

## Healthy People 2010 Operational Definition

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**9-11. Increase the proportion of young adults who have received formal or informal instruction before turning age 18 years on the following reproductive health issues: abstinence, birth control methods, HIV/AIDS prevention through safer sex practices, and sexually transmitted diseases.**

**9-11a. Formal instruction on abstinence: Females.**

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| <b>National Data Source</b>                                | National Survey of Family Growth (NSFG), CDC, NCHS.  |
| <b>State Data Source</b>                                   | Not identified.  |
| <b>Healthy People 2000 Objective</b>                       | Adapted from 5.8 (Family Planning).  |
| <b>Changes since the 2000 Publication</b>                  | New subobjective (see Comments).   |
| <b>Measure</b>   | Percent.   |
| <b>Baseline (Year)</b>                                     | 86 (2002)  |
| <b>Target</b>  | 88   |
| <b>Target-Setting Method</b>                               | Better than the best racial/ethnic subgroup.<br><br>For a discussion of target-setting methods, see Part A, section 4.   |
| <b>Numerator</b>   | Females aged 15 to 19 years who report having had formal instruction, before turning age 18 years, on abstinence.  |
| <b>Denominator</b>   | Number of females aged 15 to 19 years.   |
| <b>Population Targeted</b>                                 | U.S. civilian, noninstitutionalized population.  |
| <b>Questions Used To Obtain the National Baseline Data</b> | From the 2002 National Survey of Family Growth:<br><br>➤ <i>Now I'm interested in knowing about formal sex education you may have had. (Before you were 18, did you ever have/ Have you ever had) any formal instruction at school, church, a community center or some other place ...<br/><br/>...About how to say no to sex?</i> |

**Expected Periodicity**

Periodic

**Comments**

Females are considered to have received formal instructions on abstinence before turning age 18 years if they responded yes to question above.

Objective 9-11 was revised during the Healthy People 2010 Midcourse Review. The original objective used a single measure to track females aged 18 to 24 years who reported having had formal instruction before age 18 on 4 reproductive topics (birth control methods, safer sex to prevent HIV, prevention of sexually transmitted diseases, and abstinence). The data source for this objective was the NSFG. A 1995 baseline of 64 percent of females aged 18 to 24 years who reported instruction on all four topics was established.

When the objective was revised, sixteen subobjectives were created, each addressing formal or informal instruction for females or males on one of the four topics. These replace the original objective.

Objective 9-11 is adapted from Healthy People 2000 objective 5.8, which tracked the proportion of people aged 10 to 18 years who had discussed human sexuality, sexual abuse, and values surrounding sexuality, with their parents and/or had received information through another parentally endorsed source, such as youth, school or religious programs. Objective 9-11 tracks (through 16 subobjectives) the proportion of males and females aged 15 to 19 years who received formal and informal instruction before age 18 years on the four topics cited above.

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*.<sup>1</sup>

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

## References

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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.