

# CHAPTER 1

## Access to Health Services (AHS)

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### Lead Agencies

Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality  
Health Resources and Services Administration

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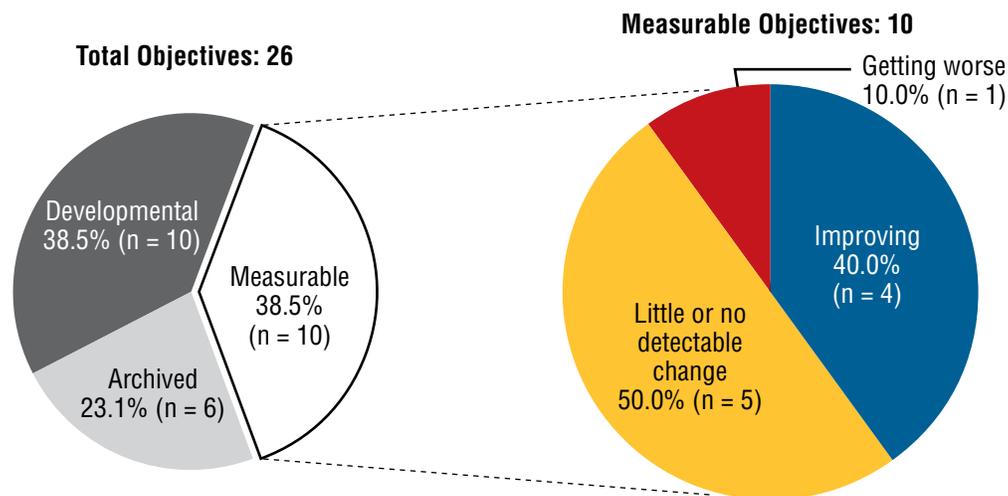
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## Goal: Improve access to comprehensive, quality health care services.

This chapter includes objectives that monitor persons with health insurance, a primary care provider and source of primary care, and those unable to obtain needed medical care. The [Reader's Guide](#) provides a step-by-step explanation of the content of this chapter, including criteria for highlighting objectives in the Selected Findings.<sup>1</sup>

### Status of Objectives

**Figure 1-1. Midcourse Status of the Access to Health Services Objectives**



Of the 26 objectives in the Access to Health Services Topic Area, 6 objectives were archived,<sup>2</sup> 10 were developmental,<sup>3</sup> and 10 were measurable (Figure 1-1, Table 1-1). The midcourse status of the measurable objectives (Table 1-2) was as follows:

- 4 objectives were improving,<sup>5</sup>
- 5 objectives had demonstrated little or no detectable change,<sup>6</sup> and
- 1 objective had worsened.<sup>7</sup>

### Selected Findings

#### Access to Health Services

- The proportion of **persons under age 65 with medical insurance** (AHS-1.1) increased from 83.2% in 2008 to 86.7% in 2014, moving toward the 2020 target (Table 1-2).
  - » In 2014, there were statistically significant disparities by sex, race and ethnicity, education, family income, disability status, and geographic location in the proportion of persons under age 65 with medical insurance (Table 1-3, AHS-1.1).

- There was little or no detectable change (76.3% in 2007 and 76.5% in 2012) in the proportion of **persons with a usual primary care provider** (Table 1-2, AHS-3).
  - » In 2012, there were statistically significant disparities by sex, race and ethnicity, education, and family income in the proportion of persons with a usual primary care provider (AHS-3). The disparity by geographic location was not statistically significant (Table 1-3).
- Between 2008 and 2014, the proportion of **persons with a source of ongoing care** increased for **persons of all ages** (AHS-5.1) from 86.4% to 87.9%; for **children and youth aged 17 and under** (AHS-5.2) from 94.3% to 96.4%; and for **adults aged 18-64** (AHS-5.3) from 81.3% to 82.7%, moving toward their respective 2020 targets (Table 1-2).
  - » In 2014, there were statistically significant disparities by sex, education, family income, disability status, and geographic location in the proportion of persons of all ages with a source of ongoing care (AHS-5.1). The disparity by race and ethnicity was not statistically significant (Table 1-3).

