

Testimony
Health and Human Services Committee
Wednesday, June 16, 2010; 1:20 p.m.
North Dakota Department of Health

Good afternoon, Chairman Weisz, and members of the Health and Human Services Committee. My name is Kim Senn, and I am director of the Division of Family Health for the North Dakota Department of Health. I am here today to provide the requested information related to the Services to Pregnant Minors Study.

Attachment A shows a comparison of the number of reported teen abortions (reported induced terminations) to the number of teen pregnancies for the years 2004 through 2008. Some important facts about the data include:

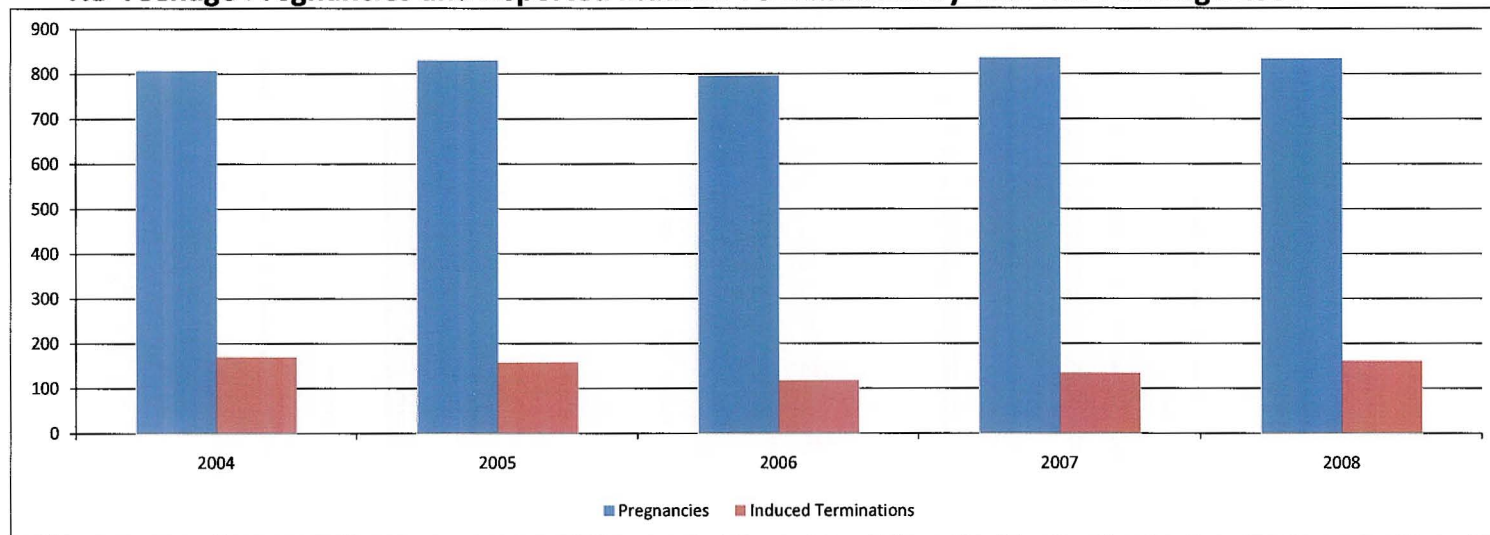
- Unlike the agreement between states for reporting births, an agreement for reporting abortions does not exist. Therefore, the numbers reported in the charts do not include abortions occurring out of state.
- Teen pregnancies are determined by adding the number of teen births, plus the number of reported induced terminations (abortions), plus the number of fetal deaths.
- Fetal death is defined as occurring after 20 weeks gestation.

Attachment B shows the total number of reported teen abortions in the state by county of residence for the years 1999 through 2008. A 10-year total was used due to low numbers (fewer than five) in many of the counties. The attachment also shows the total reported teen abortions in the state per year from 1999 through 2008.

The North Dakota Department of Health does not use any public funding for abortions. The Department of Human Service's Medicaid Program will provide payment for abortion services with restrictions. Administrative Code 75-02-02-08g states "Coverage may not be extended and payment may not be made for any abortion except when necessary to save the life of the mother or when the pregnancy is the result of an act of rape or incest." Maggie Anderson, director of the Division of Medical Services for the Department of Human Services, is here today and can answer any additional questions you have relating to this. This is the only public funding for abortion services that the Department of Health is aware of.

This concludes my testimony. I am happy to answer any questions you may have.

ND Teenage Pregnancies and Reported Induced Terminations by Year 2004 through 2008



	Pregnancies					Reported Induced Terminations				
	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008
Total:	806	829	794	835	833	169	157	116	133	160

Teen pregnancies are determined by adding the number of teen births, plus the number of reported induced terminations (abortions) plus the number of fetal deaths. Fetal death is defined as occurring after 20 weeks gestation.

Attachment B

ND Teenage Residents (19 and Younger): Reported Induced Terminations of Pregnancy by County	
	<u>1999-2008</u>
ADAMS	6
BARNES	22
BENSON	22
BOTTINEAU	8
BURLEIGH	179
CASS	485
DICKEY	10
EDDY	6
GRAND FORKS	202
McHENRY	6
McKENZIE	9
McLEAN	8
MERCER	12
MORTON	50
MOUNTRAIL	19
NELSON	5
PEMBINA	17
PIERCE	6
RAMSEY	40
RANSOM	12
RICHLAND	49
ROLETTE	29
SARGENT	7
SIOUX	13
STARK	38
STUTSMAN	49
TOWNER	6
TRAILL	18
WALSH	14
WARD	166
WILLIAMS	26
Total	1581

ND Teenage Residents (19 and Younger): Reported Induced Terminations of Pregnancy by Year	
	<u>Total</u>
1999	185
2000	170
2001	173
2002	161
2003	157
2004	169
2005	157
2006	116
2007	133
2008	160
Total	1581

^ Cell sizes fewer than 5 are not released for confidentiality reasons. The following counties are not included in the above table due to small cell sizes: Billings, Bowman, Burke, Cavalier, Divide, Dunn, Emmons, Foster, Golden Valley, Grant, Griggs, Hettinger, Kidder, Lamoure, Logan, McIntosh, Oliver, Renville, Sheridan, Slope, Steele and Wells.