



# Family Support/Parent Education in Michigan 2000-2006

**One of ten babies is born to a teen mother each year.**

Roughly 12,400 Michigan babies were born to teens, ages 15-19 in 2004. These children are more likely to

grow up in single parent families and suffer from poverty and other adverse outcomes than infants born to mothers who delay childbearing. The share of the births to teen mothers fell by 14 percent between 2000 and 2004.

**A relatively large percentage of young children live in economically fragile families, and those numbers are growing.**

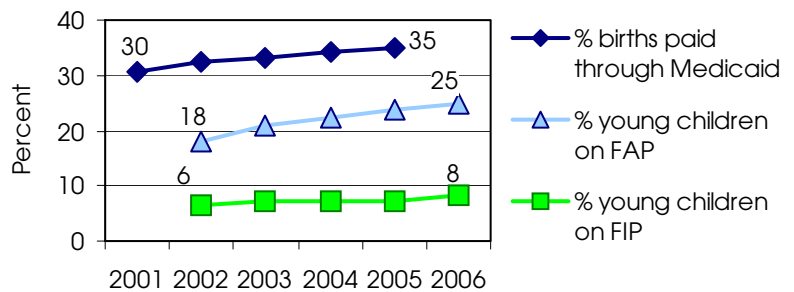
- **One of three infants was born to a mother eligible for Medicaid, that is with income below 185 percent of poverty.** Roughly 46,900 babies were born to a mother who qualified for Medicaid in 2005. The percentage of births covered through Medicaid rose from 31 to 35 percent of all births between 2002 and 2005 as health care benefits and wages eroded.
- **The percentage of young children qualifying for the Food Assistance Program (food stamps) rose by 40 percent between 2002 and 2006**—from 18 to 25 percent of all young children, ages 0-5.
- **The percentage of children in the cash assistance through the Family Independence Program (FIP) rose by 30 percent between 2002 and 2006**—from 6 to 8 percent. These families subsist at income levels well below poverty level as the maximum grant remains below \$500 per month, as compared to poverty level income (\$1,300 a month) for a single parent with two children.
- **Children in FIP families face higher risk of losing benefits.** Changes in policy have increased the risk of sanctions where the entire family loses benefits; the first sanction for non-compliance with departmental directives results in a 90-day sanction, and the third entails 12 months without benefits. The department expects to reduce program

costs by \$60 million in FY2008 through increased sanctions and other policy changes, according to the Executive Budget Proposal.

**One of 100 young children suffers from abuse or neglect.**

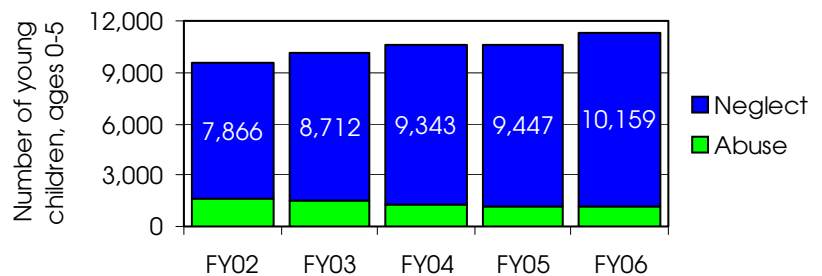
Over 10,000 young children suffered from neglect and another 1,000 from some type of abuse in 2006. The rate of young children confirmed as neglected rose 30 percent between 2002 and 2006—from 10 per 1,000 to 13 per 1,000. As the capacity of other systems such as affordable housing, mental health, and disability, fails to address the needs of economically fragile families, more children will be referred to the already stressed child welfare system.

## Percentage of young children in economically fragile families grew sharply in first half of decade.



Source: Michigan Departments of Community Health and Human Services

## Escalating numbers of young child victims in recent years resulted from neglect rather than abuse.



Source: Michigan Department of Human Services