

## PRENATAL CARE UTILIZATION

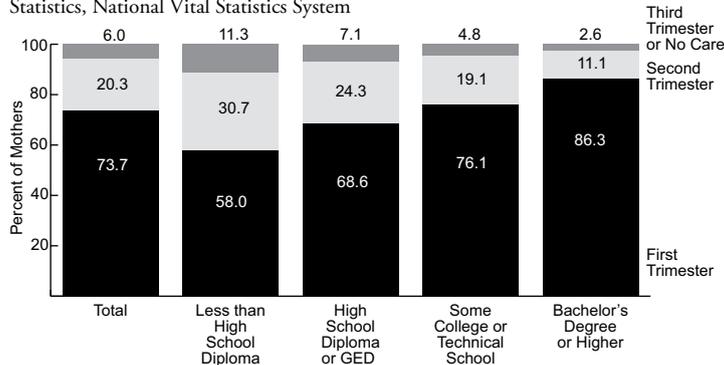
Early and adequate prenatal care helps to promote healthy pregnancies through screening and management of a woman's risk factors and health conditions, as well as education and counseling on healthy behaviors during and after pregnancy.<sup>89</sup> In 2011, among the 36 states and District of Columbia that had implemented the 2003 revision to the standard birth certificate as of January 1st and collected prenatal care information in the same format, 73.7 percent of women giving birth received early prenatal care in the first trimester, while 6.0 percent of women began prenatal care in the third trimester or did not receive any prenatal care.

Rates of first trimester prenatal care increased with greater educational attainment, from only 58.0 percent of mothers with less than a high school diploma to 86.3 percent of mothers with a bachelor's degree or higher. First trimester prenatal care initiation was highest among non-Hispanic White and non-Hispanic Asian women (78.8 and 77.9 percent, respectively), followed by Hispanic (68.3 percent) and non-Hispanic Black women (63.4 percent), while non-Hispanic American Indian/Alaska Native and non-Hispanic Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander women had the lowest rates of early prenatal care (59.0 and 55.7 percent, respectively; data not shown).

In 2011, 84.8 percent of women in 37 jurisdictions received adequate prenatal care, defined as receiving 80 percent or more of expected visits given the timing of prenatal care entry and gestational age at delivery. Non-Hispanic American Indian/Alaska Native and non-Hispanic Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander mothers were least likely to receive adequate care (76.7 and 77.9 percent, respectively), followed by non-Hispanic Black mothers (80.8 percent). Of women with a college degree, 88.1 percent had received adequate care upon initiation compared to 79.2 percent of women without a high school diploma (data not shown).

### Timing of Prenatal Care Initiation,\* by Maternal Education, 2011

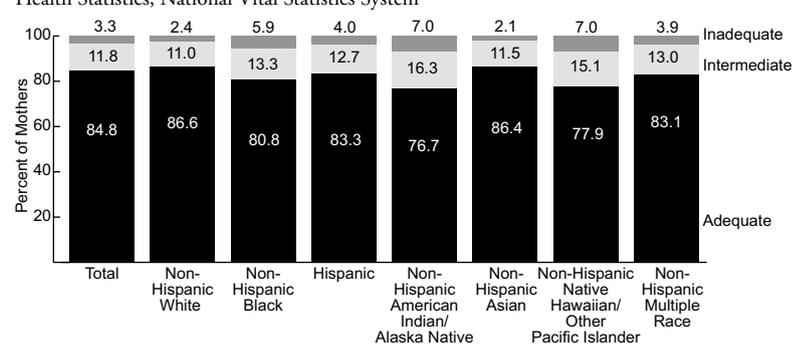
Source (III.1): Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, National Center for Health Statistics, National Vital Statistics System



\*Data are from 36 states and the District of Columbia that implemented the 2003 revision of the birth certificate as of January 1, 2011, representing 83% of all U.S. births. Percentages may not total to 100 due to rounding.

### Adequacy of Prenatal Care Utilization Upon Initiation,\* by Maternal Race/Ethnicity, 2011

Source (III.1): Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, National Center for Health Statistics, National Vital Statistics System



\*Based on a ratio of observed to expected prenatal care visits given the timing of prenatal care entry and gestational age at delivery (Kotelchuck Index); adequate prenatal care is defined as receiving  $\geq 80\%$  of expected visits, intermediate is receipt of 50–79.9% of expected visits, and inadequate is receipt of  $< 50\%$  of expected visits. Data are from 36 states and the District of Columbia that implemented the 2003 revision of the birth certificate as of January 1, 2011, representing 83% of all U.S. births. Percentages may not total to 100 due to rounding.