- » In 2014, there were statistically significant disparities by race and ethnicity and family income in the proportion of persons aged 17 and under with a source of ongoing care (AHS-5.2). The disparities by sex and geographic location were not statistically significant (Table 1–3).
- » In 2014, there were statistically significant disparities by sex, education, family income, disability status, and geographic location in the proportion of persons aged 18–64 with a source of ongoing care (AHS-5.3). The disparity by race and ethnicity was not statistically significant (Table 1–3).
- There was little or no detectable change (96.3% in 2008 and 96.8% in 2014) in the proportion of **adults aged 65 and over with a source of ongoing care** (Table 1–2, AHS-5.4).
  - » In 2014, there were statistically significant disparities by sex, education, and family income in the proportion of persons aged 65 and over with a source of ongoing care (AHS-5.4). The disparities by race and ethnicity, disability status, and geographic location were not statistically significant (Table 1–3).
- Between 2007 and 2012, there was little or no detectable change in the proportion of **persons who were unable to obtain or who delayed needed medical care, dental care, or prescription medications** (AHS-6.1: 10.0% and 10.5%), the proportion who were **unable to obtain or delayed needed medical care** (AHS-6.2: 4.7% and 4.7%), and the proportion who were **unable to obtain or delayed needed dental care** (AHS-6.3: 5.5% and 5.7%) (Table 1–2).
  - » In 2012, there were statistically significant disparities by sex, race and ethnicity, education, and family income in the proportion of persons who were unable to obtain or who delayed needed medical care, dental care, or prescription medication (AHS-6.1), the proportion who were unable to obtain or delayed needed medical care (AHS-6.2), and the proportion who were unable to obtain or delayed needed dental care (AHS-6.3). The disparities by geographic location were not statistically significant for these 3 objectives (Table 1–3).
- The proportion of **persons who were unable to obtain or who delayed receipt of needed prescription medicines** (AHS-6.4) increased from 3.1% in 2007 to 3.6% in 2012, moving away from the baseline and 2020 target (Table 1–2).
  - » In 2012, there were statistically significant disparities by sex, race and ethnicity, education,

and family income in the proportion of persons who were unable to obtain or delayed the receipt of needed prescription medicines (AHS-6.4). The disparity by geographic location was not statistically significant (Table 1–3).

## More Information

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Readers interested in more detailed information about the objectives in this topic area are invited to consult the [HealthyPeople.gov](http://www.healthypeople.gov) website, where extensive substantive and technical information is available:

- For the background and importance of the topic area, see: <http://www.healthypeople.gov/2020/topics-objectives/topic/access-to-health-services>
- For data details for each objective, including definitions, numerators, denominators, calculations, and data limitations, see: <http://www.healthypeople.gov/2020/topics-objectives/topic/access-to-health-services/objectives>  
*Select an objective, then click on the “Data Details” icon.*
- For objective data by population group (e.g., sex, race and ethnicity, or family income), including rates, percentages, or counts for multiple years, see: <http://www.healthypeople.gov/2020/topics-objectives/topic/access-to-health-services/objectives>  
*Select an objective, then click on the “Data2020” icon.*

Data for the measurable objectives in this chapter were from the following data sources:

- Medical Expenditure Panel Survey: <http://meps.ahrq.gov/mepsweb/>
- National Health Interview Survey: <http://www.cdc.gov/nchs/nhis/>

## Footnotes

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<sup>1</sup>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>**Improving**—One of the following, as specified in the Midcourse Progress Table:

- » 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>6</sup>**Little or no detectable change**—One of the following, as specified in the Midcourse Progress Table:

- » 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>7</sup>**Getting worse**—One of the following, as specified in the Midcourse Progress Table:

- » 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.

## Suggested Citation

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National Center for Health Statistics. Chapter 1: Access to Health Services. Healthy People 2020 Midcourse Review. Hyattsville, MD. 2016.

