

Healthy People 2010 Operational Definition

8-23. Reduce the proportion of occupied housing units that have moderate or severe physical problems.

National Data Source	American Housing Survey (AHS), U.S. Department of Commerce (DOC), Bureau of the Census (CEN).
State Data Source	Not identified.
Healthy People 2000 Objective	Not applicable.
Changes since the 2000 Publication	Objective title revised (see Comments). Revised baseline (see Comments). Revised target (see Comments).
Measure	Percent.
Baseline (Year)	6.5 (1995)
Target	3.1
Target-Setting Method	52 percent improvement. For a discussion of target-setting methods, see Part A, section 4.
Numerator	Number of housing units identified with moderate or severe physical problems—see Comments.
Denominator	Number of housing units that are regularly occupied.
Population Targeted	Not applicable.
Questions Used To Obtain the National Baseline Data	From the 1995 American Housing Survey: [NUMERATOR:] <ul style="list-style-type: none">➤ <i>Does the (house/apartment) have a bathtub or shower for this household's use only?</i>➤ <i>Does the (house/apartment) have a flush toilet for this household's use only?</i>➤ <i>In the last 3 months, was there any time when all the toilets in the home were not working?</i><ul style="list-style-type: none">❖ <i>How many of these breakdowns lasted 6 hours or more?</i>➤ <i>Is all the wiring in the finished areas of your home concealed either in walls or metal coverings?</i>

- *Does every room have an electric outlet or wall plug that works?*
- *Have any fuses blown or circuit breakers tripped in the last 3 months?*
 - ❖ *How many times in the last 3 months?*
- *Has water leaked into your home from outdoors in the last 12 months?*
 - ❖ *Where did the water come in?*
- *Have there been water leaks in the (house/apartment) from INSIDE the building in the last 12 months?*
 - ❖ *Where did the water come in?*
- *Does the (house/apartment) have hot and cold piped water?*
 - ❖ *What fuel is used MOST to heat the water?*
- *Was your home ever completely without running water in the last 3 months?*
 - ❖ *How many times was it not available for 6 hours or more?*
- *Does your home have a refrigerator?*
 - ❖ *Is it more than 5 years old?*
- *Does your (house/apartment) have a cookstove or range with an oven?*
- *Does your (house/apartment) have an oven? cooking burners?*
 - [If yes:]
 - ❖ *(Is it/are they) more than 5 years old?*
 - ❖ *What fuel is used MOST for cooking?*
- *What type of heating equipment is used MOST to heat the (house/apartment)?*
- *Last winter was there any time when the (house/apartment) was so cold for 24 hours or more that it caused anyone in your household discomfort?*
 - ❖ *Was that because the heating equipment broke down?*
 - [If yes:]
 - ❖ *How many times did (it/they/all) break down for 6 hours or more?*
 - ❖ *Was it cold for any other reason?*
 - [If yes:]
 - ❖ *What was the reason?*
- *Does the (house/apartment) have a porch, deck, balcony, or patio?*
- *Does the (house/apartment) have open cracks or holds in the inside walls or ceilings?*

- *Does the (house/apartment) have holes in the floors?*
- *Does the (house/apartment) have any area of peeling paint or broken plaster bigger than 8 inches by 11 inches?*
- *In the last 3 months, have you seen any rats or signs of rats in the building?*

[DENOMINATOR:]

- *Does (household member) usually live here?*

Expected Periodicity

Biennial.

Comments

The Objective title was revised to more accurately reflect the wording in the data source.

The original baseline was revised from 6.2 to 6.5 based on revised estimates from the survey. The target was proportionately adjusted from 3.0 percent to 3.1 percent to reflect the revised baseline using the original target-setting method.

A housing unit has severe physical problems if it has any of the following five problems:

Plumbing. Lacking hot or cold piped water or a flush toilet, or lacking both bathtub and shower, all inside the structure (and for the exclusive use of the unit, unless there are two or more full bathrooms).

Heating. Having been uncomfortably cold last winter for 24 hours or more because the heating equipment broke down, and it broke down at least three times last winter for at least 6 hours each time.

Electric. Having no electricity, or all of the following three electric problems: exposed wiring, a room with no working wall outlet, and three blown fuses or tripped circuit breakers in the last 90 days.

Hallways. Having all of the following four problems in public areas: no working light fixtures, loose or missing steps, loose or missing railings, and no working elevator.

Upkeep. Having any five of the following six maintenance problems: (1) water leaks from the outside, such as from the roof, basement, windows, or doors; (2) leaks from inside structure such as pipes or plumbing fixtures; (3) holes in the floors; (4) holes or open cracks in the walls or ceilings; (5) more than 8 inches by 11 inches of peeling paint or

broken plaster; or (6) signs of rats in the last 90 days.

A unit has moderate physical problems if it has any of the following five problems, but none of the severe problems:

Plumbing. On at least three occasions during the last 3 months, all the flush toilets were broken down at the same time for 6 hours or more (see “Flush toilet and flush toilet breakdowns”).

Heating. Having unvented gas, oil, or kerosene heaters as the primary heating equipment.

Kitchen. Lacking a kitchen sink, refrigerator, oven or burners inside the structure for the exclusive use of the unit.

Hallways. Having any three of the four problems listed under severe physical problems.

Upkeep. Having any three or four of the six problems listed under severe physical problems.

See Appendix A for focus area contact information.