

### MEASURE

The proportion (percentage) of total hospitalizations considered to be preventable had adequate ambulatory care been received to prevent the onset of an illness or condition, control an acute episode of an illness, or manage a chronic disease or condition in persons under 65 years of age.

### WHY IS THIS INDICATOR IMPORTANT?

A useful measure of access to health care is the number of cases (involving people aged under 65) for which hospitalization usually may be avoided if appropriate out-patient or ambulatory care is available or given. High hospital admission rates for conditions that could be treated by other means may be indirect evidence of a patient-access problem or deficiencies in outpatient management. By definition, the cost of these hospitalizations are avoidable through prevention. There also is some evidence that regions with a greater number of available hospital beds per 1,000 population have a higher rate of preventable hospitalizations.

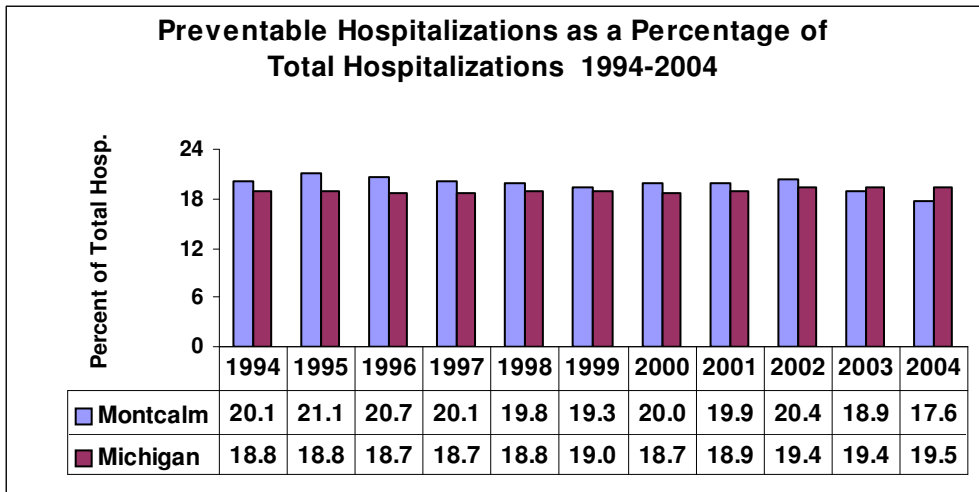
### HOW WELL IS THE MONTCALM COMMUNITY DOING?

For the years 1994 through 2004, there has been no appreciable change in preventable hospitalizations for Montcalm County or the state of Michigan. The two most recent years recorded (2003 & 2004) suggest the proportion of preventable hospitalizations in Montcalm County have dipped below that of the State proportion.

### GOAL FOR MONTCALM COUNTY

Reduce percentage of all preventable hospitalizations in Montcalm County below that of Michigan rate.

*HP2010* has set preventable hospitalization goals for two conditions among people below age 65 years to be achieved by the end of this decade - pediatric asthma and uncontrolled adult diabetes. The results and goal for these specific conditions can be seen in the bottom table on this page.



*NOTE:* Hospitalizations are inpatient hospital stays as measured by stays that were completed during the specified year. The number of hospitalizations is often greater than the number of persons hospitalized since some persons are hospitalized more than once during a year. *SOURCE:* Michigan Resident Inpatient Files, Division for Vital Records and Health Statistics, Michigan Dept of Community Health.

Preventable Hospitalization Rates* by Age Group- Montcalm County, 1998- 2004								
	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	HP 2010 Goal
<b>Asthma</b> (under age 18 yrs.)	12.1	16.9	16.9	17.7	16.6	20.5	14.9	17.3
<b>Diabetes</b> (age 18 to 64 yrs.)	6.7	5.9	12.6	7.9	11.2	10.0	4.6	5.4

*NOTE:* \*Rate reported as hospital admissions per 10,000 population. *SOURCE:* Michigan Resident Inpatient Files, Div for Vital Records and Health Statistics, Michigan Dept of Community Health., 2006.