

Healthy People 2010 Operational Definition

21-8. Increase the proportion of children who have received dental sealants on their molar teeth.

21-8b. Adolescents aged 14 years.

National Data Source	National Health and Nutrition Examination Survey (NHANES), CDC, NCHS.
State Data Source	Not identified.
Healthy People 2000 Objective	Adapted from 13.8 (Oral Health).
Changes since the 2000 Publication	None.
Measure	Percent.
Baseline (Year)	15 (1988–94)
Target	50
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 14 years with a clinical confirmation of dental sealants applied to one or more first and one or more second permanent molars.
Denominator	Number of persons aged 14 years with at least one permanent first molar and one permanent second molar.
Population Targeted	U.S. civilian, noninstitutionalized population.
Questions Used To Obtain the National Baseline Data	Not applicable.
Expected Periodicity	Periodic.
Comments	A description of the clinical protocol used to confirm evidence of protective dental sealants has been published by NCHS. ¹

Objective 21-8 tracks the same measures as Healthy People 2000 objective 13.8, which monitored the use of dental sealants in children aged 8 and 14 years of age.

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.