**Table 1–1. Access to Health Services Objectives**

LEGEND

-  Data for this objective are available in this chapter's Midcourse Progress Table.
-  Disparities data for this objective are available, and this chapter includes a Midcourse Health Disparities Table.
-  A state or county level map for this objective is available at the end of the chapter.

Not Applicable

Midcourse data availability is not applicable for developmental and archived objectives. **Developmental** objectives did not have a national baseline value. **Archived** objectives are no longer being monitored due to lack of data source, changes in science, or replacement with other objectives.

| Objective Number | Objective Statement  | Data Sources   | Midcourse Data Availability   |
|------------------|--|--|---|
| AHS-1.1          | Increase the proportion of persons with medical insurance  | National Health Interview Survey (NHIS), CDC/NCHS  |       |
| AHS-1.2          | (Developmental) Increase the proportion of persons with dental insurance   | (Potential) National Health Interview Survey (NHIS), CDC/NCHS                                      | Not Applicable  |
| AHS-1.3          | (Developmental) Increase the proportion of persons with prescription drug insurance                              | (Potential) National Health Interview Survey (NHIS), CDC/NCHS                                      | Not Applicable  |
| AHS-2            | (Developmental) Increase the proportion of insured persons with coverage for clinical preventive services        | (Potential) AGing Integrated Database (AGID), AoA; Medicare Current Beneficiary Survey (MCBS), CMS | Not Applicable  |
| AHS-3            | Increase the proportion of persons with a usual primary care provider  | Medical Expenditure Panel Survey (MEPS), AHRQ  |   |
| AHS-4.1          | (Archived) Increase the number of practicing medical doctors   |  | Not Applicable  |
| AHS-4.2          | (Archived) Increase the number of practicing doctors of osteopathy   |  | Not Applicable  |
| AHS-4.3          | (Archived) Increase the number of practicing physician assistants  |  | Not Applicable  |
| AHS-4.4          | (Archived) Increase the number of practicing nurse practitioners   |  | Not Applicable  |
| AHS-5.1          | Increase the proportion of persons of all ages who have a specific source of ongoing care                        | National Health Interview Survey (NHIS), CDC/NCHS  |   |
| AHS-5.2          | Increase the proportion of children and youth aged 17 years and under who have a specific source of ongoing care | National Health Interview Survey (NHIS), CDC/NCHS  |   |
| AHS-5.3          | Increase the proportion of adults aged 18–64 who have a specific source of ongoing care                          | National Health Interview Survey (NHIS), CDC/NCHS  |   |
| AHS-5.4          | Increase the proportion of adults aged 65 and over who have a specific source of ongoing care                    | National Health Interview Survey (NHIS), CDC/NCHS  |   |

**Table 1–1. Access to Health Services Objectives—Continued**

## LEGEND

|  |   |   |  |   |  |
|--|---|---|--|---|--|
|  | Data for this objective are available in this chapter's Midcourse Progress Table. |  | Disparities data for this objective are available, and this chapter includes a Midcourse Health Disparities Table. |  | A state or county level map for this objective is available at the end of the chapter. |
|--|---|---|--|---|--|

|                |   |
|----------------|---|
| Not Applicable | Midcourse data availability is not applicable for developmental and archived objectives. <b>Developmental</b> objectives did not have a national baseline value. <b>Archived</b> objectives are no longer being monitored due to lack of data source, changes in science, or replacement with other objectives. |
|----------------|---|

