

Healthy People 2010 Operational Definition

23-13. Increase the proportion of Tribal and State public health agencies that provide or assure comprehensive laboratory services to support essential public health services.

23-13f. Laboratory improvement and regulation.

National Data Source	Comprehensive Laboratory Services Survey (CLSS), Association of Public Health Laboratories (APHL).
State Data Source	Comprehensive Laboratory Services Survey, Association of Public Health Laboratories (APHL).
Healthy People 2000 Objective	Not applicable.
Changes since the 2000 Publication	New subobjective (see Comments). Revised text (see Comments). Revised baseline (see Comments). Revised baseline year (see Comments). Revised target (see Comments).
Measure	Percent.
Baseline (Year)	46 (2006)
Target	50
Target-Setting Method	Expert opinion. For a discussion of target-setting methods, see Part A, section 4.
Numerator	Number of States and Territories participating in the survey that meet the defined standards/criteria for Laboratory Improvement and Regulation.
Denominator	Number of States and Territories participating in the survey.
Population Targeted	State and Territorial public health laboratories.
Questions Used to Obtain the National Baseline Data	From the 2006 Comprehensive Laboratory Services Survey:

- *Is your state legally responsible for the licensure, certification or accreditation of laboratories?*
 - a) Yes (1)
 - b) No (if no, skip to question 4) (0)
- *Does the responsibility for licensing, certifying and/or accrediting laboratories reside with the state public health laboratory?*
 - a) Yes (1)
 - b) No (If no, please state which agency within your state is responsible) (0)
- *Which types of laboratories does your state license, certify, and /or accredit? (Check all that apply; maximum score of 1)*
 - *Clinical -- Under federal (CMS) regulation*
 - a) License (0.16)
 - b) Certify (0.16)
 - c) Accredit (0.16)
 - *Clinical -- Under state regulations*
 - a) License (0.16)
 - b) Certify (0.16)
 - c) Accredit (0.16)
 - *Forensic -- e.g., Alcohol/drug testing*
 - a) License (0.16)
 - b) Certify (0.16)
 - c) Accredit (0.16)
 - *Milk/dairy*
 - a) License (0.16)
 - b) Certify (0.16)
 - c) Accredit (0.16)
 - *Environmental (NELAC)*
 - a) License (0.16)
 - b) Certify (0.16)
 - c) Accredit (0.16)
 - *Environmental (NonNELAC)*
 - a) License (0.16)
 - b) Certify (0.16)
 - c) Accredit (0.16)
 - *Other (Specify)*
 - a) License
 - b) Certify
 - c) Accredit
- *Which of the following provide certification or accreditation of your state public health laboratory? (Check all that apply)*
 - a) *College of American Pathologists (CAP) (0.08)*
 - b) *National Environmental Laboratory Accreditation Conference (NELAC) (0.08)*
 - c) *Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) (0.08)*
 - d) *Food & Drug Administration (FDA) (0.08)*
 - e) *American Society of Crime Laboratory*

- Directors (ASCLD) (0.08)*
 - f) Occupational Safety & Health Administration (OSHA) (0.08)*
 - g) Society of Forensic Toxicologists (SOFT) (0.08)*
 - h) American Industrial Hygiene Association (AIHA) (0.08)*
 - i) National Institute of Standards & Technology (NIST) (0.08)*
 - j) American Association for Laboratory Accreditation (A2LA) (0.08)*
 - k) United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) (0.08)*
 - l) International Standards Organization (ISO) (0.08)*
 - m) Other (Specify)*
 - n) None of the above*
- *Is your state public health laboratory registered by CDC under the Select Agent Rule?*
 - a) Yes (1)*
 - b) No (0)*
 - c) Application pending (1)*
 - *Does your state public health laboratory have a USDA/APHIS permit for the importation and transportation of controlled materials and organisms and vectors?*
 - a) Yes (1)*
 - b) No (0)*
 - c) Application pending (1)*
 - *Has your laboratory sponsored quality assurance forums, seminars, or workshops for laboratory staff in your state or region within the last 2 years?*
 - a) Yes (1)*
 - b) No (0)*
 - *Has your laboratory administered any proficiency testing, split samples or round robin exercises for laboratories in your state within the last 2 years?*
 - a) Yes (1)*
 - b) No (0)*

Comments

Questions to determine whether a State or Territory is providing or assuring comprehensive laboratory services in support of essential public health services were selected by the Leadership Committee of the Association of Public Health Laboratories (APHL). The committee consists of practicing and retired public health laboratory directors, members of academia, and other laboratory practitioners.

A State/Territory is considered to have met the core function of Laboratory Improvement and Regulation

if it scored 6 of the 8 total possible points for this subobjective.

Forty-six of the 56 States and Territories responded to the Internet-based survey system entitled “LabNet” in 2006.

Objective 24-13 moved from developmental to measurable during the Healthy People 2010 Midcourse Review. The original objective included comprehensive laboratory services provided by State, Tribal, and local health agencies. Local health agencies were dropped from the objective scope due to the lack of a data source. Eleven subobjectives were created, each addressing specific components of comprehensive laboratory services.

For this objective, the term “State” includes the District of Columbia and Puerto Rico.

The first CLSS survey was fielded in 2004. Between 2004 and 2006, significant changes were made to improve the survey instrument. These include modifications to clarify questions that may have been confusing; updates to reflect changes in current laboratory practice; and the addition of follow-up questions to enable more accurate measurement of given subobjectives.

Consequently, the original 2004 baseline of 94 percent was replaced with the 2006 measure of 46 percent. The original target of 99 percent was proportionally adjusted to 50 percent to reflect the revised baseline using the original target-setting methodology.

At this time, data for Tribal agencies are not collected. However, if data should become available by 2010, the information will be included.

See Appendix A for focus area contact information.