**Health Outcomes - 2**

**Infant Mortality Rate**

**Indicator Definition:** Deaths of infants aged less than 1 year per 1,000 live births.

**Indicator Overview:**
- The infant mortality rate is a leading indicator used to compare populations both within and across countries.
- Infant mortality is used as an indicator of the level of child health and overall development and is often used to identify disparities among populations within a specific country.

**Trends:** Michigan’s infant mortality rate (IMR) for the three-year period 2007-2009 was 7.6 deaths per 1,000 live births. While this IMR is the same as the previous three-year period, 2009 saw the lowest annual number of infant deaths since MDCH started keeping records. During the past 10 years, Michigan’s infant mortality rate has fluctuated, with a decline below 8.0 per 1,000 for the first time in 2004. In 2006, Michigan reached its lowest IMR in the last decade at 7.4; 2008 saw the same rate. Michigan has a consistently higher IMR than the United States for the given years (2000-2009).

**Health Disparities:** Historically, the Black IMR is more than two-and-a-half times that of the White IMR. For the time period of 2007-2009, the Michigan IMR for Black infants was 15.4 per 1,000 live births, while for White infants it was 5.5 per 1,000. In 2009, IMRs were nearly double for unmarried mothers in Michigan; 10.5 per 1,000 live births for unmarried mothers compared to 5.4 per 1,000 live births for married mothers. Babies born to mothers with inadequate prenatal care had an IMR of 17.2 in 2009, over three times greater than the rate of 5.7 for infants born to mothers with adequate prenatal care.

**Links to Other Sources of Information:**
- Infant Mortality Rates in Michigan, MDCH: [http://www.michigan.gov/mdch/0,1607,7-132-2944_4669_4694---,00.html](http://www.michigan.gov/mdch/0,1607,7-132-2944_4669_4694---,00.html)

**Links to Related Public Health Programs:**
- Infant Mental Health, MDCH: [http://www.michigan.gov/mdch/0,1607,7-132-2941_4868_7145-14659---,00.html](http://www.michigan.gov/mdch/0,1607,7-132-2941_4868_7145-14659---,00.html)
- Maternal Infant Health Program (MIHP), MDCH: [http://www.michigan.gov/mdch/0,1607,7-132-2942_4911_34593-106183---,00.html](http://www.michigan.gov/mdch/0,1607,7-132-2942_4911_34593-106183---,00.html)
- WIC, MDCH: [http://mi.gov/mdch/0,1607,7-132-2942_4910---,00.html](http://mi.gov/mdch/0,1607,7-132-2942_4910---,00.html)