| Objective Number | Objective Statement   | Data Sources  | Midcourse Data Availability   |
|------------------|---|---|---|
| AHS-6.1          | Reduce the proportion of persons who are unable to obtain or delay in obtaining necessary medical care, dental care, or prescription medicines  | Medical Expenditure Panel Survey (MEPS), AHRQ                                   |       |
| AHS-6.2          | Reduce the proportion of persons who are unable to obtain or delay in obtaining necessary medical care  | Medical Expenditure Panel Survey (MEPS), AHRQ                                   |       |
| AHS-6.3          | Reduce the proportion of persons who are unable to obtain or delay in obtaining necessary dental care   | Medical Expenditure Panel Survey (MEPS), AHRQ                                   |       |
| AHS-6.4          | Reduce the proportion of persons who are unable to obtain or delay in obtaining necessary prescription medicines  | Medical Expenditure Panel Survey (MEPS), AHRQ                                   |   |
| AHS-7            | (Developmental) Increase the proportion of persons who receive appropriate evidence-based clinical preventive services  | (Potential) Medical Expenditure Panel Survey (MEPS), AHRQ                       | Not Applicable  |
| AHS-8.1          | (Archived) Increase the proportion of persons who are covered by basic life support   |   | Not Applicable  |
| AHS-8.2          | (Archived) Increase the proportion of persons who are covered by advanced life support  |   | Not Applicable  |
| AHS-9.1          | (Developmental) Reduce the proportion of all hospital emergency department visits in which the wait time to see an emergency department clinician exceeds the recommended timeframe               | (Potential) National Hospital Ambulatory Medical Care Survey (NHAMCS), CDC/NCHS | Not Applicable  |
| AHS-9.2          | (Developmental) Reduce the proportion of Level 1—immediate hospital emergency department visits in which the wait time to see an emergency department clinician exceeds the recommended timeframe | (Potential) National Hospital Ambulatory Medical Care Survey (NHAMCS), CDC/NCHS | Not Applicable  |
| AHS-9.3          | (Developmental) Reduce the proportion of Level 2—emergent hospital emergency department visits in which the wait time to see an emergency department clinician exceeds the recommended timeframe  | (Potential) National Hospital Ambulatory Medical Care Survey (NHAMCS), CDC/NCHS | Not Applicable  |

**Table 1–1. Access to Health Services Objectives—Continued**

LEGEND

-  Data for this objective are available in this chapter’s Midcourse Progress Table.
-  Disparities data for this objective are available, and this chapter includes a Midcourse Health Disparities Table.
-  A state or county level map for this objective is available at the end of the chapter.

Not Applicable Midcourse data availability is not applicable for developmental and archived objectives. **Developmental** objectives did not have a national baseline value. **Archived** objectives are no longer being monitored due to lack of data source, changes in science, or replacement with other objectives.

| Objective Number | Objective Statement   | Data Sources  | Midcourse Data Availability  |
|------------------|---|---|--|
| AHS-9.4          | (Developmental) Reduce the proportion of Level 3–urgent hospital emergency department visits in which the wait time to see an emergency department clinician exceeds the recommended timeframe      | (Potential) National Hospital Ambulatory Medical Care Survey (NHAMCS), CDC/NCHS | <span style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px;">Not Applicable</span> |
| AHS-9.5          | (Developmental) Reduce the proportion of Level 4–semi-urgent hospital emergency department visits in which the wait time to see an emergency department clinician exceeds the recommended timeframe | (Potential) National Hospital Ambulatory Medical Care Survey (NHAMCS), CDC/NCHS | <span style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px;">Not Applicable</span> |
| AHS-9.6          | (Developmental) Reduce the proportion of Level 5–non-urgent hospital emergency department visits in which the wait time to see an emergency department clinician exceeds the recommended timeframe  | (Potential) National Hospital Ambulatory Medical Care Survey (NHAMCS), CDC/NCHS | <span style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px;">Not Applicable</span> |

