

# CHAPTER III

On April 20, 2017, data in this chapter, which draws from all 42 Topic Area chapters, were revised to incorporate corrected data across several chapters in the Midcourse Review. Due to the extent of the revisions, corrections to the figures, tables, and text are not highlighted. Previous versions of this chapter should be disregarded.

## Overview of Midcourse Progress and Health Disparities

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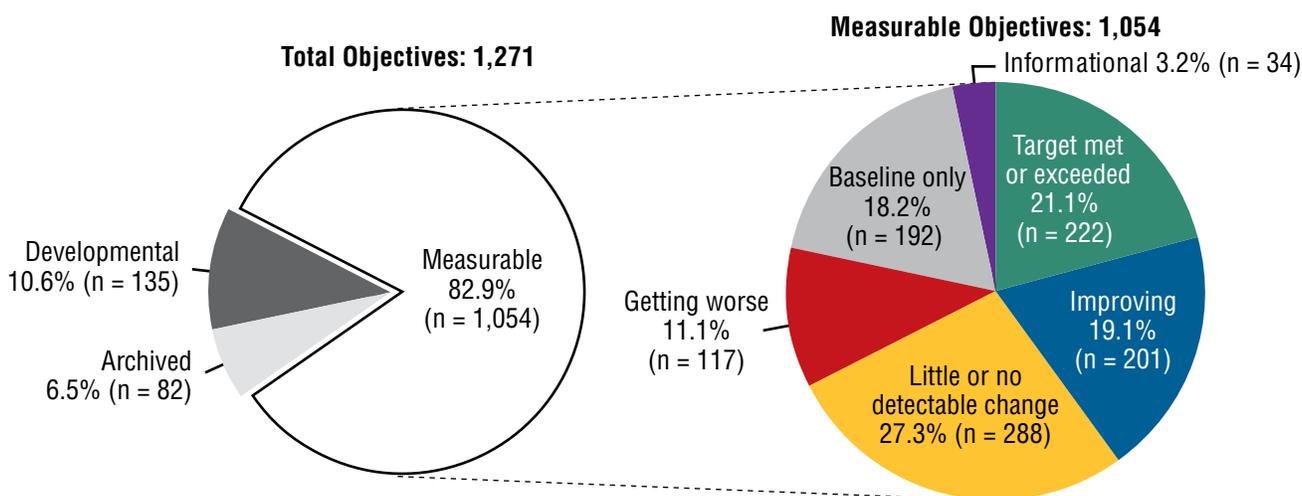
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## Introduction

This chapter provides an overview of progress for all 1,054 measurable objectives included in the *Healthy People 2020 Midcourse Review*, as well as an overview of health disparities by selected population subgroups for 624 of the population-based objectives that are included.<sup>1</sup> This broad overview of progress and disparities across the Healthy People 2020 topic areas examines the Healthy People 2020 initiative as a whole, supplementing the detailed assessments of individual objectives that are included in the 42 topic area chapters.

## Status of Objectives

**Figure III-1. Midcourse Status of Healthy People 2020 Objectives**



A total of 1,271 objectives are included in the *Healthy People 2020 Midcourse Review*, spanning 42 topic areas. Of these objectives, 6.5% (n = 82) were archived,<sup>2</sup> 10.6% (n = 135) were developmental,<sup>3</sup> and 82.9% (n = 1,054) were measurable<sup>4</sup> (Figure III-1).

For measurable objectives, baseline data years ranged from 1991–2004 to 2015 because of variations in data sources and data availability. Similarly, subsequent data years available for calculations of midcourse progress ranged from 2005–2010 to 2015.

The midcourse status of the 1,054 measurable objectives is listed below. Almost all of the measurable objectives (96.8%, n = 1,020) had a target to achieve by the end of the decade.

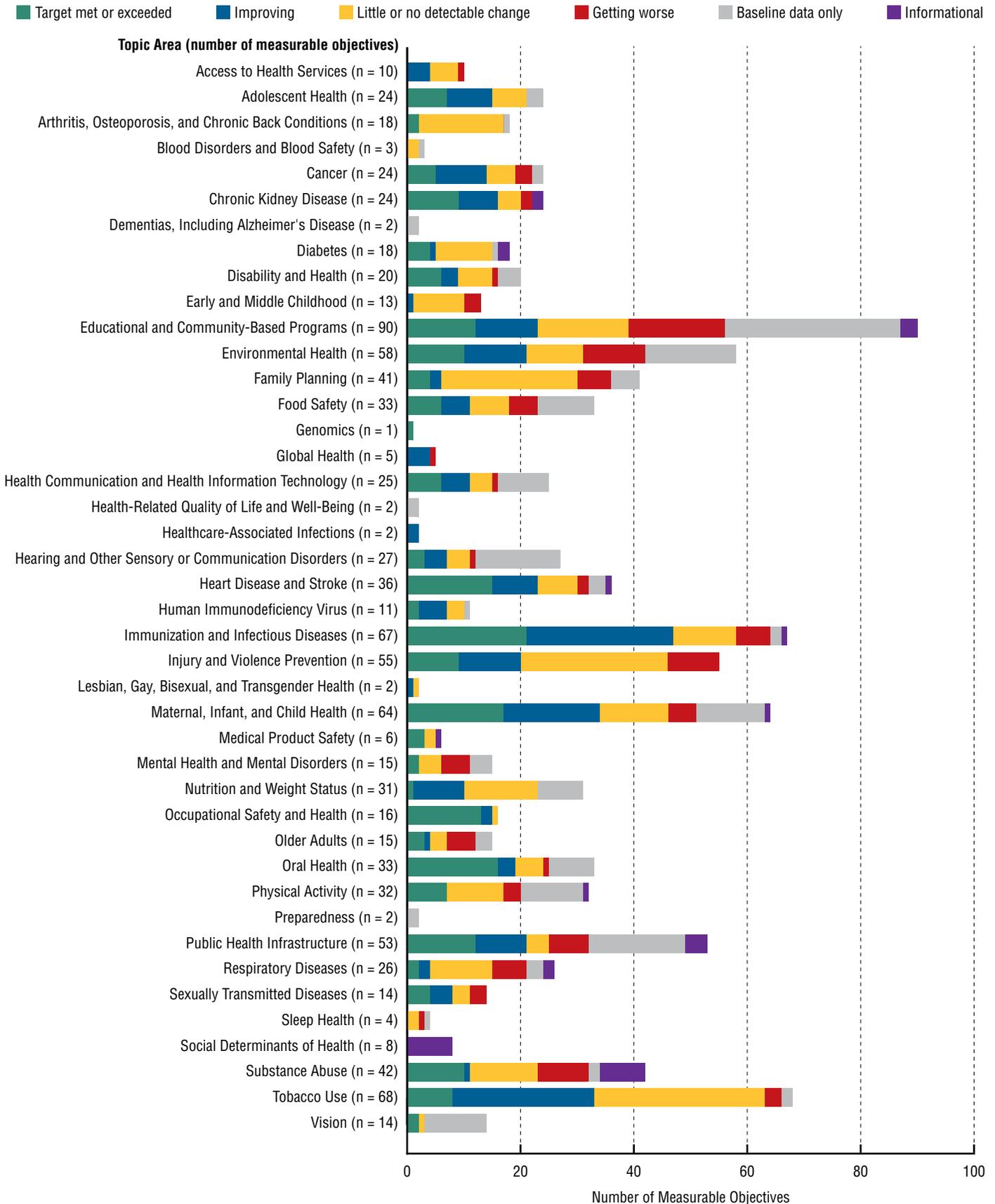
- 21.1% (n = 222) of measurable objectives had met or exceeded their 2020 targets.<sup>5</sup>
- 19.1% (n = 201) of measurable objectives were improving.<sup>6</sup>
- 27.3% (n = 288) of measurable objectives had demonstrated little or no detectable change.<sup>7</sup>

- 11.1% (n = 117) of measurable objectives were getting worse.<sup>8</sup>
- 18.2% (n = 192) of measurable objectives had baseline data only.<sup>9</sup>
- 3.2% (n = 34) of measurable objectives were informational.<sup>10</sup>

## Midcourse Progress for Measurable Objectives, by Topic Area

The number of measurable objectives varied across topic areas from 1 (Genomics) to 90 (Educational and Community-Based Programs). An overview of progress for measurable objectives by topic area is presented in Figure III-2 and Table III-1. The topic area chapters include detailed assessments of progress for individual objectives in each topic area.

