

Healthy People 2010 Operational Definition

18-11. Increase the proportion of counties served by community-based jail diversion programs and/or mental health courts for adults with mental health problems.

National Data Source	Mental Health Court Survey, SAMHSA. CMHS, DSSI
State Data Source	Not identified.
Healthy People 2000 Objective	Not applicable.
Changes since the 2000 Publication	Revised text (see Comments).
Measure	Percent.
Baseline (Year)	6.9 (2004)
Target	7.6
Target-Setting Method	10 percent improvement. For a discussion of target-setting methods, see Part A, section 4.
Numerator	Number of counties with a community-based diversion programs for adults with mental health problems. (See comments)
Denominator	Number of counties in the United States.
Population Targeted	Counties in the United States.
Questions Used To Obtain the National Baseline Data	Not applicable.
Expected Periodicity	Annual.
Comments	This objective moved from developmental to measurable during the Healthy People 2010 Midcourse Review. Diversion programs include a variety of programs such as specialized police responses to situations involving individuals with mental health problems, pre-booking programs, mental health courts and

post-booking programs.

The original objective text addressed local governments with community-based jail diversion programs for adults with SMI. No data source existed for measuring the objective using the previous language.

The revised text is consistent with the data available in the current data source. In order to have a more accurate measure, the text was changed to “counties served by community-based diversion programs and/or mental health courts” since such diversion programs may serve more than one county in an area. The objective text was also changed from SMI to “mental health problems” since diversion programs do not standardize or operationalize the term “serious mental illness” for data collection purposes and prefer the term “mentally ill offenders.”

See Appendix A for focus area contact information.