

Healthy People 2010 Operational Definition

1-5. Increase the proportion of people with a usual primary care provider.

National Data Source	Medical Expenditure Panel Survey (MEPS), AHRQ.
State Data Source	Not identified.
Healthy People 2000 Objective	Not applicable.
Changes since the 2000 Publication	None.
Measure	Percent.
Baseline (Year)	77 (1996)
Target	85
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 who report that they have a usual primary care provider.
Denominator	Number of persons.
Population Targeted	U.S. civilian, noninstitutionalized population.
Questions Used to Obtain the National Baseline Data	From the 1996 Medical Expenditure Panel Survey: <ul style="list-style-type: none">➤ <i>Is there a particular doctor's office, health center, or other place that (Person) usually goes if (Person) is sick or needs advice about (Person)'s health?</i>➤ <i>Is (Provider) the (person/place) they would go for new health problems?</i>➤ <i>Is (Provider) the (person/place) they would go for preventive health care, such as general check-ups, examinations, and immunizations?</i>➤ <i>Is (Provider) the (person/place) they would go for referrals to other health professionals when needed?</i>
Expected Periodicity	Annual.
Comments	Persons were considered to have a usual primary

care provider if they responded “yes” to all four of the questions listed 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*.¹

See Part C for a description of MEPS 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.