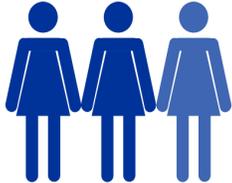


The Status of Women in NC: Health and Wellness



Among U.S. women, NC has:

- ◆ **9th** highest stroke mortality rate
- ◆ **11th** highest infant mortality rate
- ◆ **13th** highest diabetes mortality rate



One in **three** NC women has experienced interpersonal violence and/or sexual assault. These rates are much higher for women of color.

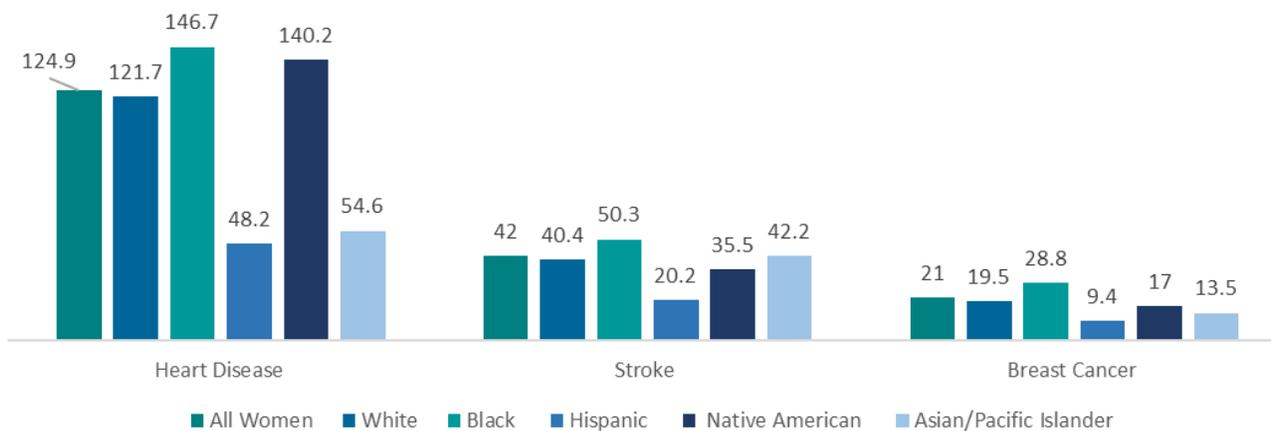


Disease and mortality rates for women in **rural** counties can range from **2-6** times higher than in urban NC counties

Among U.S. women, NC ranks among the **top ten** states for **STI** diagnoses; including:

- ◆ **7th** highest AIDS diagnoses rate
- ◆ **8th** highest Chlamydia case rate
- ◆ **9th** highest Gonorrhea case rate

Black Women in North Carolina have the Highest Mortality Rates for Heart Disease, Stroke, & Breast Cancer



Note: Racial groups are non-Hispanic.



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.

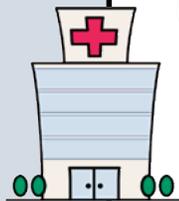


Increase women's **economic security**

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.