

# Health Professional Shortage Areas for Obstetrical and Gynecological Services

(FY2011 Appropriation Bill - Public Act 187 of 2010)

**December 1, 2010**

**Section 729:** The department shall identify counties in which there are an insufficient number of health professionals providing obstetrical and gynecological services. In addition, the department shall identify the reasons why there are an insufficient number of health professionals providing obstetrical and gynecological services and identify possible policy or fiscal, or both, measures considered necessary to address the shortage. The department shall submit a report of its findings under this section to the house and senate appropriations subcommittees on community health, house and senate fiscal agencies, and state budget director no later than December 1 of the current fiscal year.

*Michigan Department  
of Community Health*



**Rick Snyder, Governor  
Olga Dazzo, Director**

## **OB/GYN Services Availability in Michigan Counties**

The Michigan Department of Community Health (MDCH) has begun researching the emerging issues of identifying Michigan counties with a shortage of obstetrical and gynecological (OB/GYN) services, the reasons for OB/GYN provider shortages in Michigan, and measures potentially necessary for addressing OB/GYN shortages. Given the broad scope of this inquiry, the multitude of concerns already identified within Michigan communities on this topic, and the larger context of essential health provider shortages throughout the state, MDCH is interested in this opportunity to explore the topic more thoroughly. It is important to note that access to OB/GYN clinical services is particularly important to addressing the needs of the increasing number of women experiencing high risk pregnancies.

Initial analysis has helped to broadly identify those areas of the state with a likely shortage of OB/GYN services. Although MDCH lacks a comprehensive source of information on the practice locations of medical service providers by specialty, county estimates of physician data by specialty, information on primary medical care Health Professional Shortage Area (HPSA) designations, and Michigan Health and Hospital Association data on OB/GYN services is available to perform this analysis. Preliminary data are enclosed with this document.

In an effort to better define the issues affecting OB/GYN service availability in Michigan's counties, MDCH would like to further explore a variety of subject areas that may be relevant to the discussion. Based on MDCH involvement with Michigan communities interested in this issue, several research areas have been identified for further exploration. Suggested areas of research include the cost of OB/GYN care, reimbursement rates for OB/GYN services, the relative demand for services across Michigan counties, and the current locations delivering OB/GYN services for mothers located in areas experiencing provider shortages.

## **Attachment 1 – Hospitals Providing Obstetrical Services, 2010 Map**

Attachment 1 utilizes data from the Michigan Health & Hospital Association to illustrate the locations of Michigan hospitals offering obstetrical services. This information is mapped over a display of Michigan's current primary medical care, Health Professional Shortage Area (HPSA) designations. Primary medical care HPSA designations are granted to those areas or population groups with a demonstrable shortage of general and family practitioners, pediatricians, general internists, and obstetrician/gynecologists. Because obstetrician/gynecologists are only one of a few types of physicians considered when designating an area as a HPSA, it is helpful to have both the HPSA designations and hospital obstetrical service data on the map. Taken together, those county areas with both a HPSA designation and a lack of a hospital providing obstetrical services in the county or in an immediately adjacent county can be considered at risk for having a shortage of obstetrical/gynecological services.

## **Attachment 2 – Population to OB/GYN Physician Ratios in Michigan Counties**

Attachment 2 is a spreadsheet containing data from the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) 2008 Area Resource File including 2007 county counts of MD and DO providers specializing in obstetrics and gynecology and 2008 county population estimates. These data have been combined into a population to provider ratio for each Michigan County. These data have been ranked and grouped into quartiles according to the population to provider ratio. The first quartile consists entirely of counties without an obstetrician/gynecologist in 2007.

The physician counts from the Area Resource File are derived from the American Medical Association Physician Masterfile. There are limitations to these data including the accuracy of self-reported specialty, the lag time in provider information updates, the nature of the provider address (which could be a home, a practice location, or some other location), the count of each provider/location combination as one full time equivalent regardless of practice characteristics or additional practice locations, and potentially others. These ratios are a helpful tool, but may not represent a complete and accurate description of the characteristics of any given community.



