

Healthy People 2010 Operational Definition

16-6. Increase the proportion of pregnant women who receive early and adequate prenatal care.

16-6b. Early and adequate prenatal care.

National Data Source	National Vital Statistics System - Natality (NVSS-N), CDC, NCHS.
State Data Source	National Vital Statistics System - Natality (NVSS-N), CDC, NCHS.
Healthy People 2000 Objective	Not applicable.
Changes since the 2000 Publication	None.
Measure	Percent of live births.
Baseline (Year)	74 (1998)
Target	90
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 pregnant females receiving adequate prenatal care by the Adequacy of Prenatal Care Utilization Index (APNCU).
Denominator	Number of live births.
Population Targeted	U.S. resident population.
Questions Used to Obtain the National Baseline Data	Not applicable.
Expected Periodicity	Annual.
Comments	The APNCU is a measure of prenatal care utilization that combines the month of pregnancy prenatal care begun with the number of prenatal visits. Rates can be classified as “intensive use,” “adequate,” “intermediate,” or “less than adequate.” For this

objective, adequate prenatal care is defined as a score of either “adequate” or “intensive use.” A discussion of the APNCU has been published.¹

Due to comparability issues between the prenatal care data from the 1989 and 2003 revisions of the U.S. Standard Certificate of Live Birth, tracking of this objective ended in 2002, the last year before States began to implement the 2003 revisions.²

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

References

1. Kotelchuch, M. An evaluation of the Kessner adequacy of prenatal care index and a proposed adequacy of prenatal care utilization index. *American Journal of Public Health* 84(9): 1414-1420, 1994.
2. National Center for Health Statistics. 2003 Revision of the U.S. Standard Certificate of Live Birth. 2003. Available at www.cdc.gov/nchs/vital_certs_rev.htm.