

Healthy People 2010 Operational Definition

1-10. Reduce the proportion of persons who delay or have difficulty in getting emergency medical care.

National Data Source	National Health Interview Survey (NHIS), CDC, NCHS.
State Data Source	Not identified.
Healthy People 2000 Objective	Not applicable.
Changes since the 2000 Publication	None.
Measure	Percent (age adjusted – see Comments).
Baseline (Year)	2.4 (2001)
Target	1.5
Target-Setting Method	Better than the best racial/ethnic subgroup. For a discussion of target-setting methods, see Part A, Section 4.
Numerator	Number of persons aged 18 years and older who delayed, had trouble, or were unable to get care from a hospital emergency room during the past 12 months.
Denominator	Number of persons aged 18 years and older.
Population Targeted	U.S. civilian, noninstitutionalized population.
Questions Used to Obtain the National Baseline Data	From the 2001 National Health Interview Survey: ➤ <i>Did you delay, have trouble, or were unable to get care from a hospital emergency room during the past 12 months?</i>
Expected Periodicity	Periodic.
Comments	Respondents who did not need emergency care during the past 12 months were excluded from the numerator and denominator when calculating the overall percent of persons who delayed, had trouble, or were unable to get months were

excluded from the numerator and denominator when calculating the overall percent of persons who delayed, had trouble, or were unable to get care from a hospital emergency room in the past 12 months.

Data (except those by education status) are age adjusted to the 2000 standard population using the age groups 18-24, 25-34, 35-44, 45-64, and 65 years and over. Data by education status are age adjusted using the age groups 25-34, 35-44, 45-64, and 65 years and over. Age-adjusted percents are weighted sums of age-specific percents. For a discussion of age adjustment, see Part A, section 7.

For some measures, data do not meet the criteria for statistical reliability, data quality, or confidentiality and have been suppressed. Information on suppression of data for the major Healthy People 2010 data systems has been published in a *Healthy People Statistical Note*.¹

This objective moved from developmental to measurable status at the Healthy People 2010 Midcourse Review.

See Part C for a description of NHIS and Appendix A for focus area contact information.

References

1. Klein, R.J.; Proctor, S.E.; Boudreault, M.A.; Turczyn, K.M. Healthy People 2010 Criteria for Data Suppression. *Statistical Notes* No. 24. Hyattsville, MD: National Center for Health Statistics. 2002.