

Healthy People 2010 Operational Definition

20-11. Reduce new cases of work-related, noise-induced hearing loss.

National Data Source	Survey of Occupational Injuries and Illnesses (SOII), Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics.
State Data Source	Survey of Occupational Injuries and Illnesses (SOII), Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics.
Healthy People 2000 Objective	Not applicable.
Changes since the 2000 Publication	None.
Measure	Rate per 10,000 full-time workers.
Baseline (Year)	2.2 (2008)
Target	2.1
Target-Setting Method	5 percent improvement. For a discussion of target-setting methods, see Part A, section 4.
Numerator	Number of new cases of work-related, noise-induced hearing loss among full-time workers.
Denominator	Number of full-time workers employed in private industry.
Population Targeted	Workers in private industry establishments—see Comments.
Questions Used To Obtain the National Baseline Data	Not applicable.
Expected Periodicity	Annual.
Comments	The Survey of Occupational Injuries and Illnesses is a cooperative Federal – State program in which employer reports are collected from approximately 164,000 private industry establishments. The survey measures nonfatal injuries and illnesses only and excludes the self-employed, farms with fewer than

11 employees, private households, and employees in Federal, State, and local government agencies.

In 2004, the BLS began tracking hearing loss on the OSHA Log 300. The Log 300 is comprised of injury and illness recordkeeping forms that the DOL's Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) requires certain employers to prepare and maintain.

To be a "recordable" hearing loss, workers' hearing thresholds must be substantially poorer than their baseline levels. by the time a worker has lost enough hearing to be recorded on the OSHA Log 300, he or she has met the criteria for hearing impairment. Thus, recordable hearing losses should be viewed as a sentinel of hearing impairment rather than as an indicator of early stages of occupational hearing loss.

Objective 20-11 moved from developmental to measurable after the Healthy People 2010 Midcourse Review when hearing-loss data from the OSHA Log 300 became available. Data for 2008 were chosen as the baseline.

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*.¹ (yes, leave this in for HP2010)

See Part C for a description of SOII 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.