**Figure III-2. Midcourse Progress of Measurable Objectives, by Topic Area**



**Table III-1. Summary of Midcourse Progress for Measurable Objectives, by Topic Area**

Topic Area	Informational		Baseline Only		Getting Worse		Little or no Detectable Change		Improving		Target Met or Exceeded		Total Measurable	
	n	Percent	n	Percent	n	Percent	n	Percent	n	Percent	n	Percent	n	Percent
Access to Health Services	0	0.0	0	0.0	1	10.0	5	50.0	4	40.0	0	0.0	10	100.0
Adolescent Health	0	0.0	3	12.5	0	0.0	6	25.0	8	33.3	7	29.2	24	100.0
Arthritis, Osteoporosis, and Chronic Back Conditions	0	0.0	1	5.6	0	0.0	15	83.3	0	0.0	2	11.1	18	100.0
Blood Disorders and Blood Safety	0	0.0	1	33.3	0	0.0	2	66.7	0	0.0	0	0.0	3	100.0
Cancer	0	0.0	2	8.3	3	12.5	5	20.8	9	37.5	5	20.8	24	100.0
Chronic Kidney Disease	2	8.3	0	0.0	2	8.3	4	16.7	7	29.2	9	37.5	24	100.0
Dementias, Including Alzheimer's Disease	0	0.0	2	100.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	2	100.0
Diabetes	2	11.1	1	5.6	0	0.0	10	55.6	1	5.6	4	22.2	18	100.0
Disability and Health	0	0.0	4	20.0	1	5.0	6	30.0	3	15.0	6	30.0	20	100.0
Early and Middle Childhood	0	0.0	0	0.0	3	23.1	9	69.2	1	7.7	0	0.0	13	100.0
Educational and Community-Based Programs	3	3.3	31	34.4	17	18.9	16	17.8	11	12.2	12	13.3	90	100.0
Environmental Health	0	0.0	16	27.6	11	19.0	10	17.2	11	19.0	10	17.2	58	100.0
Family Planning	0	0.0	5	12.2	6	14.6	24	58.5	2	4.9	4	9.8	41	100.0
Food Safety	0	0.0	10	30.3	5	15.2	7	21.2	5	15.2	6	18.2	33	100.0
Genomics	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	1	100.0	1	100.0
Global Health	0	0.0	0	0.0	1	20.0	0	0.0	4	80.0	0	0.0	5	100.0
Health Communication and Health Information Technology	0	0.0	9	36.0	1	4.0	4	16.0	5	20.0	6	24.0	25	100.0
Health-Related Quality of Life and Well-Being	0	0.0	2	100.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	2	100.0
Healthcare-Associated Infections	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	2	100.0	0	0.0	2	100.0
Hearing and Other Sensory or Communication Disorders	0	0.0	15	55.6	1	3.7	4	14.8	4	14.8	3	11.1	27	100.0
Heart Disease and Stroke	1	2.8	3	8.3	2	5.6	7	19.4	8	22.2	15	41.7	36	100.0
Human Immunodeficiency Virus	0	0.0	1	9.1	0	0.0	3	27.3	5	45.5	2	18.2	11	100.0
Immunization and Infectious Diseases	1	1.5	2	3.0	6	9.0	11	16.4	26	38.8	21	31.3	67	100.0
Injury and Violence Prevention	0	0.0	0	0.0	9	16.4	26	47.3	11	20.0	9	16.4	55	100.0
Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender Health	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	1	50.0	1	50.0	0	0.0	2	100.0
Maternal, Infant, and Child Health	1	1.6	12	18.8	5	7.8	12	18.8	17	26.6	17	26.6	64	100.0
Medical Product Safety	1	16.7	0	0.0	0	0.0	2	33.3	0	0.0	3	50.0	6	100.0
Mental Health and Mental Disorders	0	0.0	4	26.7	5	33.3	4	26.7	0	0.0	2	13.3	15	100.0
Nutrition and Weight Status	0	0.0	8	25.8	0	0.0	13	41.9	9	29.0	1	3.2	31	100.0
Occupational Safety and Health	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	1	6.3	2	12.5	13	81.3	16	100.0
Older Adults	0	0.0	3	20.0	5	33.3	3	20.0	1	6.7	3	20.0	15	100.0
Oral Health	0	0.0	8	24.2	1	3.0	5	15.2	3	9.1	16	48.5	33	100.0
Physical Activity	1	3.1	11	34.4	3	9.4	10	31.3	0	0.0	7	21.9	32	100.0
Preparedness	0	0.0	2	100.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	2	100.0
Public Health Infrastructure	4	7.5	17	32.1	7	13.2	4	7.5	9	17.0	12	22.6	53	100.0
Respiratory Diseases	2	7.7	3	11.5	6	23.1	11	42.3	2	7.7	2	7.7	26	100.0
Sexually Transmitted Diseases	0	0.0	0	0.0	3	21.4	3	21.4	4	28.6	4	28.6	14	100.0
Sleep Health	0	0.0	1	25.0	1	25.0	2	50.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	4	100.0
Social Determinants of Health	8	100.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	8	100.0
Substance Abuse	8	19.0	2	4.8	9	21.4	12	28.6	1	2.4	10	23.8	42	100.0
Tobacco Use	0	0.0	2	2.9	3	4.4	30	44.1	25	36.8	8	11.8	68	100.0
Vision	0	0.0	11	78.6	0	0.0	1	7.1	0	0.0	2	14.3	14	100.0
<b>Overall</b>	<b>34</b>	<b>3.2</b>	<b>192</b>	<b>18.2</b>	<b>117</b>	<b>11.1</b>	<b>288</b>	<b>27.3</b>	<b>201</b>	<b>19.1</b>	<b>222</b>	<b>21.1</b>	<b>1054</b>	<b>100.0</b>

Figure III-2 displays one stacked bar for each of the 42 topic areas. Each stacked bar provides a visual display of the number of objectives for that topic area that had met or exceeded their 2020 targets, were improving, had demonstrated little or no detectable change, were getting worse, had baseline data only, or were informational. Table III-1 is the data table for Figure III-2. In addition to the numbers, Table III-1 includes the percentages of measurable objectives in each topic area that were informational, had baseline data only, were getting worse, had demonstrated little or no detectable change, were improving, or had met or exceeded their 2020 targets. The data in Table III-1 and Figure III-2 for a given topic area match the data shown in the Status of Objectives section in the corresponding topic area chapter.

Among the 31 topic areas with 10 or more measurable objectives included in the *Midcourse Review* (Table III-1):

- Twenty-one topic areas had none that were informational. On the other hand, nearly one-fifth (19.0%; n = 8 of 42) of measurable objectives in the Substance Abuse Topic Area were informational; targets were not set for these objectives.
- Six topic areas had none that were baseline only—all measurable objectives in these six topic areas had at least two data points: Access to Health Services; Chronic Kidney Disease; Early and Middle Childhood; Injury and Violence Prevention; Occupational Safety and Health; and Sexually Transmitted Diseases. On the other hand, all but three (78.6%; n = 11 of 14) measurable objectives in the Vision Topic Area were baseline only.
- Seven topic areas had none that were getting worse: Adolescent Health; Arthritis, Osteoporosis, and Chronic Back Conditions; Diabetes; Human Immunodeficiency Virus; Nutrition and Weight Status; Occupational Safety and Health; and Vision. On the other hand, one-third of measurable objectives in the Mental Health and Mental Disorders (33.3%; n = 5 of 15) and the Older Adults (33.3%; n = 5 of 15) Topic Areas were getting worse.
- Two topic areas each had just one objective that had demonstrated little or no detectable change: Occupational Safety and Health (6.3%; n = 1 of 16) and Vision (7.1%; n = 1 of 14). On the other hand, all but three (83.3%; n = 15 of 18) measurable objectives in the Arthritis, Osteoporosis, and Chronic Back Conditions Topic Area had demonstrated little or no detectable change.

- Four topic areas had none that were improving: Arthritis, Osteoporosis, and Chronic Back Conditions; Mental Health and Mental Disorders; Physical Activity; and Vision. On the other hand, almost one-half (45.5%; n = 5 of 11) of the measurable objectives in the Human Immunodeficiency Virus Topic Area were improving.
- Two topic areas had none that had met or exceeded their 2020 targets: Access to Health Services and Early and Middle Childhood. On the other hand, four-fifths (81.3%; n = 13 of 16) of measurable objectives in the Occupational Safety and Health Topic Area had met or exceeded their targets.

Eleven topic areas have nine measurable objectives or fewer included in the *Midcourse Review*. The Social Determinants of Health Topic Area had only informational objectives. Three topic areas had just baseline-only objectives: Dementias, Including Alzheimer's Disease; Health-Related Quality of Life and Well-Being; and Preparedness. Both measurable objectives in the Healthcare-Associated Infections Topic Area were improving. The one measurable objective in the Genomics Topic Area had met or exceeded its 2020 target.

