



In October 2007, the National Women's Law Center released the latest edition of *Making the Grade on Women's Health: A National and State-by-State Report Card*, which is available in its entirety online at <http://hrc.nwlc.org>. A project of the National Women's Law Center and Oregon Health & Science University, *Making the Grade* is the fourth in a series of triennial reports to grade and rank each state according to benchmarks based on goals set by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. By releasing *Making the Grade* online in a new, fully indexed, and easily searchable format, the Center significantly expanded the reach of the report—in the 48 hours following its release, *Making the Grade* received almost 300,000 hits, and people all over the country began responding to the report's results.

The report's [key findings](#) reached two overarching conclusions. First, for the bulk of the [indicators of the status of women's health](#), the nation as whole and the individual states are falling further behind in their quest to reach national goals for women's health. The nation received an overall grade of “unsatisfactory,” and no state received an overall “satisfactory” grade for women's health status. Second, states have made more progress in adopting [policies to advance women's health](#) than they have in previous report cards, but still have a long way to go. *Making the Grade* identifies 63 key policies states should adopt to advance women's health, and only two policy goals were met by all states, and just nine states met a majority of the indicators—only a small increase from the three states reaching that benchmark in 2004.

The Center is working to ensure that women's health needs are recognized by advocates, policy makers, and the public around the country. The Center continues to garner media coverage for *Making the Grade* and its findings from news outlets across the country—examples of press coverage to date include articles in major newspapers such as [The Washington Post](#) and [The Los Angeles Times](#); local press coverage in at least 36 states, such as [Indiana](#), [Texas](#), and [Vermont](#); and coverage on a plethora of websites and blogs, including sites like [MSNBC.com](#), [Yahoo! News](#), [CBSnews.com](#), and [Feministing](#).