

## Healthy People 2010 Operational Definition

---

### **2-5. Reduce the impact of doctor-diagnosed arthritis on employment in the working-aged population.**

#### **2-5a. Reduction in the unemployment rate among adults with doctor-diagnosed arthritis.**

<b>National Data Source</b>	National Health Interview Survey (NHIS), CDC, NCHS.
<b>State Data Source</b>	Not identified.
<b>Healthy People 2000 Objective</b>	Not applicable.
<b>Changes since the 2000 Publication</b>	Revised text (see Comments). Revised baseline (see Comments) Revised target (see Comments).
<b>Measure</b>	Percent (age adjusted—see Comments).
<b>Baseline (Year)</b>	33 (2002)
<b>Target</b>	27
<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 persons aged 18 - 64 years with doctor-diagnosed arthritis who report being unemployed.
<b>Denominator</b>	Number of persons aged 18 - 64 years with doctor – diagnosed arthritis.
<b>Population Targeted</b>	U.S. civilian, noninstitutionalized population
<b>Questions Used To Obtain the National Baseline Data</b>	From the 2002 National Health Interview Survey:  [NUMERATOR:] ➤ <i>Which of the following {were/was} {person} doing last week?</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ <i>Working for pay at a job or business</i></li><li>○ <i>With a job or business but not at work</i></li><li>○ <i>Looking for work</i></li><li>○ <i>Working, but not for pay, at a job or business</i></li></ul>

- *Not working at a job or business*

[DENOMINATOR:]

- *Have you ever been told by a doctor or other health professional that you have some form of arthritis, rheumatoid arthritis, gout, lupus, or fibromyalgia?*

**Expected Periodicity** Periodic.

**Comments**

This subobjective was originally labeled objective 2-5. The text was revised as a result of changes in the survey questionnaire. The measure was changed from the proportion of persons with chronic conditions who report being employed to the proportion who report being unemployed. The objective was relabeled subobjective 2-5a and a second subobjective (2-5b) addressing the ability of persons with arthritis to work for pay was added.

The 1997 baseline for 2-5 of 67 percent of adults with arthritis who reported being employed was replaced with a 2002 baseline for 2-5a of 33 percent of adults with arthritis who reported being unemployed as a result of revised methodology and changes in the survey questionnaire. The target was proportionally adjusted from 78 percent employed to 27 percent unemployed to reflect the revised baseline using the original target-setting method.

Persons are considered employed if they answered “yes” to “working at a job or business” or “with a job or business but not at work.”

The new field of arthritis public health is evolving rapidly and case definitions may change as understanding improves. Cognitive testing and validation of self-reports and other arthritis-related questions over the next few years may result in the rephrasing of some of the national arthritis objectives.

Data are age adjusted to the 2000 standard population using age groups 18-44 and 45-64. Data by education status are age adjusted using the age groups 25-44 and 45-64. Age-adjusted percents are weighted sums of age-specific percents. For a discussion of age adjustment, see Part A, section 7.

For some objectives, 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>1</sup>

See Part C for a description of NHIS and Part 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.