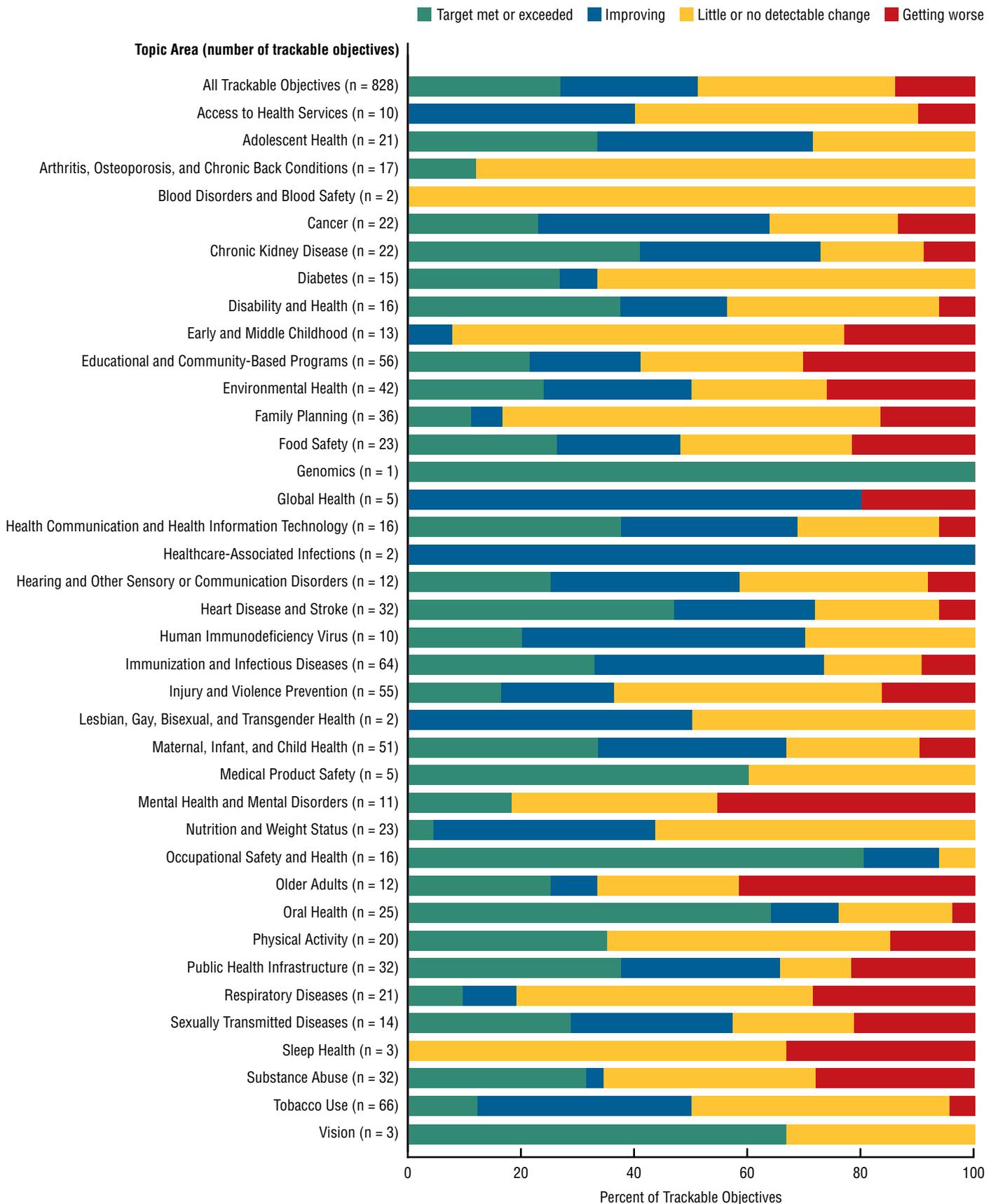
## Midcourse Progress for Trackable Objectives, by Topic Area

More than three-quarters of measurable objectives (78.6%; n = 828) were *trackable* in that they had a target as well as at least two data points (Figure III-3 and Table III-2). In Figure III-3, each stacked bar provides a visual display of the percentage of trackable objectives for that topic area that had met or exceeded their 2020 targets, were improving, had demonstrated little or no detectable change, or were getting worse.

Table III-2 is the data table for Figure III-3. In addition to the percentages, Table III-2 includes the numbers of trackable objectives in each topic area that were getting worse, had demonstrated little or no detectable change, were improving, or had met or exceeded their 2020 targets.

For all trackable objectives combined, more than one-half (51.1%; n = 423 of 828) either were improving or had met or exceeded their 2020 targets, more than one-third (34.8%; n = 288 of 828) had demonstrated little or no detectable change, and 14.1% (n = 117 of 828) were getting worse (Figure III-3 and Table III-2).

**Figure III-3. Midcourse Progress of Trackable Objectives, by Topic Area**



**Table III-2. Summary of Midcourse Progress for Trackable Objectives, by Topic Area**

Topic Area	Getting Worse		Little or no Detectable Change		Improving		Target Met or Exceeded		Total Trackable	
	n	Percent	n	Percent	n	Percent	n	Percent	n	Percent
Access to Health Services	1	10.0	5	50.0	4	40.0	0	0.0	10	100.0
Adolescent Health	0	0.0	6	28.6	8	38.1	7	33.3	21	100.0
Arthritis, Osteoporosis, and Chronic Back Conditions	0	0.0	15	88.2	0	0.0	2	11.8	17	100.0
Blood Disorders and Blood Safety	0	0.0	2	100.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	2	100.0
Cancer	3	13.6	5	22.7	9	40.9	5	22.7	22	100.0
Chronic Kidney Disease	2	9.1	4	18.2	7	31.8	9	40.9	22	100.0
Dementias, Including Alzheimer's Disease	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	100.0
Diabetes	0	0.0	10	66.7	1	6.7	4	26.7	15	100.0
Disability and Health	1	6.3	6	37.5	3	18.8	6	37.5	16	100.0
Early and Middle Childhood	3	23.1	9	69.2	1	7.7	0	0.0	13	100.0
Educational and Community-Based Programs	17	30.4	16	28.6	11	19.6	12	21.4	56	100.0
Environmental Health	11	26.2	10	23.8	11	26.2	10	23.8	42	100.0
Family Planning	6	16.7	24	66.7	2	5.6	4	11.1	36	100.0
Food Safety	5	21.7	7	30.4	5	21.7	6	26.1	23	100.0
Genomics	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	1	100.0	1	100.0
Global Health	1	20.0	0	0.0	4	80.0	0	0.0	5	100.0
Health Communication and Health Information Technology	1	6.3	4	25.0	5	31.3	6	37.5	16	100.0
Health-Related Quality of Life and Well-Being	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	100.0
Healthcare-Associated Infections	0	0.0	0	0.0	2	100.0	0	0.0	2	100.0
Hearing and Other Sensory or Communication Disorders	1	8.3	4	33.3	4	33.3	3	25.0	12	100.0
Heart Disease and Stroke	2	6.3	7	21.9	8	25.0	15	46.9	32	100.0
Human Immunodeficiency Virus	0	0.0	3	30.0	5	50.0	2	20.0	10	100.0
Immunization and Infectious Diseases	6	9.4	11	17.2	26	40.6	21	32.8	64	100.0
Injury and Violence Prevention	9	16.4	26	47.3	11	20.0	9	16.4	55	100.0
Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender Health	0	0.0	1	50.0	1	50.0	0	0.0	2	100.0
Maternal, Infant, and Child Health	5	9.8	12	23.5	17	33.3	17	33.3	51	100.0
Medical Product Safety	0	0.0	2	40.0	0	0.0	3	60.0	5	100.0
Mental Health and Mental Disorders	5	45.5	4	36.4	0	0.0	2	18.2	11	100.0
Nutrition and Weight Status	0	0.0	13	56.5	9	39.1	1	4.3	23	100.0
Occupational Safety and Health	0	0.0	1	6.3	2	12.5	13	81.3	16	100.0
Older Adults	5	41.7	3	25.0	1	8.3	3	25.0	12	100.0
Oral Health	1	4.0	5	20.0	3	12.0	16	64.0	25	100.0
Physical Activity	3	15.0	10	50.0	0	0.0	7	35.0	20	100.0
Preparedness	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	100.0
Public Health Infrastructure	7	21.9	4	12.5	9	28.1	12	37.5	32	100.0
Respiratory Diseases	6	28.6	11	52.4	2	9.5	2	9.5	21	100.0
Sexually Transmitted Diseases	3	21.4	3	21.4	4	28.6	4	28.6	14	100.0
Sleep Health	1	33.3	2	66.7	0	0.0	0	0.0	3	100.0
Social Determinants of Health	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	100.0
Substance Abuse	9	28.1	12	37.5	1	3.1	10	31.3	32	100.0
Tobacco Use	3	4.5	30	45.5	25	37.9	8	12.1	66	100.0
Vision	0	0.0	1	33.3	0	0.0	2	66.7	3	100.0
<b>Overall</b>	<b>117</b>	<b>14.1</b>	<b>288</b>	<b>34.8</b>	<b>201</b>	<b>24.3</b>	<b>222</b>	<b>26.8</b>	<b>828</b>	<b>100.0</b>

## Midcourse Progress for Population-based Trackable Objectives, by Population Subgroup

The most commonly reported population subgroups in Healthy People 2020 are defined by the following characteristics: sex, race and ethnicity, educational attainment, family income, disability status, and geographic location. Healthy People 2020 strives for consistency in tracking progress across population subgroups; however, the availability of information by subgroup may vary by data source or by objective, due to survey design, data collection and presentation constraints, or other considerations. The [Technical Notes](#) provide more information on these issues.

