

## Healthy People 2010 Operational Definition

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### 16-1. Reduce fetal and infant deaths.

#### 16-1a. Fetal deaths at 20 or more weeks of gestation.

<b>National Data Source</b>	National Vital Statistics System – Fetal Deaths and Natality (NVSS-FD and NVSS-N), CDC, NCHS.
<b>State Data Source</b>	National Vital Statistics System – Fetal Deaths and Natality (NVSS-FD and NVSS-N), CDC, NCHS.
<b>Healthy People 2000 Objective</b>	14.2 (Maternal and Infant Health).
<b>Changes since the 2000 Publication</b>	None.
<b>Measure</b>	Rate per 1,000 live births plus fetal deaths.
<b>Baseline (Year)</b>	6.8 (1997)
<b>Target</b>	4.1
<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 fetal deaths (20 or more weeks of gestation).
<b>Denominator</b>	Number of live births plus fetal deaths (20 or more weeks gestation).
<b>Population Targeted</b>	U.S. resident live births plus fetal deaths (20 or more weeks gestation).
<b>Questions Used to Obtain the National Baseline Data</b>	Not applicable.
<b>Expected Periodicity</b>	Annual.
<b>Comments</b>	A description of the primary measurement used to determine the infant's gestational age—the interval between the first day of the last normal menstrual period (LMP) and the birth—has been published by NCHS. <sup>1</sup>

This objective uses the same measurement protocol as the comparable Healthy People 2000 objective 14.2. A description of the fetal death measurement has been published by NCHS.<sup>2</sup>

States are required to report fetal deaths if they occur in the 20th week of pregnancy or later, or if they weigh at least 350 grams.<sup>3</sup> The number of fetal deaths may be underreported in part because of variations in reporting requirements by States.

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*.<sup>4</sup>

See Part C for a description of NVSS-M and NVSS-N and Appendix A for focus area contact information.

## References

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1. Martin, J.A.; Hamilton, B.E.; Sutton, P.D.; et al. Births: Final data for 2003. *National Vital Statistics Reports* Vol. 54, No. 2. Hyattsville, MD: National Center for Health Statistics, 2005.
2. Heck, K.E., and Klein, R.J. Operational definitions for year 2000 objectives: Priority area 14, Maternal and Infant Health. *Healthy People 2000 Statistical Note*. No. 14. Hyattsville, MD: NCHS, 1998.
3. National Center for Health Statistics. *Technical Appendix. Vital Statistics of the United States, 1999*. Vol. II, Mortality, Part A. Available from: [www.cdc.gov/nchs/data/statab/techap99.pdf](http://www.cdc.gov/nchs/data/statab/techap99.pdf)
4. 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.