

## Healthy People 2010 Operational Definition

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### **2.3 Reduce the proportion of adults with doctor-diagnosed arthritis who have difficulty in performing two or more personal care activities, thereby preserving independence.**

<b>National Data Source</b>	National Health Interview Survey (NHIS), CDC, NCHS.
<b>State Data Source</b>	Not identified.
<b>Healthy People 2000 Objective</b>	Not applicable.
<b>Changes since the 2000 Publication</b>	Revised text (see Comments). Revised baseline (see Comments). Revised target (see Comments).
<b>Measure</b>	Percent (age adjusted - see Comments).
<b>Baseline (Year)</b>	2.1 (2002)
<b>Target</b>	1.5
<b>Target-Setting Method</b>	Better than the best racial/ethnic subgroup.  For a discussion of target-setting methods, see Part A, section 4.
<b>Numerator</b>	Number of persons aged 18 years and older with doctor-diagnosed arthritis who have difficulty performing two or more personal care activities
<b>Denominator</b>	Number of persons aged 18 years and older with doctor-diagnosed arthritis.
<b>Population Targeted</b>	U.S. civilian, noninstitutionalized population.
<b>Questions Used To Obtain the National Baseline Data</b>	From the 2002 National Health Interview Survey:  [NUMERATOR:] ➤ <i>Because of a physical, mental, or emotional problem, (do/does) (Person) need the help of other persons with personal care needs, such as eating, bathing, dressing, or getting around inside this home?</i>  [If yes:] • <i>(Do/Does) (Person) need the help of other persons with...</i>

- *bathing or showering?*
- *dressing?*
- *eating?*
- *getting in or out of bed or chairs?*
- *using the toilet, including getting to the toilet?*
- *getting around inside the home?*

[DENOMINATOR:]

- *Have you ever been told by a doctor or other health professional that you have some form of arthritis, rheumatoid arthritis, gout, lupus, or fibromyalgia?*

**Expected Periodicity**

Annual.

**Comments**

The original text was revised as the result of changes in survey questionnaire. The 1997 baseline of 2.0 percent of adults with chronic joint symptoms having difficulty performing two or more personal care activities was replaced with the 2002 baseline of 2.1 percent as a result of revised methodology and changes in the survey questionnaire. The target was proportionally adjusted from 1.4 percent to 1.5 percent to reflect the revised baseline using the original target-setting method.

Persons are considered to have chronic joint symptoms (arthritis) if they report having had pain, aching, stiffness, or swelling in or around a joint for most days for at least 1 month in the past 12 months. Persons were considered to be limited in activity if they reported that it was only a little difficult, somewhat difficult, very difficult, or they could not do at all any of the activities listed above. The limitation was considered to be due to arthritis if they selected “arthritis/rheumatism” from the list of conditions.

The new field of arthritis public health is evolving rapidly and case definitions may change as understanding improves. Cognitive testing and validation of self-reports and other arthritis-related questions over the next few years may result in the rephrasing of some of the national arthritis objectives.

Data are age adjusted to the 2000 standard population using age groups 18-44, 45-64, 65-74, and 75 years and over. Data by education status are age adjusted using the age groups 25-44, 45-

64, 65-74, 75 and over. Age-adjusted percents are weighted sums of age-specific percents. For a discussion on age adjustment, see Part A, section 7.

For some objectives, 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 NHIS and Part A for focus area contact information.