An overview of progress for population-based trackable objectives by selected population subgroups (defined by sex, race and ethnicity, educational attainment, family income, disability status, and geographic location) is presented in Figure III-4 and Table III-3. Of the total trackable objectives (n = 828), only a subset of objectives had data available to permit assessment of progress for specific subgroups.

In Figure III-4, each stacked bar provides a visual display of the percentage of population-based trackable objectives with data available for each population subgroup that had met or exceeded their 2020 targets, were improving, had demonstrated little or no detectable change, or were getting worse. Table III-3 is the data table for Figure III-4. In addition to the percentages, Table III-3 includes the numbers of population-based trackable objectives for each population subgroup that were getting worse, had demonstrated little or no detectable change, were improving, or had met or exceeded their 2020 targets.

Because a single target was set for the total population and applies to all population subgroups for each population-based trackable objective, there are some instances where some population subgroups had met the 2020 target at midcourse (or at baseline), while other subgroups had not met the target.

### Sex

There were 462 trackable objectives with data by sex (Figure III-4 and Table III-3). Female rates were either improving or had met or exceeded the 2020 targets for 59.1% (n = 273) of trackable objectives with data by sex, whereas male rates were either improving or had met or exceeded the 2020 targets for 53.5% (n = 247) of these objectives.

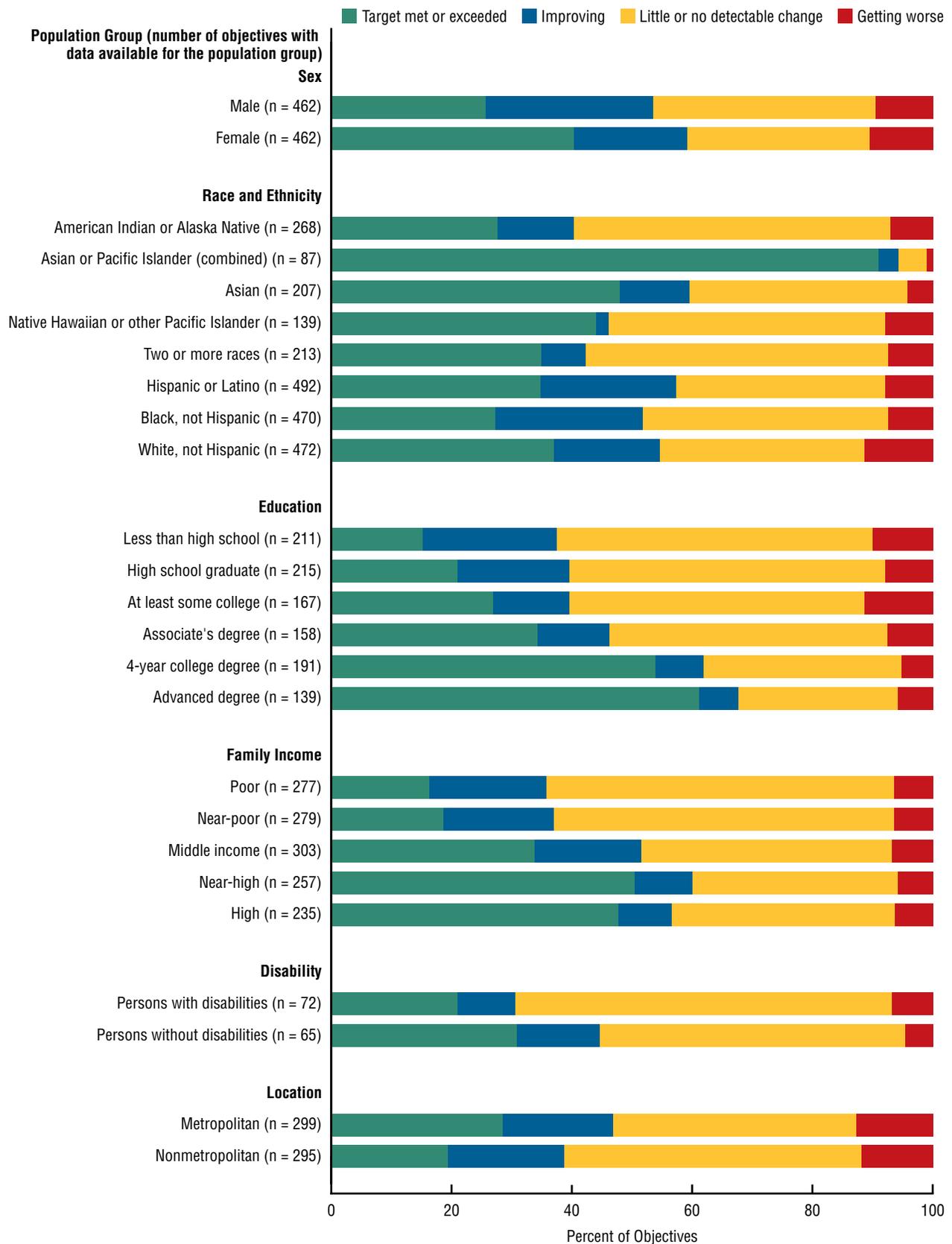
### Race and Ethnicity

The number of trackable objectives with data by race and ethnicity varied for each of the race and ethnicity subgroups (Figure III-4 and Table III-3). There were 492 trackable objectives with data for the Hispanic or Latino population, 472 for the non-Hispanic white population, 470 for the non-Hispanic black population, 268 for the American Indian or Alaska Native population, and 213 for persons of two or more races. For Asian and Pacific Islander persons, population grouping varied by objective. Some data sources included data separately for the Asian (207 trackable objectives) and Native Hawaiian or other Pacific Islander populations (139 trackable objectives). Other data sources included data for the combined Asian and Pacific Islander population (87 trackable objectives).

Rates were either improving or had met or exceeded the 2020 targets (Figure III-4 and Table III-3) for:

- 94.3% (n = 82 of 87) of trackable objectives with data for the combined Asian and Pacific Islander population;
- 59.4% (n = 123 of 207) of trackable objectives with data for the Asian population;
- 57.3% (n = 282 of 492) of trackable objectives with data for the Hispanic or Latino population;
- 54.4% (n = 257 of 472) of trackable objectives with data for the non-Hispanic white population;
- 51.7% (n = 243 of 470) of trackable objectives with data for the non-Hispanic black population;
- 46.0% (n = 64 of 139) of trackable objectives with data for the Native Hawaiian or other Pacific Islander population;
- 42.3% (n = 90 of 213) of trackable objectives with data for persons of two or more races; and
- 40.3% (n = 108 of 268) of trackable objectives with data for the American Indian or Alaska Native population.