**Table 1–2. Midcourse Progress for Measurable<sup>1</sup> Access to Health Services Objectives**

## LEGEND

|  |                                       |   |                          |   |  |   |                                |   |                             |   |                             |
|--|---------------------------------------|---|--------------------------|---|--|---|--------------------------------|---|-----------------------------|---|-----------------------------|
|  | Target met or exceeded <sup>2,3</sup> |  | Improving <sup>4,5</sup> |  | Little or no detectable change <sup>6-10</sup> |  | Getting worse <sup>11,12</sup> |  | Baseline only <sup>13</sup> |  | Informational <sup>14</sup> |
|--|---------------------------------------|---|--------------------------|---|--|---|--------------------------------|---|-----------------------------|---|-----------------------------|

| Objective Description  | Baseline Value (Year) | Midcourse Value (Year) | Target | Movement Toward Target <sup>15</sup> | Movement Away From Baseline <sup>16</sup> | Movement Statistically Significant <sup>17</sup> |
|--|-----------------------|------------------------|--------|--------------------------------------|---|--|
|  <sup>4</sup> <b>AHS-1.1</b> Persons with medical insurance (percent, <65 years)   | 83.2% (2008)          | 86.7% (2014)           | 100%   | 20.8%                                |   | Yes  |
|  <sup>6</sup> <b>AHS-3</b> Persons with a usual primary care provider (percent)  | 76.3% (2007)          | 76.5% (2012)           | 83.9%  | 2.6%                                 |   | No   |
|  <sup>4</sup> <b>AHS-5.1</b> Persons with a source of ongoing care (percent, all ages)   | 86.4% (2008)          | 87.9% (2014)           | 95.0%  | 17.4%                                |   | Yes  |
|  <sup>4</sup> <b>AHS-5.2</b> Children and youth with a source of ongoing care (percent, ≤17 years)   | 94.3% (2008)          | 96.4% (2014)           | 100%   | 36.8%                                |   | Yes  |
|  <sup>4</sup> <b>AHS-5.3</b> Adults with a source of ongoing care (percent, 18–64 years)   | 81.3% (2008)          | 82.7% (2014)           | 89.4%  | 17.3%                                |   | Yes  |
|  <sup>6</sup> <b>AHS-5.4</b> Adults with a source of ongoing care (percent, 65+ years)   | 96.3% (2008)          | 96.8% (2014)           | 100%   | 13.5%                                |   | No   |
|  <sup>8</sup> <b>AHS-6.1</b> Persons unable to obtain or delay in obtaining necessary medical care, dental care, or prescription medications (percent) | 10.0% (2007)          | 10.5% (2012)           | 9.0%   |                                      | 5.0%                                      | No   |
|  <sup>10</sup> <b>AHS-6.2</b> Persons unable to obtain or delay in obtaining necessary medical care (percent)  | 4.7% (2007)           | 4.7% (2012)            | 4.2%   |                                      | 0.0%                                      |  |
|  <sup>8</sup> <b>AHS-6.3</b> Persons unable to obtain or delay in obtaining necessary dental care (percent)  | 5.5% (2007)           | 5.7% (2012)            | 5.0%   |                                      | 3.6%                                      | No   |
|  <sup>11</sup> <b>AHS-6.4</b> Persons unable to obtain or delay in obtaining necessary prescription medicines (percent)                                | 3.1% (2007)           | 3.6% (2012)            | 2.8%   |                                      | 16.1%                                     | Yes  |

**Table 1–2. Midcourse Progress for Measurable<sup>1</sup> Access to Health Services Objectives—Continued**

## NOTES

See [HealthyPeople.gov](https://www.healthypeople.gov) for all Healthy People 2020 data. The **Technical Notes** provide more information on the measures of progress.

## FOOTNOTES

<sup>1</sup>**Measurable** objectives had a national baseline value.

**Target met or exceeded:**

<sup>2</sup>At baseline the target was not met or exceeded and the midcourse value was equal to or exceeded the target. (The percentage of targeted change achieved was equal to or greater than 100%.)

<sup>3</sup>The baseline and midcourse values were equal to or exceeded the target. (The percentage of targeted change achieved was not assessed.)

**Improving:**

<sup>4</sup>Movement was toward the target, standard errors were available, and the percentage of targeted change achieved was statistically significant.

<sup>5</sup>Movement was toward the target, standard errors were not available, and the objective had achieved 10% or more of the targeted change.

