

MEASURE

The Kotelchuck Adequacy of Prenatal Care Utilization Index (APCUI) measures two dimensions of care: adequacy of a timely start of prenatal care and the adequacy of the use of prenatal services once care has begun (by comparing actual use to the recommended number of visits, based on the month of initiation of care and the length of the pregnancy). These dimensions are combined to classify each woman's prenatal care history as inadequate, intermediate, adequate, or adequate-plus.

WHY IS THIS INDICATOR IMPORTANT?

Assessing health status during pregnancy and continuous monitoring identifies risks and potential issues that contribute to poor pregnancy and birth outcomes. The prenatal assessment needs to occur at the beginning of the pregnancy, which is why initiating prenatal care early is promoted. Prenatal care should begin by the end of the first trimester (three months) of pregnancy. A second standard in prenatal care is the adequacy of the care, as defined by the American College of Obstetrics and Gynecology, as at least 13 prenatal visits for a full-term pregnancy. The small percentage of women who present with risks that contribute to mortality and morbidity need to be identified through risk assessment during prenatal care. Known

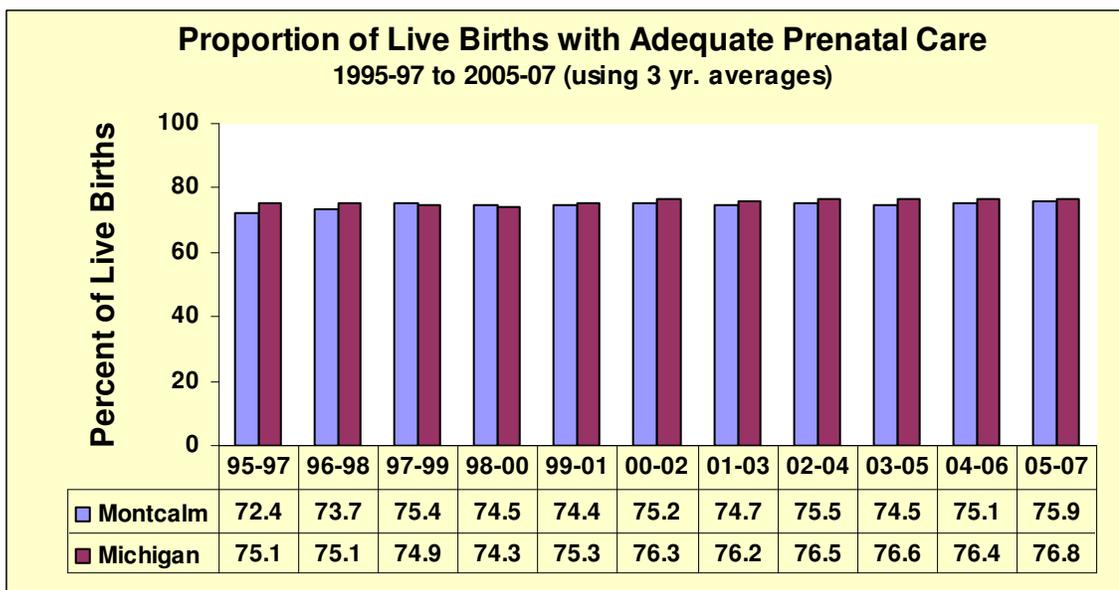
risk factors are mother's age, race and ethnicity, intendedness of pregnancy, lack of a prenatal care payment source, and pre-existing and potentially developing adverse health and emotional conditions.

HOW WELL IS THE MONTCALM COMMUNITY DOING?

Michigan has not experienced a substantial increase in the adequacy of prenatal care over the last 20 years (*Healthy Michigan 2010*), as nearly 25% of births in Michigan continue to receive less than adequate medical care during the pre-natal period. Montcalm County results have mirrored those of the State the past 15 years, increasing by less than 4 percent since the mid-1990's. See figure below. For each 3-year period measured, Montcalm County has generally been found to have a slightly lower proportion of births with adequate prenatal care, as compared to Michigan, overall.

GOAL FOR MONTCALM COUNTY

To continue to increase the proportion of pregnant women receiving early and adequate prenatal care. *HP2010* has set a goal of 90% of live births having early and adequate prenatal care, to be achieved by the end of this decade.



Kotelchuck's Adequacy of Prenatal Care Utilization Index (APCUI)

This index uses two elements obtained from birth certificate data to determine adequacy of prenatal care: month of gestation that prenatal care is initiated and number of prenatal visits up to the time of delivery. These elements are then compared to expected results and adjusted to the gestational age at the time of delivery. Adequate care includes prenatal care beginning within first 3 months of gestation and attending 80% or more of expected prenatal visits.

NOTE: Results based on the Kotelchuck Adequacy of Prenatal Care Utilization Index. SOURCE: Michigan Maternal and Child Health County Profiles 1995 to 2007.