

Healthy People 2010 Operational Definition

2.2. Reduce the proportion of adults with doctor-diagnosed arthritis who experience a limitation of activity due to arthritis or joint symptoms.

National Data Source	National Health Interview Survey (NHIS), CDC, NCHS.
State Data Source	Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System (BRFSS), CDC, NCCDPHP
Healthy People 2000 Objective	Not applicable.
Changes since the 2000 Publication	Revised text (see Comments). Revised baseline (see Comments). Revised baseline year (see Comments). Revised target (see Comments).
Measure	Percent (age adjusted - see Comments).
Baseline (Year)	36 (2002)
Target	33
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 persons aged 18 years and older with doctor-diagnosed arthritis who experience a limitation in activity due to arthritis or joint symptoms.
Denominator	Number of persons aged 18 years and older with doctor-diagnosed arthritis.
Population Targeted	U.S. civilian, noninstitutionalized population.
Questions Used To Obtain the National Baseline Data	From the 2002 National Health Interview Survey: [NUMERATOR:] ➤ <i>Are you now limited in any way in any of your usual activities because of arthritis or joint symptoms?</i>

[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

Annual.

Comments

The original text was revised as the result of changes in survey questionnaire. The 1997 baseline of 27 percent of adults with chronic joint symptoms experiencing limitations in activities due to arthritis was replaced with the 2002 baseline of 36 percent as a result of revised methodology and changes in the survey questionnaire. The target was proportionally adjusted from 21 percent to 33 percent to reflect the revised baseline using the original target-setting method.

A proposed State data source is the Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System (BRFSS). The personal interview-based NHIS and the telephone-based BRFSS optional arthritis module ask identical questions.

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, 45-64, 65-74, and 75 years and over. Data by education status are age adjusted using the age groups 25-44, 45-64, 65-74, 75 and over. Age-adjusted percents are weighted sums of age-specific percents. For a discussion on 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*.¹

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.