**Little or no detectable change:**

<sup>6</sup>Movement was toward the target, standard errors were available, and the percentage of targeted change achieved was not statistically significant.

<sup>7</sup>Movement was toward the target, standard errors were not available, and the objective had achieved less than 10% of the targeted change.

<sup>8</sup>Movement was away from the baseline and target, standard errors were available, and the percentage change relative to the baseline was not statistically significant.

<sup>9</sup>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.

<sup>10</sup>There was no change between the baseline and the midcourse data point.

**Getting worse:**

<sup>11</sup>Movement was away from the baseline and target, standard errors were available, and the percentage change relative to the baseline was statistically significant.

<sup>12</sup>Movement was away from the baseline and target, and standard errors were not available, and the objective had moved 10% or more relative to the baseline.

<sup>13</sup>**Baseline only:** The objective only had one data point, so progress toward target attainment could not be assessed.

<sup>14</sup>**Informational:** A target was not set for this objective, so progress toward target attainment could not be assessed.

<sup>15</sup>For objectives that **moved toward** their targets, movement toward the target was measured as the percentage of targeted change achieved (unless the target was already met or exceeded at baseline):

$$\text{Percentage of targeted change achieved} = \frac{\text{Midcourse value} - \text{Baseline value}}{\text{HP2020 target} - \text{Baseline value}} \times 100$$

<sup>16</sup>For objectives that **moved away** from their baselines and targets, movement away from the baseline was measured as the magnitude of the percentage change from baseline:

$$\text{Magnitude of percentage change from baseline} = \frac{|\text{Midcourse value} - \text{Baseline value}|}{\text{Baseline value}} \times 100$$

<sup>17</sup>Statistical significance was tested when the objective had a target and at least two data points, standard errors of the data were available, and a normal distribution could be assumed. Statistical significance of the percentage of targeted change achieved or the magnitude of the percentage change from baseline was assessed at the 0.05 level using a normal one-sided test.

## DATA SOURCES

|         |   |
|---------|---|
| AHS-1.1 | National Health Interview Survey (NHIS), CDC/NCHS |
| AHS-3   | Medical Expenditure Panel Survey (MEPS), AHRQ     |
| AHS-5.1 | National Health Interview Survey (NHIS), CDC/NCHS |
| AHS-5.2 | National Health Interview Survey (NHIS), CDC/NCHS |
| AHS-5.3 | National Health Interview Survey (NHIS), CDC/NCHS |
| AHS-5.4 | National Health Interview Survey (NHIS), CDC/NCHS |
| AHS-6.1 | Medical Expenditure Panel Survey (MEPS), AHRQ     |
| AHS-6.2 | Medical Expenditure Panel Survey (MEPS), AHRQ     |
| AHS-6.3 | Medical Expenditure Panel Survey (MEPS), AHRQ     |
| AHS-6.4 | Medical Expenditure Panel Survey (MEPS), AHRQ     |

**Table 1–3. Midcourse Health Disparities<sup>1</sup> for Population-based Access to Health Services Objectives**

Most favorable (least adverse) and least favorable (most adverse) group rates and summary disparity ratios<sup>2,3</sup> for selected characteristics at the midcourse data point