**Figure III-4. Midcourse Progress of Population-based Trackable Objectives, by Population Group**



**Table III-3. Summary of Midcourse Progress for Population-based Trackable Objectives, by Population Subgroup**

Topic Area	Getting Worse		Little or no Detectable Change		Improving		Target Met or Exceeded		Total Trackable	
	n	Percent	n	Percent	n	Percent	n	Percent	n	Percent
<b>Sex</b>										
Male	44	9.5	171	37.0	129	27.9	118	25.5	462	100.0
Female	49	10.6	140	30.3	87	18.8	186	40.3	462	100.0
<b>Race and Ethnicity</b>										
American Indian or Alaska Native	19	7.1	141	52.6	34	12.7	74	27.6	268	100.0
Asian or Pacific Islander (combined)	1	1.1	4	4.6	3	3.4	79	90.8	87	100.0
Asian	9	4.3	75	36.2	24	11.6	99	47.8	207	100.0
Native Hawaiian or other Pacific Islander	11	7.9	64	46.0	3	2.2	61	43.9	139	100.0
Two or more races	16	7.5	107	50.2	16	7.5	74	34.7	213	100.0
Hispanic or Latino	39	7.9	171	34.8	111	22.6	171	34.8	492	100.0
Black, not Hispanic	35	7.4	192	40.9	115	24.5	128	27.2	470	100.0
White, not Hispanic	54	11.4	161	34.1	83	17.6	174	36.9	472	100.0
<b>Education</b>										
Less than high school	21	10.0	111	52.6	47	22.3	32	15.2	211	100.0
High school graduate	17	7.9	113	52.6	40	18.6	45	20.9	215	100.0
At least some college	19	11.4	82	49.1	21	12.6	45	26.9	167	100.0
Associate's degree	12	7.6	73	46.2	19	12.0	54	34.2	158	100.0
4-year college degree	10	5.2	63	33.0	15	7.9	103	53.9	191	100.0
Advanced degree	8	5.8	37	26.6	9	6.5	85	61.2	139	100.0
<b>Family Income</b>										
Poor	18	6.5	160	57.8	54	19.5	45	16.2	277	100.0
Near-poor	18	6.5	158	56.6	51	18.3	52	18.6	279	100.0
Middle	21	6.9	126	41.6	54	17.8	102	33.7	303	100.0
Near-high	15	5.8	88	34.2	25	9.7	129	50.2	257	100.0
High	15	6.4	87	37.0	21	8.9	112	47.7	235	100.0
<b>Disability</b>										
Persons with disabilities	5	6.9	45	62.5	7	9.7	15	20.8	72	100.0
Persons without disabilities	3	4.6	33	50.8	9	13.8	20	30.8	65	100.0
<b>Location</b>										
Metropolitan	38	12.7	121	40.5	55	18.4	85	28.4	299	100.0
Nonmetropolitan	35	11.9	146	49.5	57	19.3	57	19.3	295	100.0

## Education

In Healthy People 2020, data tables include as many as six categories of educational attainment: less than a high school education, high school degree or equivalent, some college education, associate's degree, 4-year college degree, and advanced degree. However, many objectives have data that are reported for only some of these categories or for combined categories. Therefore, the number of trackable objectives with data for education groups varied for each of the education categories (Figure III-4). Consistent with guidance from the U.S. Census Bureau, data by education were generally analyzed only for adults aged 25 years and over, when education has been completed for most people.<sup>11</sup> See [Technical Notes](#) for more information.

Rates were either improving or had met or exceeded the 2020 targets for 67.6% (n = 94 of 139) of trackable objectives with data for persons with advanced degrees compared with 37.4% (n = 79 of 211) of trackable objectives for persons with less than a high school education (Figure III-4 and Table III-3).

## Family Income

Healthy People 2020 data tables include up to five categories of family income, usually expressed as a percentage of the poverty threshold: poor (less than 100% of the poverty threshold), near-poor (100%–199%), middle (200%–399%), near-high (400%–599%), and high (at or above 600% of the poverty threshold). However, some trackable objectives have data that are reported for only some of these categories, for combined categories, or for categories with slightly different boundaries. See [Technical Notes](#) for more information.

Rates were either improving or had met or exceeded the 2020 targets for 59.9% (n = 154 of 257) of trackable objectives with data for persons with near-high family incomes, compared with 35.7% (n = 99 of 277) of trackable objectives with data for persons with poor family incomes (Figure III-4 and Table III-3).

## Disability Status

In Healthy People 2020, the specific definition of disability status varies by data source. Many data sources use the American Community Survey (ACS) disability questions to determine a person's disability status.<sup>12</sup> See [Technical Notes](#) for more information.

Rates were either improving or had met or exceeded the 2020 targets for 44.6% (n = 29 of 65) of trackable objectives with data for persons without disabilities

compared with 30.6% (n = 22 of 72) of trackable objectives with data for persons with disabilities (Figure III-4 and Table III-3).

## Geographic Location

In Healthy People 2020 data tables, geographic location is a binary variable labeled metropolitan and nonmetropolitan. For many data sources, these categories are standards defined by the Office of Management and Budget.<sup>13</sup> For other data sources, metropolitan refers to urban areas and nonmetropolitan refers to rural areas. In addition, geographic location may refer to the location of the health care provider or school. See [Technical Notes](#) for more information.

Rates were either improving or had met or exceeded the 2020 targets for 46.8% (n = 140 of 299) of trackable objectives with data for persons in metropolitan areas compared with 38.6% (n = 114 of 295) of trackable objectives with data for persons in nonmetropolitan areas (Figure III-4 and Table III-3).

## Midcourse Health Disparities for Population-based Measurable Objectives, by Population Subgroup

Health disparities were examined at midcourse for 625 population-based measurable objectives that had data available for selected population subgroups (e.g., subgroups defined by sex, race and ethnicity, educational attainment, family income, disability status, and geographic location). Midcourse health disparities for the individual population-based measurable objectives in each topic area are reported in the topic area chapters. For objectives with baseline data only, disparities were examined at baseline.

For each population characteristic (e.g., race and ethnicity) and each population-based measurable objective with data for the corresponding population subgroups (e.g., American Indian or Alaska Native, Asian, Native Hawaiian or other Pacific Islander, Hispanic or Latino, non-Hispanic white, non-Hispanic black, two or more races), the groups with the highest and lowest rates were identified. See [Technical Notes](#) for more information.

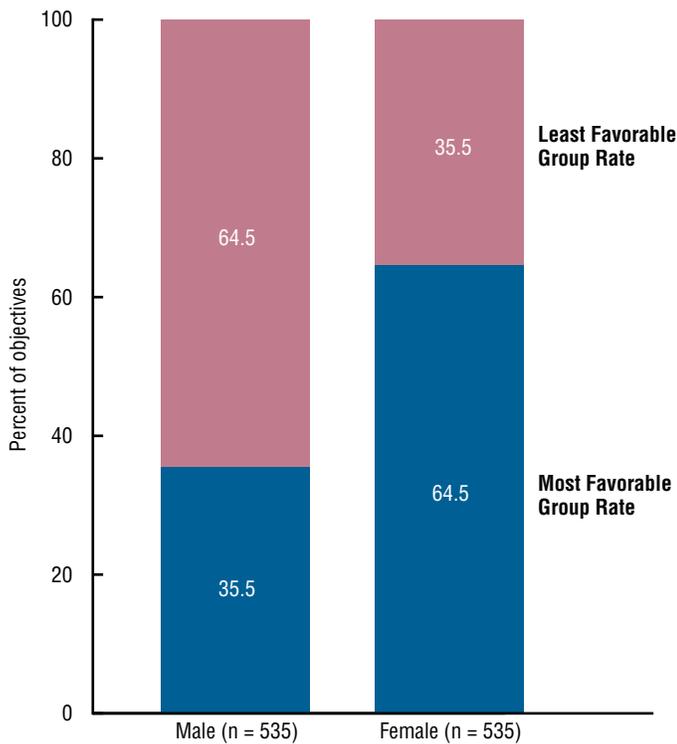
The highest and lowest rates are determined by sorting the observed subgroup rates from highest to lowest. For objectives expressed in terms of favorable outcomes to be improved, the highest rate identifies the most favorable group rate and the lowest rate identifies the

least favorable group rate. For objectives expressed in terms of adverse outcomes to be reduced, the lowest rate identifies the least adverse group rate and the highest rate identifies the most adverse group rate. The most favorable (or least adverse) group rate serves as the reference for the calculation of health disparities. Figures III-5 through III-10 present the percentages of population-based measurable objectives with data for each selected population subgroup for which the selected group’s rate was either the most favorable or the least favorable (or neither). Table III-4 is the data table for Figures III-5 through III-10. In addition to the percentages, Table III-5 includes the numbers of objectives with data for each population subgroup for which the selected group’s rate was either most favorable or least favorable (or neither).

### Sex

There were 535 population-based measurable objectives with disparities data by sex (Figure III-5). Of those objectives, males experienced the more favorable rate for 35.5% (n = 190), whereas females experienced the more favorable rate for 64.5% (n = 345).

**Figure III-5. Midcourse Health Disparities for Population-based Measurable Objectives, by Sex**



NOTE: N is the number of objectives.

### Race and Ethnicity

The number of population-based measurable objectives with disparities data by race and ethnicity varied for each population subgroup (Figure III-6). Racial and ethnic subgroups experienced the most favorable rates unevenly across objectives:

- The combined Asian and Pacific Islander population experienced the most favorable rates for 65.9% (n = 60 of 91) of objectives with disparities data for this population.
- The Asian population experienced the most favorable rates for 34.0% (n = 81 of 238) of objectives with disparities data for this population.
- The non-Hispanic white population experienced the most favorable rates for 31.8% (n = 183 of 575) of objectives with disparities data for this population.
- The Native Hawaiian or other Pacific Islander population experienced the most favorable rates for 18.2% (n = 24 of 132) of objectives with disparities data for this population.
- The non-Hispanic black population experienced the most favorable rates for 16.9% (n = 97 of 573) of objectives with disparities data for this population.
- The Hispanic or Latino population experienced the most favorable rates for 14.8% (n = 80 of 541) of objectives with disparities data for this population.
- The American Indian or Alaska Native population experienced the most favorable rates for 9.8% (n = 27 of 275) of objectives with disparities data for this population.
- Persons of two or more races experienced the most favorable rates for 10.3% (n = 25 of 242) of objectives with disparities data for this population.

