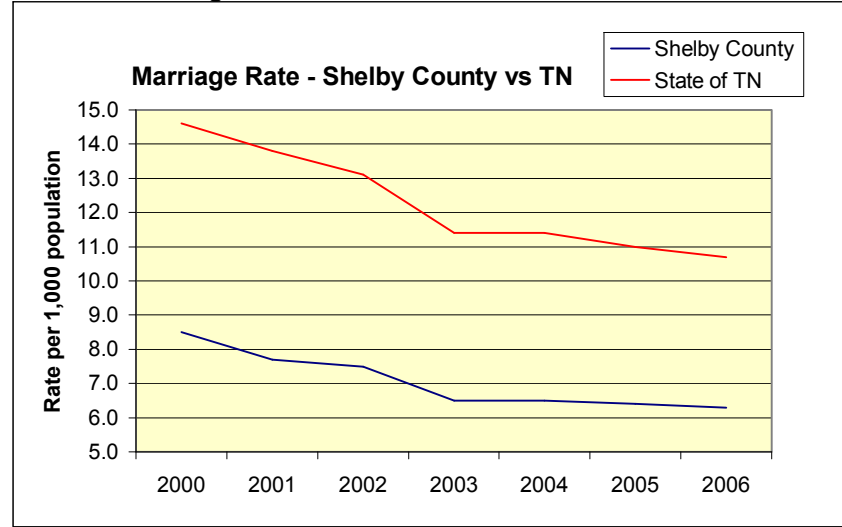
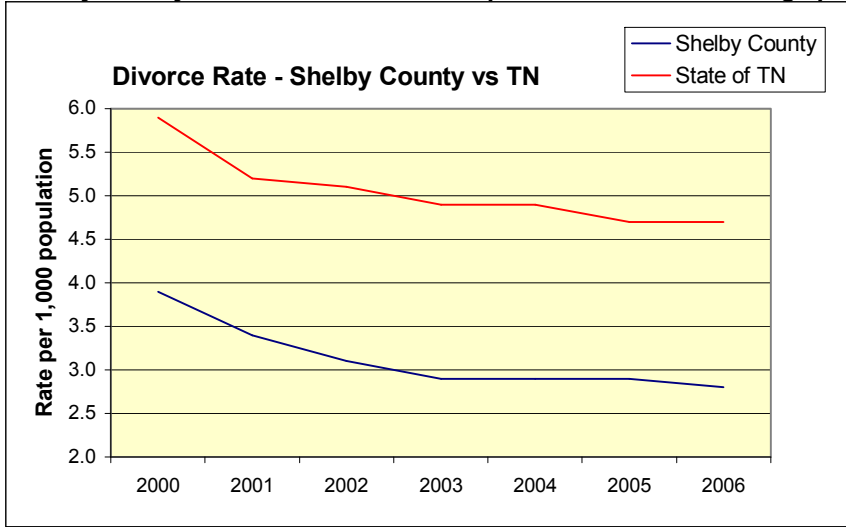
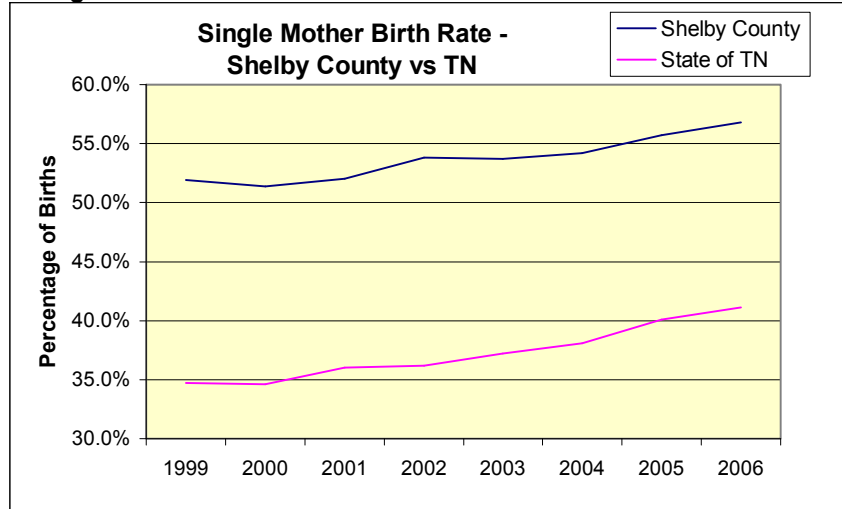
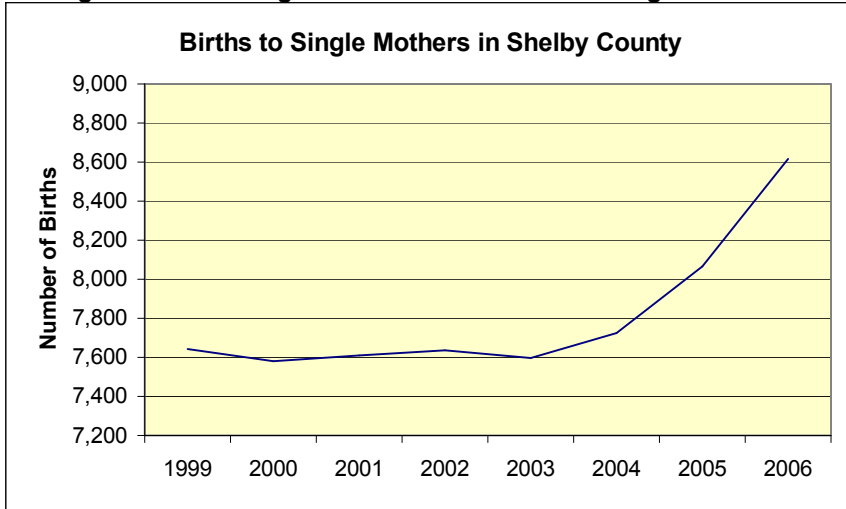


