



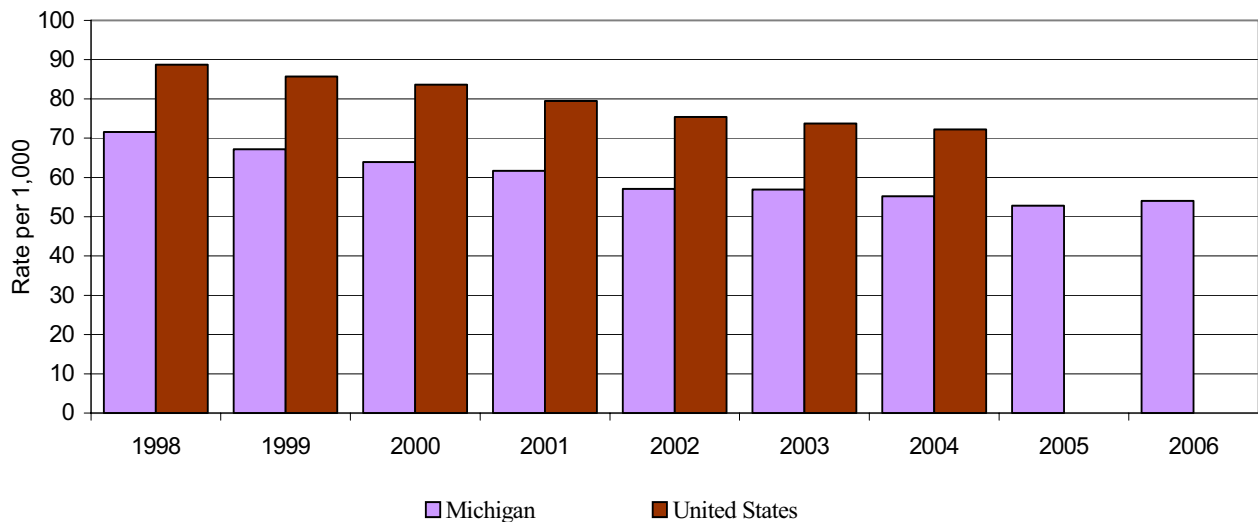
Topic: Maternal Health

23. Teen Pregnancy

The teen pregnancy rate is an estimate of the proportion of women aged 15-19 who had a live birth, induced abortion, or miscarriage during a given year. Teen mothers are more likely than adult mothers to have dropped out of high school, be unemployed, and lack parenting skills. In addition to increased lifetime risks of social and economic disadvantage to both the teens and their children, there are additional health risks for infants born to teen-aged mothers. These increased risks include low birth weight, pre-term delivery, fetal distress, and other adverse outcomes.

How are we doing?

Teenage (Age 15-19) Pregnancy Rate



In 2006, there were an estimated 19,669 pregnancies among Michigan teenagers, or a rate of 54.0 per 1,000 females, ages 15-19 years old. This rate has been decreasing over the past nine years slowly, dropping from 71.1 in 1998 to 54.0 per 1,000 females in 2006. Estimates from the 2004 Michigan Pregnancy Risk Assessment Monitoring System (PRAMS) survey indicate that about 79.3% of births to teens were unintended.

How does Michigan compare with the U.S.?

In 2004, the Michigan teen pregnancy rate of 55.2 per 1,000 was lower than the U.S. rate of 72.2 per 1,000. Michigan has been consistently lower than the United States in teen pregnancy rates in the past decade.

How are different populations affected?

In Michigan, pregnancy rates for ages 15-17 are lower than for those ages 18-19 and both rates have declined in recent years. Pregnancy rates for ages 15-17 decreased from 47.0 per 1,000 in 1996 to 28.2 per 1,000 in 2006. For those aged 18-19, pregnancy rates have decreased from 124.3 per 1,000 in 1996 to 94.6 per 1,000 in 2006.



What is the Department of Community Health doing to improve this indicator?

The MDCH works to prevent teen pregnancies through family planning services and efforts of the Michigan Abstinence Program (MAP), Teen Pregnancy Prevention Initiative (TPPI), Child and Adolescent Health Centers (CAHC) and the Talk Early & Talk Often Program (TETO).

Family Planning providers offer contraceptives and reproductive health services to encourage fertility control. The educational and counseling components of the programs help to reduce health risks and promote healthy behaviors. Services include encouraging abstinence and parental involvement as appropriate for sexually active teens. The Family Planning program maintains a teen advisory group on the provision of teen-friendly services. One-third of the populations served by the Family Planning program are teens. www.michigan.gov/familyplanning

The **Michigan Abstinence Program (MAP)** aims to positively impact adolescent health by promoting abstinence from sexual activity and related risky behaviors, such as the use of alcohol, tobacco and other drugs. An abstinence-only, health behavior change approach targeting 12-18 year old youth and their parents/adults/caregivers is used. Community agencies throughout Michigan are funded to provide youth with intense and direct programming which promotes personal respect and responsibility; builds skills for dealing with peer pressure and are age, gender and culturally relevant. MAP activities include: youth programming, community advisory councils, community awareness activities, parent/adult/caregiver education, media campaigns and educational/promotional items. (www.michigan.gov/abstinence)

The **Teen Pregnancy Prevention Initiative (TPPI)** aims to reduce the rate of teen pregnancy in Michigan for youth ages 10-18. A comprehensive, evidence-based, health behavior change approach targeting youth and their parents/adults/caregivers will be used. Community agencies throughout Michigan will be funded to provide a comprehensive evidence-based pregnancy prevention program that targets the sexual and non-sexual factors that lead to delayed initiation of sex and increased condom or other contraception use. Community agencies throughout the State will be funded to provide youth with intense and direct programming which promotes personal respect and responsibility, builds skills for dealing with peer pressure and is age, gender and culturally relevant. (www.michigan.gov/tppi)

Child and Adolescent Health Center (CAHC) services are aimed at achieving the best possible physical, intellectual, and emotional status of children and adolescents by providing services that are high quality, accessible, and acceptable to youth. The centers provide comprehensive primary care services and health education on a variety of health topics including pregnancy prevention. Through primary care, one on one counseling and health education in group settings, research based programs are implemented to reduce the risk factors associated with teen pregnancy. The total number of pregnancy tests (along with the number of positive tests) is tracked on required quarterly data reports. (www.michigan.gov/cahc)

Talk Early & Talk Often (TETO) is a grassroots parent education program focused on giving parents of middle school students the tools they need to talk to their children about the important issue of sexuality. When given the information and tools, they can be instrumental in providing critical messages to their children that can help them abstain from sexual intercourse and avoid HIV, sexually transmitted diseases and early pregnancy. TETO town hall meetings and district-wide training sessions will assist parents who are looking for additional information and tools to help increase their comfort level in talking with their children on this important topic. (www.michigan.gov/talkearly)