Early Prenatal Care	
SHIP website description	This indicator shows the percentage of pregnant women who receive prenatal care beginning in the first trimester. Inadequate prenatal care services have been linked to higher rates of infant mortality, low birth weight and pre-term deliveries. While Maryland as a whole ranks better than the National average and the Healthy People 2020 Target, disparities still exist. Due to the change in methodology for collecting information on the Maryland birth certificate, data collected in 2010 and after are not comparable to data collected in earlier years.
Source	MDH Vital Statistics Administration (VSA) Annual Reports
Numerator	Number of mothers who began prenatal care in the first trimester
Denominator	Number of live births from MDH Vital Statistics Administration (VSA) –
Threshold	5
Censorship (if below threshold)	Rate not reported if below threshold. Counts may be available upon request.
Calculation and metric	(Numerator/Denominator) *100
Race/ethnicity categories (on SHIP chart)	All races/ethnicities (aggregated) Black non-Hispanic Hispanic White non-Hispanic Asian non-Hispanic
Other	In 2016, an updated data set for 2010 to 2014 was uploaded to this website. Updated rates differ from past values posted on this website.