**SINGLE MOTHER BIRTHS & POVERTY IN SHELBY COUNTY:
TRENDS IN MARRIAGE, DIVORCE, SINGLE MOTHER BIRTHS & ABORTIONS**

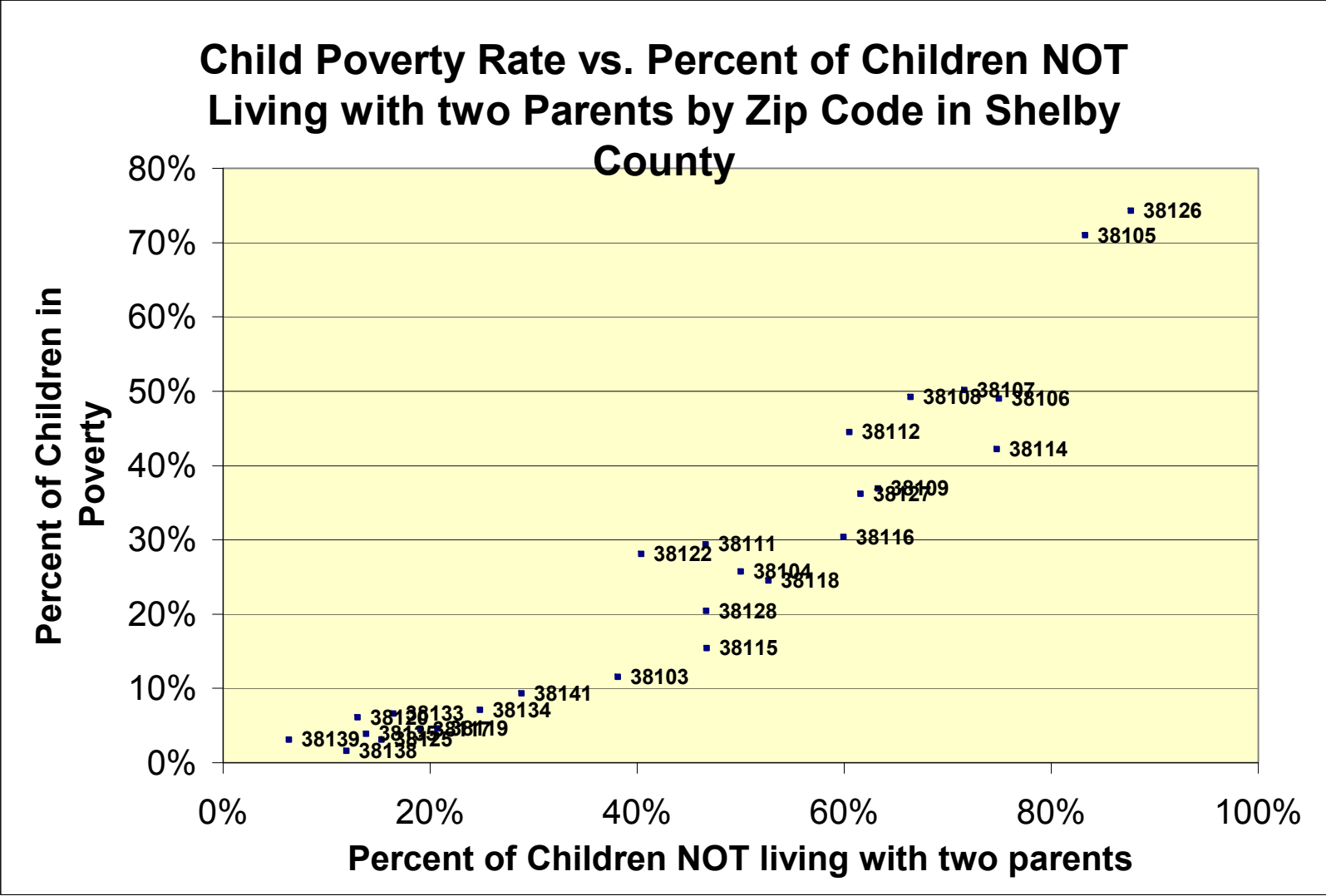
Shelby County does not have a divorce problem. It has a marriage problem with a marriage rate below state and national levels:



