

# Making the Grade on Women's Health: Examining Health Indicators for Women in Wisconsin

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# Background on the 2007 Report Card

- Fourth edition since 2000
- Grades and ranks states on:
  - 27 indicators of women's health status
  - 63 indicators of policies that promote women's health
- Goals primarily set by the *Healthy People 2010 Objectives*

**Nation's Grade: Unsatisfactory**

**Wisconsin's Grade: Unsatisfactory**

**Wisconsin's Rank: 21st**

The screenshot shows the website for the National Report Card on Women's Health. At the top left is the logo for the National Women's Law Center, with the tagline "EXPANDING THE POSSIBILITIES". Below the logo is a collage of photos showing diverse women and children. The main navigation menu on the left includes: SUMMARY REPORTS (Home, Key Findings, National Report Card, Status Indicators, Policy Indicators, Federal Policy Agenda), STATE-BY-STATE STATISTICS (with a "Select a State" dropdown), SPOTLIGHT ON... (Women and Health Insurance), REFERENCE (About the Report Card, Acknowledgements, Advisory Committee, How to Read the Report Cards, Methodology, Disclaimer), and FIND OUT MORE (Join Our Email List). A large orange arrow points to a map of the United States with the text "Choose a State for Policy and Status Data". To the right of the map is a section titled "About the Report" which explains the report's purpose and includes a "Read More..." link. Below that is an "Explore the Issues:" section with a dropdown menu labeled "Select an Issue...". The map shows state abbreviations, with a legend on the right listing CT, VT, NJ, NH, DE, MA, MD, RI, and DC.

Check it out at: <http://hrc.nwlc.org!>

# Wisconsin's Performance: Health Status

- Wisconsin met only 4 benchmarks:**
- Mammograms
  - Colorectal cancer screenings
  - Annual dental visits
  - High school completion

...and **missed 23** benchmarks

Some Status Indicators Missed by Wisconsin (and All Other States)
Health Insurance
Infant Mortality
Obesity
Wage Gap
Pap Smears
Eating Five Fruits and Vegetables a Day
High Blood Pressure
Diabetes
Poverty
Life Expectancy

## Wisconsin Women's Health Status: Good News

<u>Status Indicator</u>	<u>Goal</u>	<u>US</u>	<u>2004</u> <u>(WI)</u>	<u>2007</u> <u>(WI)</u>	<u>Rank</u>
Women without Health Insurance (%)	0	18	8.9	10	2
Annual Dental Visits (%)	56	71.1	79.9	78.8	5
Days Activities were Limited in Past 30 Days (days)	—	2.3	3.3	2	6
No Leisure Time Physical Activity (%)	20	25.6	23	20.3	7
AIDS Rate (per 100,000)	1	9.4	1.9	1.4	8

## Wisconsin Women's Health Status: Bad News

<u>Status Indicator</u>	<u>Goal</u>	<u>US</u>	<u>2004</u> <u>(WI)</u>	<u>2007</u> <u>(WI)</u>	<u>Rank</u>
<b>High Blood Pressure</b> (%)	16	24.9	24.7	25.3	27
<b>Smoking</b> (%)	12	19.2	21.4	19.4	29
<b>Chlamydia</b> (% <sub>0</sub> , ages 15-24)	3	6.3	8	8.3	44
<b>Binge Drinking</b> (%)	6	7.3	14.1	12.3	51



# Wisconsin and Its Neighbors

1 <sup>st</sup> Trimester Prenatal Care <i>Goal: 90%</i>			Smoking <i>Goal: 12%</i>			AIDS Rate <i>Goal: 1 per 100,000</i>		
State	2007	Rank	State	2007	Rank	State	2007	Rank
US	84.1	—	US	19.2	—	US	9.4	—
IA	88.9	5	IL	18.8	19	<b>WI</b>	<b>1.4</b>	<b>8</b>
MN	86.5	14	IA	19.1	23	IA	2.2	15
MI	86.1	16	MN	19.1	23	MN	3.0	21
IL	85.4	19	<b>WI</b>	<b>19.4</b>	<b>29</b>	MI	4.5	29
<b>WI</b>	<b>84.9</b>	<b>21</b>	MI	20.1	34	IL	7.5	38

# Health Disparities among Wisconsin Women

**Access to 1<sup>st</sup> Trimester  
Prenatal Care (%)**

<u>Race/ Ethnicity</u>	<u>WI</u>
White	86.9
Black	73.6
American Indian/ Alaskan Native	71.3
Asian/Pacific Islander	69.5
Hispanic	70.7

**Obesity (%)**

<u>Race/ Ethnicity</u>	<u>WI</u>
White	20.8
Black	41.6
American Indian/ Alaskan Native	34.8
Asian/Pacific Islander	—
Hispanic	31.9

**So what policies has the State put in place to help improve women's health?**

## Summary of Health Policy Findings

- States have made more progress in adopting policies to advance women's health, but still have a long way to go.
- Of 63 policies evaluated, the median number of policies met was 21.
- **Wisconsin met 24 policies.**

## Wisconsin Women's Health Policy: Good News

<u>Indicator</u>	<u>Wisconsin's Policy</u>
<b>Presumptive Eligibility for Pregnant Women under Medicaid</b>	<b>Meets Policy</b>
<b>Direct Access to OB/GYN in Managed Care</b>	<b>Meets Policy</b>
<b>Tobacco Sales Rate to Minors</b>	<b>Meets Policy</b>
<b>AIDS Drug Assistance Program</b>	<b>Limited Policy</b>

## Wisconsin Women's Health Policy: Work to Do

<u>Indicator</u>	<u>Wisconsin's Policy</u>
<p><b>Private Insurers Required to Cover:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Pap Tests</li> <li>● Chlamydia Screenings</li> <li>● Osteoporosis Screenings</li> </ul>	<p><b>No Policy</b> <i>(all 3)</i></p>
<p><b>Domestic Violence Training for Health Care Providers</b></p>	<p><b>No Policy</b></p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● State Funding for Tobacco Prevention Programs</li> <li>● Excise Tax on Smoking</li> </ul>	<p><b>Weak Policy</b> <i>(both)</i></p>

## The Promise of Health Reform to Advance Women's Health

- Insurance reforms that include:
  - End of insurance premiums based on gender and health status
  - No pre-existing condition exclusions
  - End of lifetime, annual benefit caps
- Improved access to affordable coverage
  - Expanded Medicaid eligibility to 133% FPL
  - Premium and cost-sharing subsidies to 400% FPL
  - Small business tax credits
  - Close the Medicare prescription drug “donut hole”
- Coverage for comprehensive health services
  - Includes coverage of maternity, prescription drugs, mental health
  - No-cost sharing for preventive care and screenings

**For more information...**

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