

Health

- Kentucky ranks 46th in the United States (including Washington D.C.) on the National Women's Law Center report card on women's health and well-being.
- Women in Kentucky have an average life expectancy of 78 years, compared to 81 years, the average life expectancy for women in the United States.
- Breast cancer is the 2nd leading cause of death for women in Kentucky.
- Kentucky has the 37th highest breast cancer death rate in the United States.
- Kentucky is ranked last, 51st, for days of good mental health.

Health Insurance

- The percentage of women without health care in Kentucky increased from 16.3% in 2004 to 17.8% in 2007.
- There are an average of 66 individual health insurance plans on the market in Kentucky, but none include comprehensive maternity coverage.
- There is a gender gap in insurance premiums in Kentucky that results in women paying at least 8% more than men.
- 47.6% of Hispanic women in Kentucky are without health insurance, compared with 17.1% of all Caucasian women and 25.8% of all African American women with no health insurance.

Did You Know?

There is no law in Kentucky to protect individuals from insurance companies raising their premiums as a result of their age or gender.

Prevention

- Kentucky ranks 48th on no leisure-time physical activity and 49th on eating five fruits and vegetables a day.
- Obesity in women has risen from 24.7% in 2004 to 28.8% in 2007 giving Kentucky a ranking of 47th.
- The percentage of women receiving annual dental visits is up from 69.2% in 2004 to 71.4% in 2007.

Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault

- Statistically, 1 out of every 9 women in the Commonwealth of Kentucky is a victim of rape. That adds up to 175,000 women in Kentucky.

Did You Know?

Kentucky has a regionalized network of 17 domestic violence shelters which offer support and assistance to DV victims.

Improvements

- The number of people in medically underserved areas in Kentucky went down from 14.7% in 2004 to 13.5% in 2007.
- Screenings for Osteoporosis and pap smears have gone up since 2004, helping with disease prevention.
- The percentage of women smokers went down from 30.5% in 2004 to 26.9% in 2007.

National Report Card on Women's Health-Kentucky." National Women's Law Center Report Card. National Women's Law Center. <http://irc.nwlc.org/reports/state-report-card.aspx?stateid=Kentucky>. Nowhere to Turn: How the Individual Health Insurance Market Fails Women. National Women's Law Center. <http://action.nwlc.org/site/PageServer?me=nowheretoturn>.