Racial and ethnic subgroups also experienced the least favorable rates unevenly across objectives:

- The non-Hispanic black population experienced the least favorable rates for 37.3% (n = 214 of 573) of objectives with disparities data for this population.
- The Hispanic or Latino population experienced the least favorable rates for 21.4% (n = 116 of 541) of objectives with disparities data for this population.
- Persons of two or more races experienced the least favorable rates for 19.8% (n = 48 of 242) of objectives with disparities data for this population.
- The non-Hispanic white population experienced the least favorable rates for 18.1% (n = 104 of 575) of objectives with disparities data for this population.

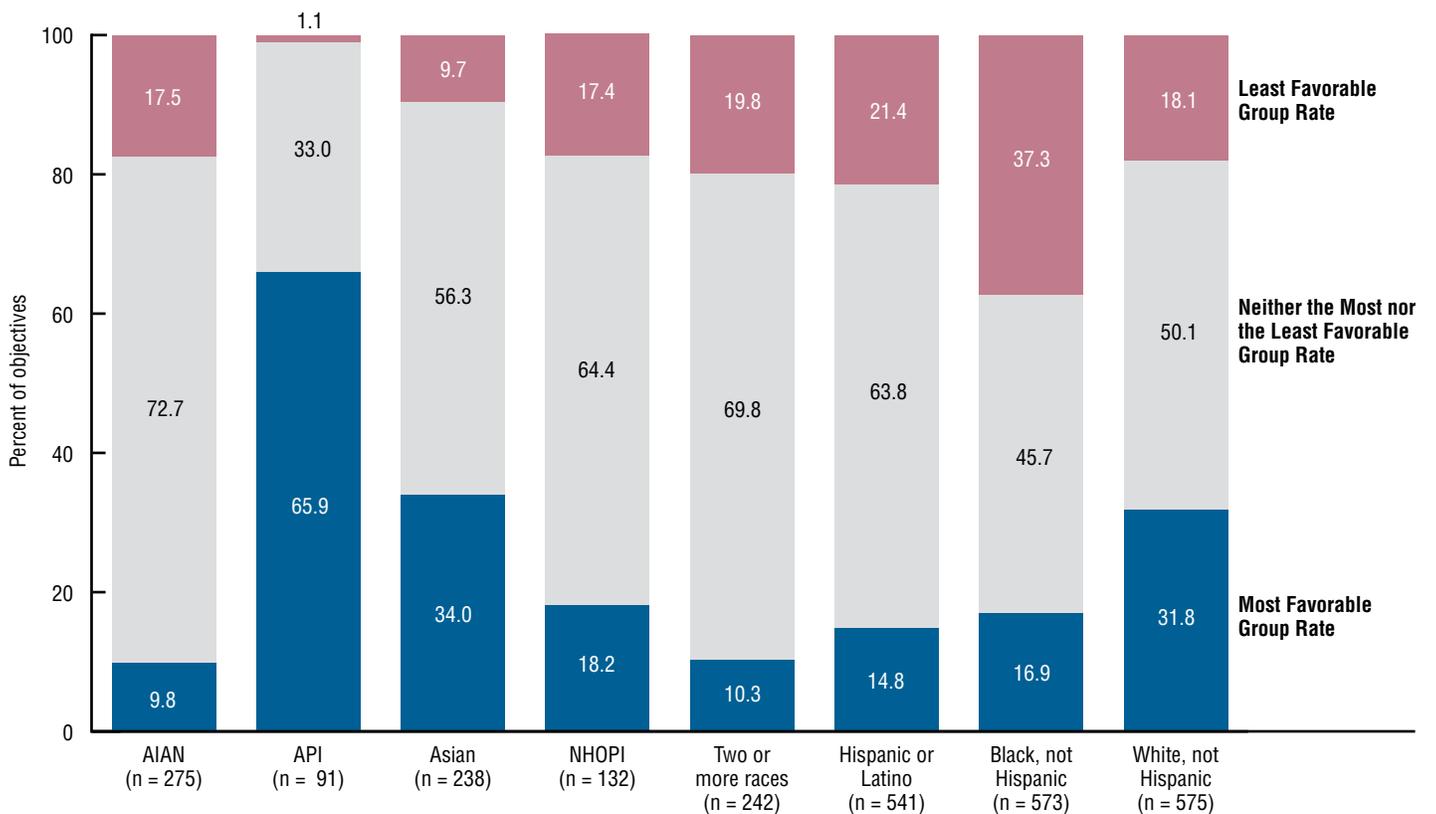
- The American Indian or Alaska Native population experienced the least favorable rates for 17.5% (n = 48 of 275) of objectives with disparities data for this population.
- The Native Hawaiian or other Pacific Islander population experienced the least favorable rates for 17.4% (n = 23 of 132) of objectives with disparities data for this population.
- The Asian population experienced the least favorable rates for 9.7% (n = 23 of 238) of objectives with disparities data for this population.
- The combined Asian and Pacific Islander population experienced the least favorable rates for 1.1% (n = 1 of 91) of objectives with disparities data for this population.

### Education

The number of population-based measurable objectives with disparities data by education varied by level of educational attainment (Figure III-7).

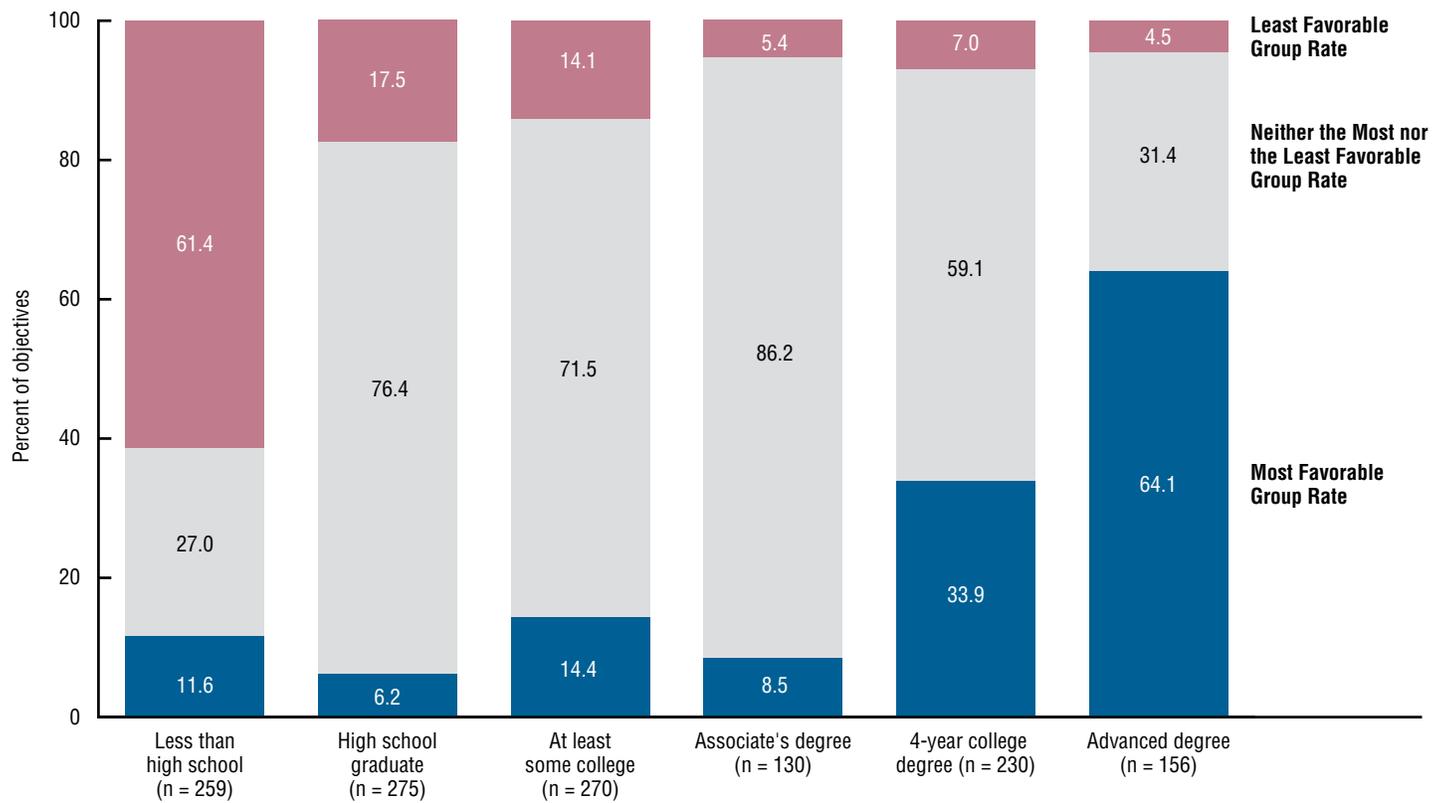
- The population with advanced degrees experienced the most favorable rates for 64.1% (n = 100 of 156) of objectives with data for this population, whereas the population with a high school degree or equivalent experienced the most favorable rates for 6.2% (n = 17 of 275) of objectives with data for this population.
- The population with less than a high school education experienced the least favorable rates for 61.4% (n = 159 of 259) of objectives with data for this population, whereas the population with advanced degrees experienced the least favorable rates for 4.5% (n = 7 of 156) of objectives with data for this population.

