

## Healthy People 2010 Operational Definition

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**23-14. Increase the proportion of Tribal, State, and local public health agencies that provide or assure comprehensive epidemiology services to support the essential public health services.**

**23-14d. Local public health agencies.**

<b>National Data Source</b>	National Profile of Local Health Departments, National Association of County and City Health Departments (NACCHO).
<b>State Data Source</b>	Not applicable.
<b>Healthy People 2000 Objective</b>	Not applicable.
<b>Changes since the 2000 Publication</b>	New subobjective (see Comments).
<b>Measure</b>	Percent.
<b>Baseline (Year)</b>	52 (2005)
<b>Target</b>	57
<b>Target-Setting Method</b>	Post-MCR target-setting method for non population-based objectives of 5 percentage points improvement.  For a discussion of target-setting methods, see Part A, section 4.
<b>Numerator</b>	Number of local health departments who indicated they provided epidemiology and surveillance services in the categories below.
<b>Denominator</b>	Number of counties.
<b>Population Targeted</b>	County Health Departments.
<b>Questions Used to Obtain the National Baseline Data</b>	From the 2005 National Profile of Local Health Departments:

*The Profile asked the respondents to indicate which organization provided epidemiology and surveillance services in six categories. The categories were*

1. *Environmental health*
2. *Communicable/infectious disease*
3. *Chronic disease*
4. *Syndromic*
5. *Behavioral risk factors*
6. *Injury*

*The possible responses were:*

- a. *LHD only*
- b. *Both LHD and State*
- c. *Other local government agency only*
- d. *State agency only*
- e. *Non-government organization only*
- f. *not available*
- g. *unknown*

**Expected Periodicity**      Every three years.

**Comments**                      Those organizations who indicated responses a, c, d, or e in the questions above were considered to be providing services in that topic area. The results for 2005 are below:

1. Environmental health - 66%
2. Communicable/infectious disease – 56%
3. Chronic disease – 63%
4. Syndromic – 52%
5. Behavioral risk factors – 62%
6. Injury – 67%

The lowest percentage (52%) was selected as the baseline.

Objective 23-14 moved from developmental to measurable during the Healthy People 2010 Midcourse Review. Four subobjectives were created addressing (a) state epidemiologists with formal training in epidemiology, (b) tribal public health agencies, (c) state public health agencies, and (d) local public health agencies. At the time of the Midcourse Review, only one subobjective (a) was measurable. Subobjective (d) moved to from developmental to measurable status at the June 2009 meeting of the Healthy People Steering Committee.

See Appendix A for focus area contact information.