

WOMEN'S HEALTH & WELL-BEING: ACCESS TO COMPREHENSIVE, QUALITY AND AFFORDABLE CARE

Women's Health & Well-being is directly linked to their ability to access affordable healthcare and reproductive health.

Based on the analysis of five core Health & Well-being metrics, gender disparities decreased over the past decade.

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THE HEALTH & WELL-BEING SCORE IS CALCULATED USING FIVE METRICS:

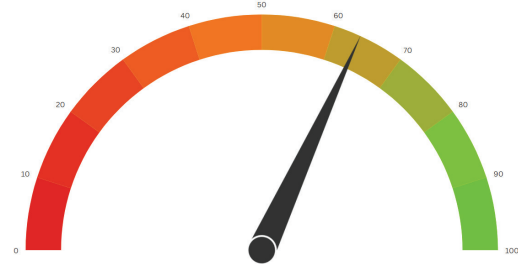
- **Health Insurance:** In 2024, 89% of women had health insurance coverage, compared to 86% of men. However, more women than men rely on public health insurance.
- **Maternal Morbidity:** The maternal morbidity rate has increased over time, at 8.5 per 1,000 delivery hospitalizations in 2024, 1.9 points higher than in 2011, at 6.6.
- **Infant Mortality:** In 2024, the infant mortality rate was 4.7 per 1,000 births, a decline from 5.9 per 1,000 in 2022, which marked the highest rate recorded over the 14-year period.
- **Disability:** In 2024, more women (11%) than men (9%) had disabilities, primarily tied to women's longer life expectancy and age-related factors.
- **Teenage Pregnancy:** In 2024, the teenage pregnancy rate was 5.7, a significant decline from 20.2 in 2010.

BARRIERS TO WOMEN'S POSITIVE HEALTH OUTCOMES:

- **Access to Quality and Affordable Healthcare:** Women face barriers to coverage regardless of their insured status. Women who lack access to private health insurance must rely on public insurance like Medicaid to cover costs, especially during pregnancy.
- **Maternal Health:** Poor maternal health is related to the lack of quality, accessible, and affordable healthcare. Many pregnant people and mothers covered by public health insurance lack coverage before pregnancy.
- **Reproductive Health and Rights:** After the overturn of Roe v. Wade in 2022, Florida started restricting and/or banning access to abortion and reproductive healthcare, with a 6-week abortion ban currently in place.
- **Transportation:** A lack of transportation access is a barrier to healthcare among low-income, elderly, rural, and urban populations and contributes to poor health outcomes.
- **Environmental Factors:** Miami-Dade County is especially vulnerable to the effects of climate change including an increased risk of extreme heat, hurricane impact, and sea-level rise. Environmental degradation, a social determinant of health, contributes to poor maternal and reproductive health.

POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS:

- **Expand Subsidized Healthcare in Florida:** Provide critical health insurance coverage to the millions of low-income Floridians who are currently uninsured or underinsured. Additional coverage for prenatal, maternal, and infant care within the Medicaid program is especially important.
- **Expand Reach and Work of AIM: Alliance for Infant and Maternal Health Miami-Dade:** Support the alliance's work to reduce maternal and infant health disparities, including maternal morbidity, maternal mortality, and infant mortality, by standardizing practices and improving outcomes across all aspects of maternal and infant care. This includes bringing together community groups, medical professionals, and policymakers, as well as grantmaking and public awareness campaigns.
- **Establish a State-Led Performance Measurement System Focused on Maternal and Infant Care:** Require hospitals to collect and report maternal and infant care patient data to a statewide dashboard for the evaluation and improvement of care quality. This would allow outcomes to be tracked over time and policies to be created to reduce disparities identified through the dashboard.
- **Extreme Heat and Pregnancy Health:** Provide targeted education and resources on the effects of extreme heat on pregnancy health. Extreme heat can lead to dehydration, heat exhaustion, and heatstroke, and pregnant people are particularly vulnerable. It is essential to give them individualized tools to protect themselves.



The Health & Well-Being Score was 64 points in 2024, up from 63 points in 2023.

For more details on Health & Well-being, read the full policy paper published in 2023 [here](#).

The Gender Equity Index score for 2024 was 53 points.