## Attachment 2 – Population to OB/GYN Physician Ratios in Michigan Counties

Federal Information Processing Standard	State Name	County Name	MD's, NF, Ob-Gyn, General, Total (2007)	DO, NF, Obstetrics and Gynecology (2007)	TOTAL NON-FEDERAL OB/GYN (2007)	Population Estimate (2008)	2008 Population to 2007 OB/GYN Ratio	OB/GYN Physician Shortage Rank (1 = Greatest Shortage)
26067	Michigan	Ionia	0	0	0	63,833	N/A	1
26027	Michigan	Cass	0	0	0	50,185	N/A	1
26127	Michigan	Oceana	0	0	0	27,598	N/A	1
26051	Michigan	Gladwin	0	0	0	25,920	N/A	1
26143	Michigan	Roscommon	0	0	0	25,042	N/A	1
26009	Michigan	Antrim	0	0	0	24,109	N/A	1
26133	Michigan	Osceola	0	0	0	22,930	N/A	1
26079	Michigan	Kalkaska	0	0	0	17,066	N/A	1
26011	Michigan	Arenac	0	0	0	16,361	N/A	1
26113	Michigan	Missaukee	0	0	0	15,001	N/A	1
26141	Michigan	Presque Isle	0	0	0	13,650	N/A	1
26071	Michigan	Iron	0	0	0	12,001	N/A	1
26001	Michigan	Alcona	0	0	0	11,556	N/A	1
26085	Michigan	Lake	0	0	0	11,014	N/A	1
26097	Michigan	Mackinac	0	0	0	10,624	N/A	1
26135	Michigan	Oscoda	0	0	0	8,836	N/A	1
26013	Michigan	Baraga	0	0	0	8,528	N/A	1
26153	Michigan	Schoolcraft	0	0	0	8,220	N/A	1
26131	Michigan	Ontonagon	0	0	0	6,819	N/A	1
26095	Michigan	Luce	0	0	0	6,614	N/A	1
26083	Michigan	Keweenaw	0	0	0	2,202	N/A	1
26005	Michigan	Allegan	1	0	1	112,975	112,975.0	22
26157	Michigan	Tuscola	1	0	1	56,187	56,187.0	23
26041	Michigan	Delta	1	0	1	37,179	37,179.0	24
26123	Michigan	Newaygo	0	2	2	48,897	24,448.5	25
26109	Michigan	Menominee	1	0	1	24,202	24,202.0	26
26137	Michigan	Otsego	1	0	1	23,808	23,808.0	27
26155	Michigan	Shiawassee	2	1	3	70,880	23,626.7	28
26059	Michigan	Hillsdale	2	0	2	46,212	23,106.0	29
26075	Michigan	Jackson	6	1	7	160,180	22,882.9	30
26115	Michigan	Monroe	7	0	7	152,949	21,849.9	31
26089	Michigan	Leelanau	1	0	1	21,783	21,783.0	32
26149	Michigan	St. Joseph	3	0	3	62,232	20,744.0	33
26091	Michigan	Lenawee	5	0	5	100,801	20,160.2	34
26093	Michigan	Livingston	10	0	10	182,575	18,257.5	35

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26087	Michigan	Lapeer	2	3	5	90,875	18,175.0	36
26019	Michigan	Benzie	1	0	1	17,396	17,396.0	37
26147	Michigan	St. Clair	8	2	10	168,894	16,889.4	38
26053	Michigan	Gogebic	1	0	1	16,043	16,043.0	39
26121	Michigan	Muskegon	6	5	11	174,344	15,849.5	40
26007	Michigan	Alpena	2	0	2	29,520	14,760.0	41
26037	Michigan	Clinton	2	3	5	69,726	13,945.2	42
26073	Michigan	Isabella	3	2	5	66,778	13,355.6	43
26033	Michigan	Chippewa	3	0	3	38,971	12,990.3	44
26159	Michigan	Van Buren	4	2	6	77,801	12,966.8	45
26117	Michigan	Montcalm	1	4	5	62,971	12,594.2	46
26099	Michigan	Macomb	56	14	70	830,663	11,866.6	47
26045	Michigan	Eaton	6	3	9	106,781	11,864.6	48
26015	Michigan	Barry	5	0	5	58,890	11,778.0	49
26023	Michigan	Branch	4	0	4	45,726	11,431.5	50
26021	Michigan	Berrien	14	0	14	159,481	11,391.5	51
26063	Michigan	Huron	2	1	3	32,805	10,935.0	52
26151	Michigan	Sanilac	3	1	4	43,024	10,756.0	53
26057	Michigan	Gratiot	4	0	4	42,245	10,561.3	54
26129	Michigan	Ogemaw	1	1	2	21,016	10,508.0	55
26119	Michigan	Montmorency	1	0	1	10,335	10,335.0	56
26035	Michigan	Clare	3	0	3	30,312	10,104.0	57
26003	Michigan	Alger	1	0	1	9,438	9,438.0	58
26103	Michigan	Marquette	6	1	7	65,492	9,356.0	59
26139	Michigan	Ottawa	22	6	28	260,364	9,298.7	60
26025	Michigan	Calhoun	13	2	15	135,861	9,057.4	61
26017	Michigan	Bay	9	3	12	107,495	8,957.9	62
26061	Michigan	Houghton	3	1	4	35,174	8,793.5	63
26031	Michigan	Cheboygan	0	3	3	26,354	8,784.7	64
26069	Michigan	Iosco	2	1	3	25,932	8,644.0	65
26077	Michigan	Kalamazoo	28	1	29	245,912	8,479.7	66
26107	Michigan	Mecosta	5	0	5	41,562	8,312.4	67
26101	Michigan	Manistee	2	1	3	24,640	8,213.3	68
26165	Michigan	Wexford	3	1	4	31,673	7,918.3	69
26163	Michigan	Wayne	238	31	269	1,949,929	7,248.8	70

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26105	Michigan	Mason	3	1	4	28,782	7,195.5	71
26049	Michigan	Genesee	44	16	60	428,790	7,146.5	72
26043	Michigan	Dickinson	3	1	4	26,812	6,703.0	73
26029	Michigan	Charlevoix	4	0	4	25,936	6,484.0	74
26145	Michigan	Saginaw	29	2	31	200,745	6,475.6	75
26055	Michigan	Grand Traverse	11	3	14	86,071	6,147.9	76
26111	Michigan	Midland	14	1	15	82,605	5,507.0	77
26081	Michigan	Kent	101	12	113	605,213	5,355.9	78
26065	Michigan	Ingham	41	11	52	277,528	5,337.1	79
26039	Michigan	Crawford	3	0	3	14,463	4,821.0	80
26047	Michigan	Emmet	6	2	8	33,535	4,191.9	81
26125	Michigan	Oakland	361	31	392	1,202,174	3,066.8	82
26161	Michigan	Washtenaw	117	0	117	347,376	2,969.0	83