

Healthy People 2020: The Road Ahead



Making a Difference

Healthy People provides science-based, 10-year national objectives for promoting health and preventing disease. Since 1979, Healthy People has set and monitored national health objectives to meet a broad range of health needs, encourage collaborations across sectors, guide individuals toward making informed health decisions, and measure the impact of our prevention activity. Currently, Healthy People 2010 is leading the way to achieve increased quality and years of healthy life and the elimination of health disparities.

Now Is the Time

Every 10 years, the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) leverages scientific insights and lessons learned from the past decade, along with new knowledge of current data, trends, and innovations. Healthy People 2020 will reflect assessments of major risks to health and wellness, changing public health priorities, and emerging issues related to our nation's health preparedness and prevention.

The Process

The Healthy People process is inclusive; its strength is directly tied to collaboration. The development process strives to maximize transparency, public input and stakeholder dialogue to ensure that Healthy People 2020 is relevant to diverse public health needs and seizes opportunities to achieve its goals. Since its inception, Healthy People has become a broad-based, public engagement initiative with thousands of citizens helping to shape it at every step along the way. Drawing on the expertise of a Secretary's Advisory Committee on National Health Promotion and Disease Prevention Objectives for 2020, public input and a Federal Interagency Workgroup, Healthy People will provide a framework to address risk factors and determinants of health and the diseases and disorders that affect our communities.

Stay Involved and Informed

Public participation is shaping Healthy People 2020, its purpose, goals, organization, and action plans. As a national initiative, Healthy People's success depends on a coordinated commitment to improve the health of the nation. Subscribe to the Healthy People listserv for the latest information on Healthy People 2020 and to receive e-mail notices of related news, events, publications, and more! To become an active supporter of Healthy People, join the Healthy People Consortium.

Timing

Healthy People 2020 will be released in two phases. The framework (the vision, mission, goals, focus areas, and criteria for selecting and prioritizing objectives) was released in 2009. The vision, mission, and overarching goals provide structure and guidance for achieving the Healthy People 2020 objectives. While general in nature, they offer specific, important areas of emphasis

where action must be taken if the United States is to achieve better health by the year 2020. Developed under the leadership of a Federal Interagency Workgroup, the Healthy People 2020 framework is the product of an exhaustive collaborative process among HHS and other Federal agencies, public stakeholders, and the Secretary's Advisory Committee on Health Promotion and Disease Prevention Objectives for 2020.

Vision: A society in which all people live long, healthy lives.

Mission: Healthy People 2020 strives to:

- Identify nationwide health improvement priorities;
- Increase public awareness and understanding of the determinants of health, disease, and disability and the opportunities for progress;
- Provide measurable objectives and goals that are applicable at the national, state, and local levels;
- Engage multiple sectors to take actions to strengthen policies and improve practices that are driven by the best available evidence and knowledge;
- Identify critical research, evaluation and data collection needs.

Overarching Goals:

- Attain high quality, longer lives free of preventable disease, disability, injury, and premature death.
- Achieve health equity, eliminate disparities, and improve the health of all groups.
- Create social and physical environments that promote good health for all.
- Promote quality of life, healthy development and healthy behaviors across all life stages.

In 2010, the Healthy People 2020 objectives will be released along with guidance for achieving the new 10-year targets.

FYI: Healthy People 2020 Launch Today!

Thursday, December 2, 2010; 11:00 AM - 1:00 PM EST
Jack Morton Auditorium, The George Washington University
Washington, DC 20052

<http://healthypeople.gov/HP2020/>