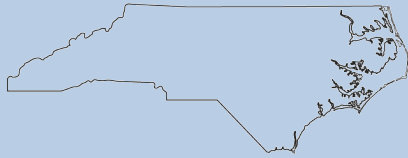


The Status of Women in NC: Women of Color



1,696,827

Total Population of Women of Color in NC



34.7%

Total percentage of Women of Color in NC

39.7

Median age of women in NC

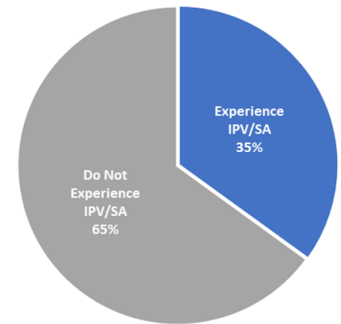
North Carolina received a **D grade** on the Institute for Women's Policy Research's Health and Well-being index—down from the last report in 2015:

- ◆ Reported STI diagnoses are among the **10th highest** nationally.
- ◆ Black women are **significantly more likely** to have babies born with a low birth rate compared to white women

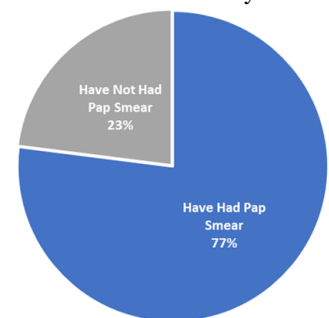
But there has been **progress**:

- ◆ Hispanic women have the **lowest rate** of breast cancer mortality compared to women of other races/ethnicities. Mortality rates for breast cancer overall have **decreased** since 2012 for all NC women.
- ◆ HIV/AIDS diagnoses and reported gonorrhea cases have **decreased** since 2012.

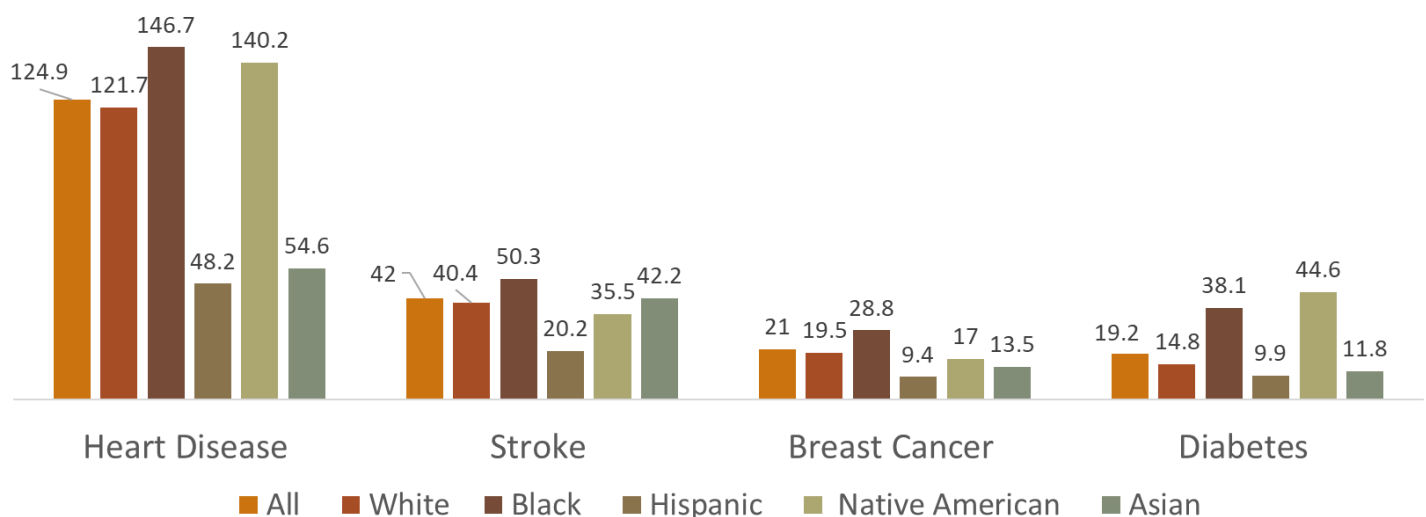
35% of NC women experience intimate partner violence and/or sexual assault.



77% of NC women have had a pap smear in the past 3 years, contributing to NC's low cervical cancer mortality rates.



Mortality Rates Among Women in NC by Race/Ethnicity (per 100,000)



Black women in North Carolina have the highest mortality rates for heart disease, stroke, & breast cancer.



The Status of Women in NC: Health and Wellness

{ Policy Recommendations }



Close the **insurance coverage gap**

Closing the insurance coverage gap will help women who earn low incomes access essential health services they otherwise might not be able to afford.

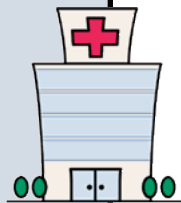


Increase women's **economic security**

Raising the minimum wage and enacting policies such as paid family and medical leave, paid sick days, and schedule predictability would improve access to medical care and healthy lifestyle practices.

Increase medical investments in **rural** areas

This would help close the health and wellness gap between rural and urban communities in NC by increasing the number of hospitals, physician care practices, and psychiatrists.



Increase investments in **young people**

Increasing funds to hire more school counselors, psychologists, social workers, and nurses across NC creates healthier school climates where students have better access to care and more programming about healthy behaviors, relationships, and lifetime skills.



Increase Funding for Survivors of **interpersonal violence and sexual assault**

Increased funding will help ensure that all victims and survivors across NC, especially in rural areas, can access the critical support they need.