

Healthy People 2010 Operational Definition

21-7. Increase the proportion of adults who, in the past 12 months, report having had an examination to detect oral and pharyngeal cancers.

National Data Source	National Health Interview Survey (NHIS), CDC, NCHS.
State Data Source	Not identified.
Healthy People 2000 Objective	Not applicable.
Changes since the 2000 Publication	None.
Measure	Percent (age-adjusted -- see Comments).
Baseline (Year)	13 (1998)
Target	20
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 aged 40 years and older who report having had an examination to detect oral and pharyngeal cancer in the past 12 months.
Denominator	Number of persons aged 40 years and older.
Population Targeted	U.S. civilian, noninstitutionalized population.
Questions Used To Obtain the National Baseline Data	From the 1998 National Health Interview Survey: ➤ <i>Have you ever had a test for oral cancer in which the doctor or dentist pulls on your tongue, sometimes with gauze wrapped around it, and feels under the tongue and inside the cheeks?</i> [If yes:] <ul style="list-style-type: none">○ <i>When did you have your most recent oral cancer exam? Was it...</i><ul style="list-style-type: none"><i>A year ago or less,</i><i>More than 1 year but not more than 2 years,</i><i>More than 2 years but not more than 3 years,</i><i>More than 3 years but not more than 5 years,</i>

or
Over 5 years ago

Expected Periodicity Periodic.

Comments A person is defined as having had an oral and pharyngeal cancer test in the past 12 months if he/she responded "yes" to the first question and "a year ago or less" to the second question listed above.

Data are age adjusted to the 2000 standard population using the age groups 40-49, 50-64, and 65 years and over. Age-adjusted rates are weighted sums of age-specific rates. For a discussion on age adjustment, see Part 1, section 7.

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 NHIS 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.