

## Healthy People 2010 Operational Definition

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**28-17. Reduce the proportion of adolescents who have elevated hearing thresholds, or audiometric notches, in high frequencies (3, 4, or 6 kHz) in both ears, signifying noise-induced hearing loss.**

<b>National Data Source</b>	National Health and Nutrition Examination Survey (NHANES), CDC, NCHS.
<b>State Data Source</b>	Not identified.
<b>Healthy People 2000 Objective</b>	Not applicable.
<b>Changes since the 2000 Publication</b>	None.
<b>Measure</b>	Rate per 1,000 population.
<b>Baseline (Year)</b>	46.4 (1988-94)
<b>Target</b>	34.7
<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 12 to 19 years who have an audiometric notch in both ears.
<b>Denominator</b>	Number of persons aged 12 to 19 years.
<b>Population Targeted</b>	U.S. civilian, noninstitutionalized population.
<b>Questions Used To Obtain the National Baseline Data</b>	Not applicable.
<b>Expected Periodicity</b>	Periodic.
<b>Comments</b>	An audiometric threshold notch is present when one or more of the thresholds at 3, 4, or 6 kHz exceeds the pure-tone average of the 0.5 and 1 kHz thresholds by 15 dB or more, and the 8 kHz threshold is at least 5 dB lower (better) than the highest threshold in the 3 to 6 kHz range. Bilateral (present in both ears) notches are used to signify probable noise-induced hearing loss (NIHL).

Children and adolescents with extremely high thresholds, 70 dB or greater, are excluded from the numerator, because the majority of such cases are not attributable to loud noise exposure.

This objective moved from developmental to measurable at the Healthy People 2010 Midcourse Review.

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 NHANES and Appendix A for focus area contact information.

## References

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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.