

Healthy People 2010 Operational Definition

21-2. Reduce the proportion of children, adolescents, and adults with untreated dental decay.

21-2a. Reduce the proportion of young children with untreated dental decay in their primary teeth.

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| National Data Source | National Health and Nutrition Examination Survey (NHANES), CDC, NCHS. |
| State Data Source | Not identified. |
| Healthy People 2000 Objective | Adapted from 13.2 (Oral Health). |
| Changes since the 2000 Publication | None. |
| Measure | Percent. |
| Baseline (Year) | 16 (1988–94) |
| Target | 9 |
| Target-Setting Method | Better than the best racial/ethnic subgroup. For a discussion of target-setting methods, see Part A, section 4. |
| Numerator | Number children aged 2 to 4 years with a clinical diagnosis of dental decay in at least one tooth that has not been restored. |
| Denominator | Number of children aged 2 to 4 years. |
| Population Targeted | U.S. civilian, noninstitutionalized population. |
| Questions Used To Obtain the National Baseline Data | Not applicable. |
| Expected Periodicity | Periodic. |
| Comments | This objective uses the same measurement protocol as the comparable Healthy People 2000 objective 13.2. A description of the clinical protocol used to diagnose dental decay for Healthy People 2000 has been published by NCHS. ¹ |

The tracking of young children aged 2 to 4 years is new to Healthy People 2010.

Baseline data for the American Indian/Alaska Native population are from the 1999 Oral Health Survey of Native Americans. IHS collects data approximately every 10 years on the American Indian/Alaska Native population. Data are collected on clinic users to assess the oral health status and treatment needs of the IHS service area population. The data reflect a weighted sample.

Baseline data for the Asian population are from the 1993-94 California Oral Health Needs Assessment of Children. This data set was used because it had the largest representative sample of Asian children for which clinical oral health status indicators were assessed. Data were collected from a representative sample of California children in schools by trained examiners.

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*.²

See Part C for a description of NHANES and Appendix A for focus area contact information.

References

1. Vargas, C.; Schober, S.; and Gift, H. Operational definitions for year 2000 objectives: Priority area 13, Oral Health. *Healthy People 2000 Statistical Notes*, No. 12. Hyattsville, MD: National Center for Health Statistics (NCHS), 1997.
2. 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.