Healthy People 2020 Leading Health Indicators:
Maternal, Infant, and Child Health

Overview

The well-being of mothers, infants, and children is an important factor in the health of the next generation and can help predict future public health challenges for families, communities, and the medical care system. Addressing the needs of women before, during, and after pregnancy helps to improve not only their health but also their children's health.

Progress in Numbers*

✓ Target met[1]	➕ Improving[2]	⭕ Little or no detectable change[3]	➖ Getting worse[4]

Status	Leading Health Topic and Indicator: Maternal, Infant, and Child Health	Baseline (Year)	Most Recent (Year)	Target	Progress Toward Target[5]	Movement Away From Baseline[6]
➕	MICH-1.3 All infant deaths (per 1,000 live births, <1 year)	6.7 (2006)	6.1 (2010)	6.0	85.7%	—
➕	MICH-9.1 Total preterm live births (percent, <37 weeks gestation)	12.7% (2007)	11.5% (2012)	11.4%	92.3%	—

Progress in Words

MICH-1.3: All infant deaths

- From 2006 to 2010, the infant mortality rate decreased about 9 percent, from 6.7 deaths under 1 year per 1,000 live births to 6.1, approaching the Healthy People 2020 target of 6.0 deaths per 1,000 live births.
- This objective has achieved more than four-fifths of the targeted change.

MICH-9.1: Total preterm live births

- From 2007 to 2012, the total percentage of live births that were delivered preterm (less than 37 weeks gestation) decreased by about 9 percent, from 12.7 percent of live births to 11.5 percent, approaching the Healthy People 2020 target of 11.4 percent.
- This objective has achieved more than 90 percent of the targeted change.

---

* Discrepancies between healthypeople.gov and data in this report may exist due to the timing of data uploads. Data for the measures shown in this report are current as of May 2014.

Progress in Pictures

Preterm (premature) birth, which is a live birth before 37 weeks gestation, is one of the most pressing challenges to maternal, infant, and child health in the United States. Preterm babies can face lifelong disabilities and are at higher risk of death during their first few days of life. Improving birth outcomes can enable children to reach their full potential.

Rate of Preterm Births by Race/Ethnicity (of Mother), 2012

The rate of preterm live births delivered to black or African American non-Hispanic mothers was more than one and a half times that for Asian or Pacific Islander mothers.

16.5% Black or African American, non-Hispanic mothers

13.3% American Indian or Alaska Native mothers

11.6% Hispanic mothers

10.3% White, non-Hispanic mothers

10.2% Asian or Pacific Islander mothers

Data source: National Vital Statistics System-Natality (NVSS-N), CDC/NCHS; Population Estimates, Census.

HEALTHY PEOPLE 2020 TARGETS

Preterm Births

In 2012, 11.5% of live births were preterm.

11.5% 2012   **11.4%** 2020 TARGET

0.9% decrease needed

Data source: National Vital Statistics System-Natality (NVSS-N), CDC/NCHS; Population Estimates, Census.

All Infant Deaths (<1 year)

In 2010, 6.1 infant deaths per 1,000 live births occurred within the first year.

6.1 2010   **6.0** 2020 TARGET

1.6% decrease needed

Data source: Linked Birth/Infant Death Data Set, CDC/NCHS.

NOTES (from page 1)

[1] Target met or exceeded

[2] Movement is *toward* the target and is:
  – Statistically significant when measures of variability are available** – OR –
  – 10% or more of the targeted change when measures of variability are unavailable**

[3] Objective demonstrates little or no detectable change, because either:
  – Movement toward/away from the target is not statistically significant when measures of variability are available** – OR –
  – Movement is toward the target but the objective has achieved less than 10% of the targeted change when measures of variability are unavailable** – OR –
  – Movement is away from the target but the objective has moved less than 10% relative to its baseline when measures of variability are unavailable** – OR –
  – No change between baseline and most recent data point

[4] Movement is *away from* the target and is:
  – Statistically significant when measures of variability are available** – OR –
  – 10% or more relative to the baseline when measures of variability are unavailable**

[5] For objectives moving toward their targets, progress is measured as the percent of targeted change achieved, quantified as follows:

$$\text{Percent of targeted change achieved} = \frac{\text{Most recent value} - \text{Baseline value}}{\text{HP2020 target} - \text{Baseline value}} \times 100.$$

[6] For objectives moving away from their baselines (and, therefore, their targets), progress is measured as the magnitude of the percent change from baseline, quantified as follows:

$$\text{Magnitude of percent change from baseline} = \frac{|\text{Most recent value} - \text{Baseline value}|}{\text{Baseline value}} \times 100.$$

** When measures of variability are available, statistical significance of the percent of targeted change achieved or the magnitude of the percent change from baseline is assessed at the 0.05 level using a one-sided test. When measures of variability are unavailable, the percent of targeted change achieved and the percent change from baseline are assessed only for their magnitude (e.g., <10% or ≥10%).

DATA SOURCES

MICH-1.3   Linked Birth/Infant Death Data Set, CDC/NCHS
MICH-9.1   National Vital Statistics System-Natality (NVSS-N), CDC/NCHS

U.S. Department of Health and Human Services
Office of Disease Prevention and Health Promotion

May 2014