1 in 5 American Indian/Alaskan Native women is uninsured.
- ♦ Vermont should ensure that their adopted health reforms achieve expanded coverage and access for all Vermonters.

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>