Falling rates of marriage are reflected in an increasing number of births to single mothers:

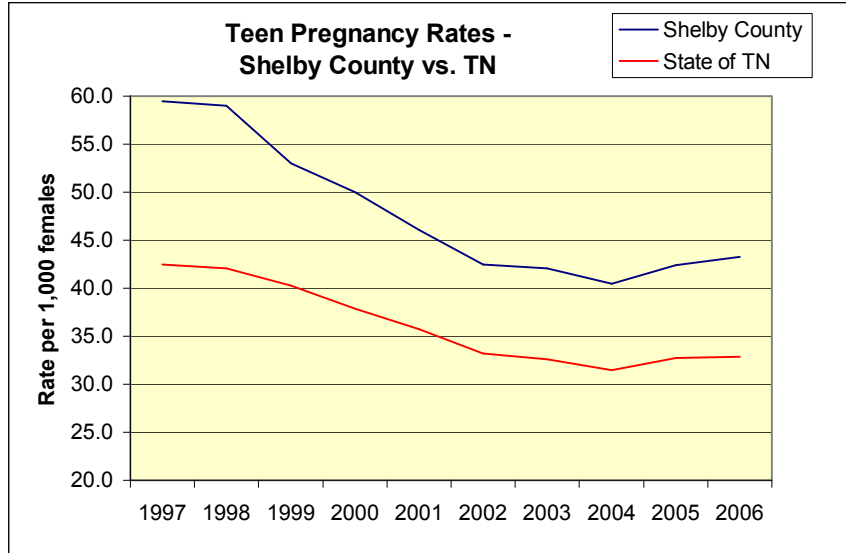
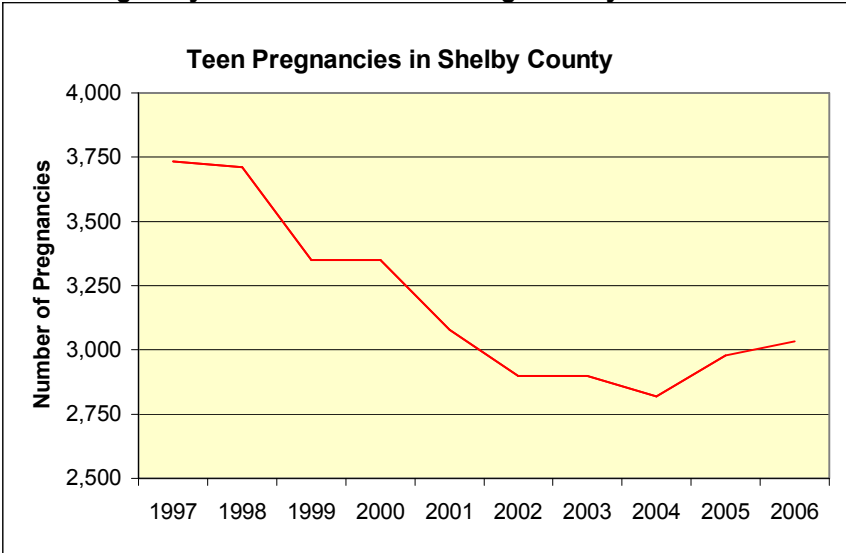


Births to single mothers is a major factor in the high level of poverty among children in Memphis. Of the more than 50,000 children in Memphis living in poverty, more than 80% do not live with two parents:



TRENDS IN TEEN PREGNANCIES AND ABORTIONS

Teen Pregnancy rates have been declining but they flattened in 2003-04 and have risen since then:



Meanwhile, abortions continue to trend downward but abortion rates in the County are significantly higher than the State :

