

21 Critical Health Objectives for Adolescents and Young Adults

The 21 Critical Health Objectives represent the most serious health and safety issues facing adolescents and young adults (aged 10 to 24 years): mortality, unintentional injury, violence, substance abuse and mental health, reproductive health, and the prevention of chronic diseases during adulthood. The table has been updated to include current data showing the progress of each objective.

Obj. #	Objective	Baseline (year)	2010 Target
<u>16-03.</u> (a,b,c)	<u>Reduce deaths of adolescents and young adults.</u> 10- to 14- year-olds 15- to 19- year-olds 20- to 24- year-olds	21.5 per 100,000 (1998) 69.5 per 100,000 (1998) 92.7 per 100,000 (1998)	(per 100,000) 16.5* 38.0* 41.5*
Unintentional Injury			
15-15. (a)	<u>Reduce deaths caused by motor vehicle crashes.</u> 15- to 24- year-olds	25.6 per 100,000 (1999)	[1]
26-01. (a)	<u>Reduce deaths and injuries caused by alcohol- related motor vehicle crashes.</u> 15- to 24- year-olds	10.1 per 100,000 (1998) [†]	[1]
15-19.	Increase use of safety belts (always, almost always or sometimes used safety belt). 9 th –12 th grade students	84.0% (1999)	92.0%
26-06.	Reduce the proportion of adolescents who report that they rode, during the previous 30 days, with a driver who had been drinking alcohol. 9 th –12 th grade students	33.0% (1999)	30.0%
Violence			
15-32.	<u>Reduce homicides.</u> 10- to 14- year-olds 15- to 19- year-olds	1.2 per 100,000 (1999) 10.4 per 100,000 (1999)	[1] [1]
15-38.	Reduce physical fighting among adolescents. (past year) 9 th –12 th grade students	36.0% (1999)	32.0%
15-39.	Reduce weapon carrying by adolescents on school property. (past month) 9 th –12 th grade students	6.9% (1999)	4.9%
Substance Abuse and Mental Health			
26-11. (d)	Reduce the proportion of persons engaging in binge drinking of alcoholic beverages. (past month) 12- to 17- year-olds	10.7% (2002) [†]	3.1%*
26-10. (b)	Reduce past-month use of illicit substances (marijuana). 12- to 17- year-olds	8.2% (2002) [†]	0.7%
18-01.	<u>Reduce the suicide rate.</u> 10- to 14- year-olds 15- to 19- year-olds	1.2 per 100,000 (1999) 8.0 per 100,000 (1999)	[1] [1]

Obj. #	Objective	Baseline (year)	2010 Target
18-02.	Reduce the rate of suicide attempts by adolescents that required medical attention. (past year) 9 th –12 th grade students	2.6% (1999)	1.0%
06-02.	Reduce the proportion of children and adolescents with disabilities who are reported to be sad, unhappy, or depressed. (past year) 4- to 17- year-olds	31.0% (1997)	17.0%
18-07.	Increase the proportion of children with mental health problems who receive treatment. (past year) 4- to 17- year-olds	60.0% (2001) [†]	66.0%
Reproductive Health			
09-07.	Reduce pregnancies among adolescent females. 15- to 17- year-olds	67.0 per 1,000 females (1996) [†]	43.0 per 1,000
13-05.	(Developmental) Reduce the number of new cases of HIV/AIDS diagnosed among adolescents and adults. 13- to 24- year-olds	16,479 (1998)	[3]
25-01. (a,b,c)	Reduce the proportion of adolescents and young adults with <i>Chlamydia trachomatis</i> infections. 15- to 24- year-olds Females attending family planning clinics Females attending sexually transmitted disease clinics Males attending sexually transmitted disease clinics	5.0% (1997) 12.2% (1997) 15.7% (1997)	3.0% 3.0% 3.0%
25-11. (a,b,c)	Increase the proportion of adolescents (9 th –12 th grade students) who: Have never had sexual intercourse (lifetime) If sexually experienced, are not currently sexually active (past three months) If currently sexually active, used a condom the last time they had sexual intercourse (past three months)	50.0% (1999) 27.0% (1999) 58.0% (1999)	56.0% 30.0% 65.0%
Chronic Disease Prevention			
27-02. (a)	Reduce tobacco use by adolescents. (past month) 9 th –12 th grade students	40.0% (1999)	21.0%
19-03. (b)	Reduce the proportion of children and adolescents who are overweight or obese. (past year) 12- to 19- year-olds	11.0% (1988-94)	5.0%
22-07.	Increase the proportion of adolescents who engage in vigorous physical activity that promotes cardiorespiratory fitness 3 or more days per week for 20 or more minutes per occasion. (past week) 9 th –12 th grade students	65.0% (1999)	85.0%

Note: Critical health outcomes are underlined, and behaviors that substantially contribute to important health outcomes are in normal font.

* Target has been revised as of 2009.

† Baseline has been revised.

[1] 2010 target not provided for adolescent/young adult age group.

[2] Data not collected for specific population.

[3] Proposed baseline is shown but has not yet been approved by the *Healthy People 2010* Steering Committee.

[4] Developmental objective – baseline and 2010 target coming soon.

Source: U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. *Healthy People 2010*. Volumes 1 and 2. Washington, DC: U.S. Government Printing Office, November 2000. This information can also be accessed at <http://wonder.cdc.gov/data2010/>.