

# Access to reproductive health matters

## WHAT WE'RE DOING AND HOW YOU CAN HELP

48.4%

**^The percentage of Texas counties that do not have obstetric care—** adding transportation to the list of barriers to receiving services, along with child care, cost and time off from work.

48th

**\*The ranking for Texas women's overall health when compared to the health of women in other states.** The rankings aren't much better for children's and infant health, coming in 33rd and 34th, respectively.

\$1,300

**\*\*The cost of the most effective forms of birth control,** a figure that's out of reach for many working women.

23%

**+The percentage of Texas women who don't have health insurance,** vs. an uninsured rate of 11% for women nationally. In fact, Texas women are twice as likely to be uninsured as women in other parts of the U.S.

89%

**++The percentage of maternal deaths in Texas that are preventable.** Even one year of postpartum insurance coverage can make a difference.



SINCE 2018, TXWF HAS FUNDED OVER \$4 MILLION IN HEALTH CARE ACCESS GRANTS

We also advocate for public policy that increases expansion to affordable health care services for Texas women and girls.

The economic impacts are also clear in that access to contraception has helped to increase women's earning power and decrease the gender gap in pay. Women aged 18 to 21 who have access to birth control earn 5% more per hour and 11% more per year by the time they're 40. That's an extra \$2,200 annually.

To TXWF, reproductive freedom is an important part of comprehensive health care that supports economic stability for women and families in Texas. **Join our Army of Advocates or make a donation in support of women's health care funding at [txwf.org](https://txwf.org)**

# TXWF AND THE ROE V. WADE DECISION

In our more than 35 years of work to elevate women and girls, we've gained a deep understanding of the critical need to improve access to affordable reproductive health services, a vital aspect of women's overall health care.

Texas women must have the freedom and means to access screenings, contraception, preventive well woman care, and prenatal care — when that access is impaired, their physical and mental health becomes at risk for decline, as does their economic security. That's why reproductive health is part of our overall health care funding initiatives; it's also taken into consideration in our broader focus on economic security, along with the equally important focus areas of housing, education and child care.

Your gift to the [Health Care Access Fund](#) supports Texan women having the freedom and access to reproductive health care options.

## **Q: What is the Foundation's position on the overturn of Roe v. Wade?**

**A:** Texas Women's Foundation supports and advocates for women's health. We understand that the ramifications of this decision can cause a damaging ripple effect for low-income women and those who live in rural areas with less access to quality health care and health insurance, the result is an increase in health and economic disparities for women across our state and nation.

## **Q: How do you see this decision impacting women in Texas?**

**A:** According to America's Health Ranking, Texas ranks at nearly the bottom in overall women's health, children's health, and infant's health, a state of affairs that will only get worse as health care services and programs become more difficult to access for women and families.

## **Q: How will Texas Women's Foundation respond to the overturn of Roe v. Wade?**

**A:** Our commitment to investing in women's overall physical and mental health remains steadfast. We will continue to support services and programs that provide quality mental and physical health services to the low-income women and families who will be greatly impacted by this decision.

## **Q: How is TXWF supporting women's health?**

**A:** Since 2018, we've invested \$4 million in programs that provide breast cancer screening and treatment, education to reduce teen pregnancy, contraception access, Spanish-language mental health counseling, and general health care services for uninsured and under-insured women.

Additionally, TXWF has worked with partners across the state to advocate for expansion of postpartum maternal Medicaid coverage from 60 days to one year. In 2021, the Texas Legislature made some progress on this issue with an expansion of six months, but we know this is not enough. TXWF will actively champion further expansion of postpartum Medicaid coverage during the 2023 legislative session.

## **Q: What can we do to help support women in Texas at this time?**

**A:** You can join our work to elevate the economic security of Texas women and families. Through our [Child Care Access](#), [Health Care Access](#), and [Housing Access](#) stability initiatives, Texas Women's Foundation is investing for the long-term in sustained programming and services that move women and girls from surviving to thriving, and gives them control of their lives and their families' futures.

Find out more here: [txwf.org/economic-security](https://txwf.org/economic-security)

[Donate to txwf.org](#) to support the economic security of women and families.