**Figure III-6. Midcourse Health Disparities for Population-based Measurable Objectives, by Race and Ethnicity**



NOTES: Totals may not add to 100 due to rounding. AIAN is American Indian or Alaska Native; API is Asian or Pacific Islander (combined); NHOPI is Native Hawaiian or other Pacific Islander. N is the number of objectives.

**Figure III-7. Midcourse Health Disparities for Population-based Measurable Objectives, by Education**



NOTES: Totals may not add to 100 due to rounding. N is the number of objectives.

### Family Income

The number of population-based measurable objectives with disparities data by family income varied by level of income (Figure III-8).

- The population with high family incomes experienced the most favorable rates for 54.9% (n = 140 of 255) of objectives with data for this population, whereas the population with near-poor family incomes experienced the most favorable rates for 9.7% (n = 33 of 339) of objectives with data for this population.
- The population with poor family incomes experienced the least favorable rates for 58.2% (n = 198 of 340) of objectives with data for this population, whereas the population with near-high family incomes experienced the least favorable rates for 6.2% (n = 17 of 275) of objectives with data for this population.

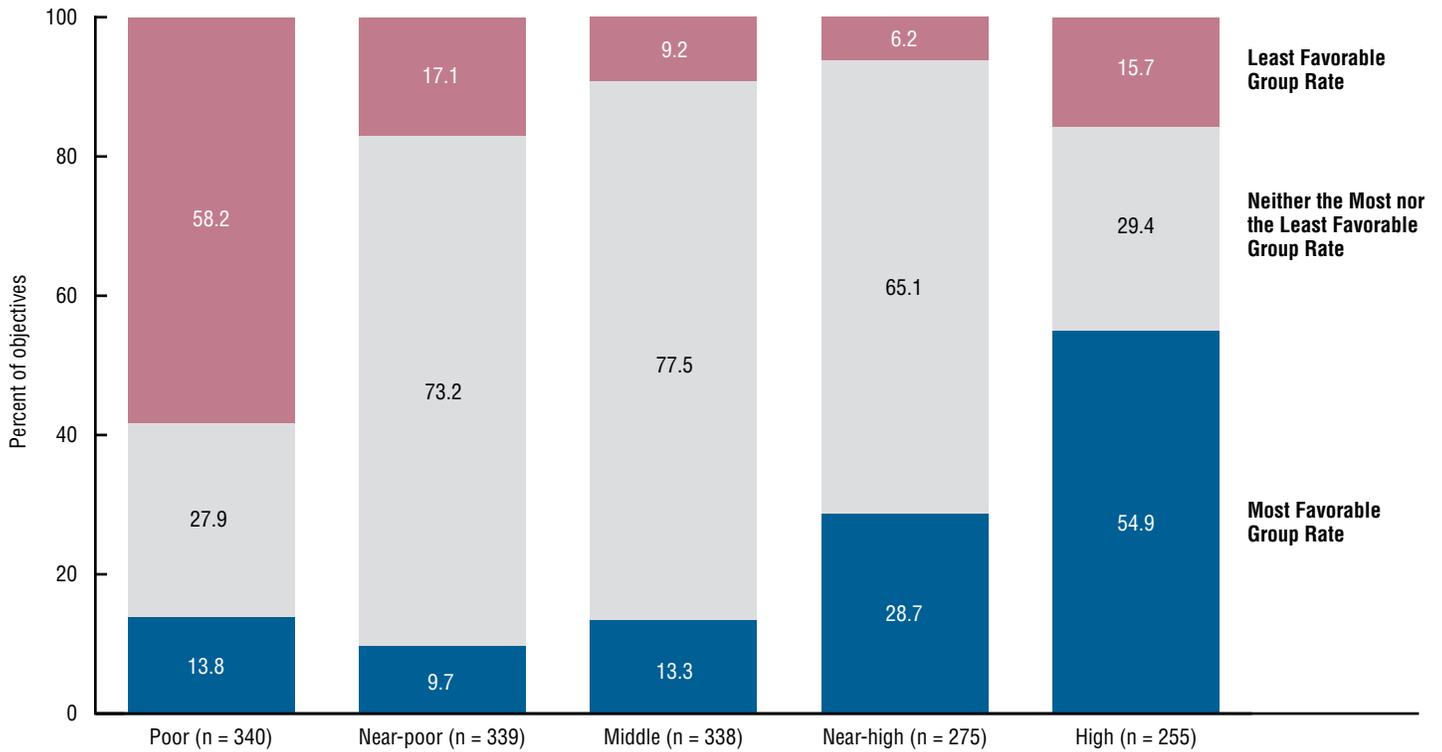
### Disability Status

There were 173 population-based measurable objectives with disparities data by disability status (Figure III-9). Of those objectives, persons without disabilities experienced the more favorable group rates for 62.4% (n = 108), whereas persons with disabilities experienced the more favorable group rates for 37.6% (n = 65).

### Geographic Location

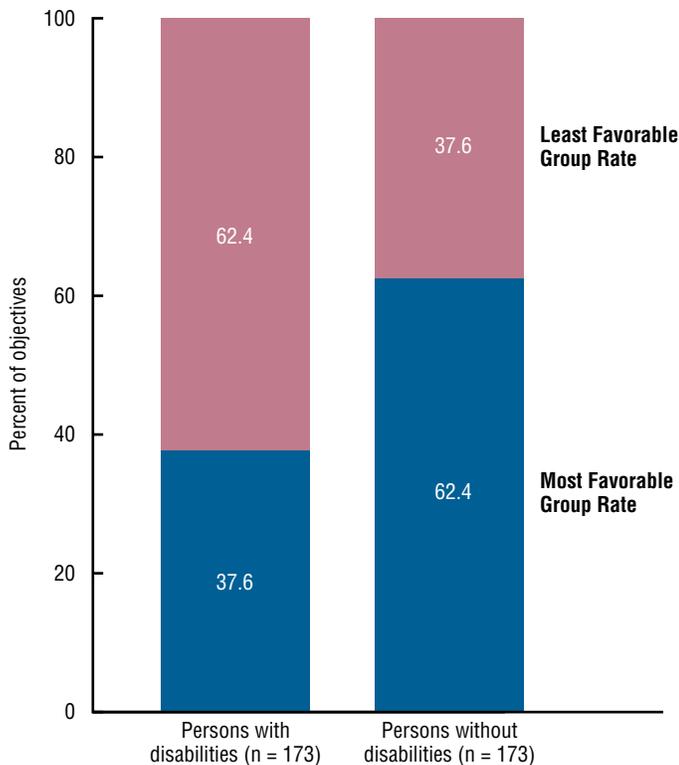
There were 339 population-based measurable objectives with disparities data by geographic location (Figure III-10). Of those objectives, populations in metropolitan areas experienced the more favorable rates for 65.8% (n = 223), whereas populations in nonmetropolitan areas experienced the more favorable rates for 34.2% (n = 116).

**Figure III-8. Midcourse Health Disparities for Population-based Measurable Objectives, by Family Income**



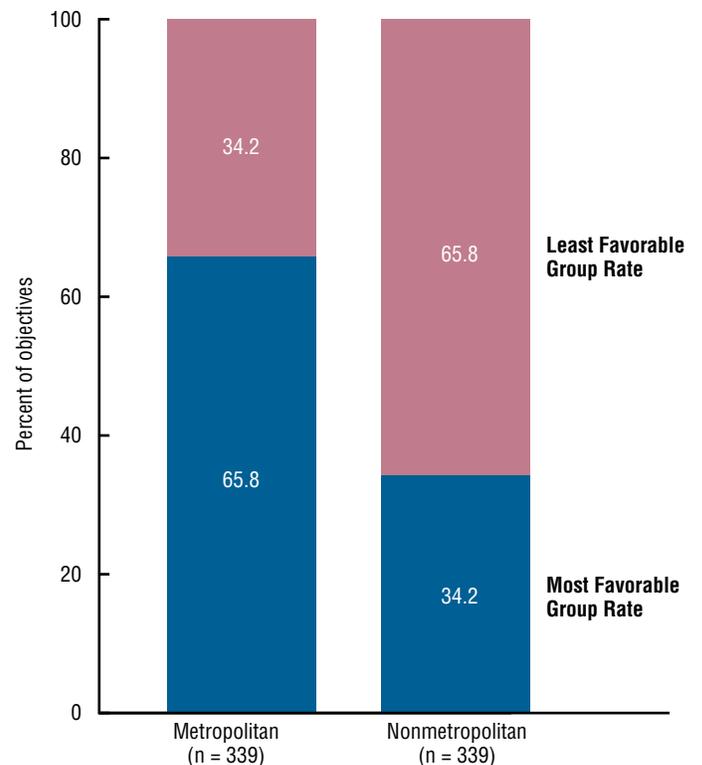
NOTES: Totals may not add to 100 due to rounding. N is the number of objectives.

