

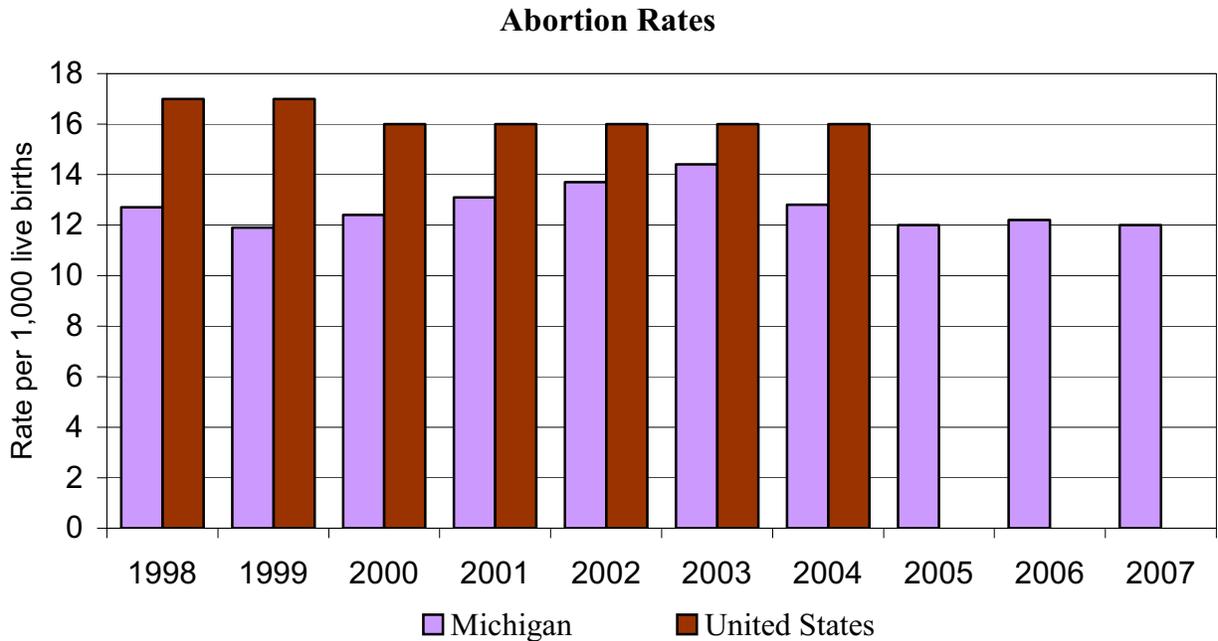


Topic: Maternal Health

24. Abortions

Induced abortions typically result from unintended pregnancies. While abstaining from sex is the most successful means of avoiding unintended pregnancies, effective family planning services can reduce the number of abortions.

How are we doing?



There were a total of 24,683 induced abortions that occurred in Michigan in 2007, resulting in a rate of 12.0 per 1,000 women aged 15-44. Abortion rates have risen and fallen in the past ten years, with the 1999, 2005, and 2007 rate of 12.0 per 1,000 women being the lowest.

How does Michigan compare with the U.S.?

The Michigan abortion rate has consistently been lower than the U.S. rate. In 2004, the most recent year for which national figures are available, the Michigan abortion rate of 12.8 per 1,000 was lower than the U.S. rate of 16.0 per 1,000.

How are different populations affected?

In 2007, 88.2% of induced abortions in Michigan were to unmarried women. In 2005, 51.3% of abortions were to Michigan women under 25 years old; this percentage decreased slightly to 51.1% in 2007. The proportion of abortions to teenagers decreased from 18.7% in 2005 to 18.5% in 2007.



Critical Health Indicators

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

Plan First! a Family Planning Waiver was launched in 2006 to hasten the progress made in abating unintended pregnancies.

The MDCH makes family planning services available and supports the Michigan Abstinence Program, Adolescent Health Centers, and the Talk Early & Talk Often Initiative. Family planning providers offer contraceptives and reproductive health services to encourage fertility control that promotes the health and well-being of women, children, and families. The educational and counseling components of the program help to reduce health risks and promote healthy behaviors. In 2007, family planning services were provided to 142,432 women and 6,697 men.