**Figure III-9. Midcourse Health Disparities for Population-based Measurable Objectives, by Disability Status**



NOTE: N is the number of objectives.

**Figure III-10. Midcourse Health Disparities for Population-based Measurable Objectives, by Geographic Location**



NOTE: N is the number of objectives.

**Table III-4. Summary of Midcourse Health Disparities for Population-based Measurable Objectives, by Population Characteristic**

Topic Area	Most Favorable Group Rate		Least Favorable Group Rate		Neither the Most nor the Least Favorable Group Rate		Total
	n	Percent	n	Percent	n	Percent	n
<b>Sex</b>							
Male	190	35.5	345	64.5			535
Female	345	64.5	190	35.5			535
<b>Race and Ethnicity</b>							
American Indian or Alaska Native	27	9.8	48	17.5	200	72.7	275
Asian or Pacific Islander (combined)	60	65.9	1	1.1	30	33.0	91
Asian	81	34.0	23	9.7	134	56.3	238
Native Hawaiian or other Pacific Islander	24	18.2	23	17.4	85	64.4	132
Two or more races	25	10.3	48	19.8	169	69.8	242
Hispanic or Latino	80	14.8	116	21.4	345	63.8	541
Black, not Hispanic	97	16.9	214	37.3	262	45.7	573
White, not Hispanic	183	31.8	104	18.1	288	50.1	575
<b>Education</b>							
Less than high school	30	11.6	159	61.4	70	27.0	259
High school graduate	17	6.2	48	17.5	210	76.4	275
At least some college	39	14.4	38	14.1	193	71.5	270
Associate's degree	11	8.5	7	5.4	112	86.2	130
4-year college degree	78	33.9	16	7.0	136	59.1	230
Advanced degree	100	64.1	7	4.5	49	31.4	156
<b>Family Income</b>							
Poor	47	13.8	198	58.2	95	27.9	340
Near-poor	33	9.7	58	17.1	248	73.2	339
Middle	45	13.3	31	9.2	262	77.5	338
Near-high	79	28.7	17	6.2	179	65.1	275
High	140	54.9	40	15.7	75	29.4	255
<b>Disability</b>							
Persons with disabilities	65	37.6	108	62.4			173
Persons without disabilities	108	62.4	65	37.6			173
<b>Location</b>							
Metropolitan	223	65.8	116	34.2			339
Nonmetropolitan	116	34.2	223	65.8			339

## Summary

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There are 1,054 measurable objectives included in the *Healthy People 2020 Midcourse Review*, spanning 42 topic areas. Progress toward target attainment could not be assessed for the 18.2% (n = 192) that did not have follow-up data beyond the baseline or the 3.2% (n = 34) that are informational.

Among the 828 measurable objectives that were trackable, more than one-half (51.1%; n = 423) either were improving or had met or exceeded their 2020 targets, more than one-third (34.8%; n = 288) had demonstrated little or no detectable change, and 14.1% (n = 117) were getting worse.

All but six topic areas each had at least one objective that was either improving or had met or exceeded the 2020 target. Thirty-six topic areas each had at least one objective that was either getting worse or had demonstrated little or no detectable change.

Disparities data for population-based measurable objectives revealed the following:

- Females experienced more favorable rates than males for 64.5% (n = 345 of 535) of objectives with disparities data by sex.
- The combined Asian and Pacific Islander population and the Asian-only population experienced the most favorable rates for 42.9% (n = 141 of 329) of objectives with disparities data for these two groups.
- The population with advanced degrees experienced the most favorable rates for 64.1% (n = 100 of 156) of objectives with disparities data for this group.
- The population with high family incomes experienced the most favorable rates for 54.9% (n = 140 of 255) of objectives with disparities data for these groups.
- Persons without disabilities experienced more favorable rates than persons with disabilities for 62.4% (n = 108 of 173) of objectives with disparities data by disability status.
- Metropolitan areas experienced more favorable rates than nonmetropolitan areas for 65.8% (n = 223 of 339) of objectives with disparities data by geographic location.

## More Information

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Healthy People objectives are monitored using data from a wide range of nationally representative data sources. The features and availability of Healthy People data vary by data source. Healthy People objectives tracked using the same data source may also differ in their data details. Readers are invited to visit the [HealthyPeople.gov](https://www.healthypeople.gov) website, where extensive substantive and technical information is available:

- For the background on the Healthy People process for development and selection of specific objectives, see: <https://www.healthypeople.gov/2020/about/history-development/Objective-Development-and-Selection-Process>
- For additional details about Healthy People data, including data issues, see: <https://www.healthypeople.gov/2020/data-search/About-the-Data>
- For links to all Healthy People data sources, see: <https://www.healthypeople.gov/2020/data-search/Data-Sources>

## Footnotes

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<sup>1</sup>The **Reader's Guide** provides a step-by-step explanation of the status of objectives and measures of progress. The **Technical Notes** provide more information on Healthy People 2020 statistical methods and issues.

<sup>2</sup>**Archived** objectives are no longer being monitored due to lack of data source, changes in science, or replacement with other objectives.

<sup>3</sup>**Developmental** objectives did not have a national baseline value.

<sup>4</sup>**Measurable** objectives had a national baseline value.

<sup>5</sup>**Target met or exceeded**—One of the following, as specified in the Midcourse Progress Table in the objective's topic area chapter:

- » At baseline the target was not met or exceeded and the most recent value was equal to or exceeded the target. (The percentage of targeted change achieved was equal to or greater than 100%.)
- » The baseline and most recent values were equal to or exceeded the target. (The percentage of targeted change achieved was not assessed.)

<sup>6</sup>**Improving**—One of the following, as specified in the Midcourse Progress Table in the objective’s topic area chapter:

- » Movement was toward the target, standard errors were available, and the percentage of targeted change achieved was statistically significant.
- » Movement was toward the target, standard errors were not available, and the objective had achieved 10% or more of the targeted change.

<sup>7</sup>**Little or no detectable change**—One of the following, as specified in the Midcourse Progress Table in the objective’s topic area chapter:

- » Movement was toward the target, standard errors were available, and the percentage of targeted change achieved was not statistically significant.
- » Movement was toward the target, standard errors were not available, and the objective had achieved less than 10% of the targeted change.
- » Movement was away from the baseline and target, standard errors were available, and the percentage change relative to the baseline was not statistically significant.
- » Movement was away from the baseline and target, standard errors were not available, and the objective had moved less than 10% relative to the baseline.
- » There was no change between the baseline and the midcourse data point.

<sup>8</sup>**Getting worse**—One of the following, as specified in the Midcourse Progress Table in the objective’s topic area chapter:

- » Movement was away from the baseline and target, standard errors were available, and the percentage change relative to the baseline was statistically significant.
- » Movement was away from the baseline and target, standard errors were not available, and the objective had moved 10% or more relative to the baseline.

<sup>9</sup>**Baseline only**—The objective only had one data point, so progress toward target attainment could not be assessed.

<sup>10</sup>**Informational**—A target was not set for this objective, so progress toward target attainment could not be assessed.

<sup>11</sup>U.S. Census Bureau. About Educational Attainment. Washington, DC. Available from: <https://www.census.gov/hhes/socdemo/education/about/index.html>.

<sup>12</sup> The American Community Survey (ACS) disability questions were endorsed in 2011 by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) as the standard set of disability questions to be included on all HHS national surveys. The six ACS questions used assess any serious difficulties with hearing; seeing; concentrating, remembering, or making decisions; walking or climbing stairs; dressing or bathing; and doing errands alone. See <http://aspe.hhs.gov/datacncl/standards/ACA/4302/index.shtml>.

<sup>13</sup>Office of Management and Budget. Revised Delineations of Metropolitan Statistical Areas, Micropolitan Statistical Areas, and Combined Statistical Areas, and Guidance on Uses of the Delineations of These Areas OMB Bulletin No. 15-01. July 15, 2015. Available from: <https://www.whitehouse.gov/sites/default/files/omb/bulletins/2015/15-01.pdf>.

## Suggested Citation

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