| Population-based Objectives   | Sex                                  |                                      | Race and Ethnicity                   |                                      |   |                                      |                                      |                                      |                                      | Education <sup>4</sup>               |                                      |                                      |                                      |                                      |                                      | Family Income <sup>5</sup>           |                                      |                                      |                                      |                                      | Disability                           |                                      | Location                             |                                      |        |  |  |        |
|---|--------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|---|--------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|--------|--|--|--------|
|   | Male                                 | Female                               | American Indian or Alaska Native     | Asian                                | Native Hawaiian or other Pacific Islander | Two or more races                    | Hispanic or Latino                   | Black, not Hispanic                  | White, not Hispanic                  | Less than high school                | High school graduate                 | At least some college                | Associate's degree                   | 4-year college                       | Advanced degree                      | Poor                                 | Near-poor                            | Middle                               | Near-high                            | High                                 | Persons with disabilities            | Persons without disabilities         | Metropolitan                         | Nonmetropolitan                      |        |  |  |        |
|   | Summary Disparity Ratio <sup>2</sup> | Summary Disparity Ratio <sup>2</sup> | Summary Disparity Ratio <sup>3</sup> | Summary Disparity Ratio <sup>3</sup> | Summary Disparity Ratio <sup>3</sup>      | Summary Disparity Ratio <sup>3</sup> | Summary Disparity Ratio <sup>3</sup> | Summary Disparity Ratio <sup>3</sup> | Summary Disparity Ratio <sup>3</sup> | Summary Disparity Ratio <sup>3</sup> | Summary Disparity Ratio <sup>3</sup> | Summary Disparity Ratio <sup>3</sup> | Summary Disparity Ratio <sup>3</sup> | Summary Disparity Ratio <sup>3</sup> | Summary Disparity Ratio <sup>3</sup> | Summary Disparity Ratio <sup>3</sup> | Summary Disparity Ratio <sup>3</sup> | Summary Disparity Ratio <sup>3</sup> | Summary Disparity Ratio <sup>3</sup> | Summary Disparity Ratio <sup>3</sup> | Summary Disparity Ratio <sup>2</sup> |        |  |  |        |
| <b>AHS-1.1</b> Persons with medical insurance (percent, <65 years) (2014)   |                                      |                                      | 1.032*                               |                                      |   |                                      |                                      |                                      |                                      | 1.084*                               |                                      |                                      |                                      |                                      |                                      | 1.186*                               |                                      |                                      |                                      |                                      |                                      | 1.160*                               |                                      |                                      | 1.022* |  |  | 1.026* |
| <b>AHS-3</b> Persons with a usual primary care provider (percent) (2012)  |                                      |                                      | 1.103*                               |                                      |   |                                      |                                      |                                      |                                      | 1.140*                               |                                      |                                      |                                      |                                      |                                      | 1.087*                               |                                      |                                      |                                      |                                      |                                      | 1.088*                               |                                      |                                      | 1.080* |  |  | 1.000  |
| <b>AHS-5.1</b> Persons with a source of ongoing care (percent, all ages) (2014)   |                                      |                                      | 1.077*                               |                                      |   |                                      |                                      |                                      |                                      | 1.054                                |                                      |                                      |                                      |                                      |                                      | 1.066*                               |                                      |                                      |                                      |                                      |                                      | 1.087*                               |                                      |                                      | 1.080* |  |  | 1.016* |
| <b>AHS-5.2</b> Children and youth with a source of ongoing care (percent, ≤17 years) (2014)   |                                      |                                      | 1.003                                |                                      |   |                                      |                                      |                                      |                                      | 1.025*                               |                                      |                                      |                                      |                                      |                                      | 1.026*                               |                                      |                                      |                                      |                                      |                                      | 1.026*                               |                                      |                                      | 1.080* |  |  | 1.006  |
| <b>AHS-5.3</b> Adults with a source of ongoing care (percent, 18–64 years) (2014)   |                                      |                                      | 1.131*                               |                                      |   |                                      |                                      |                                      |                                      | 1.096                                |                                      |                                      |                                      |                                      |                                      | 1.066*                               |                                      |                                      |                                      |                                      |                                      | 1.155*                               |                                      |                                      | 1.055* |  |  | 1.019* |
| <b>AHS-5.4</b> Adults with a source of ongoing care (percent, 65+ years) (2014)   |                                      |                                      | 1.018*                               |                                      |   |                                      |                                      |                                      |                                      | 1.019                                |                                      |                                      |                                      |                                      |                                      | 1.066*                               |                                      |                                      |                                      |                                      |                                      | 1.018*                               |                                      |                                      | 1.002  |  |  | 1.001  |
| <b>AHS-6.1</b> Persons unable to obtain or delay in obtaining necessary medical care, dental care, or prescription medications (percent) (2012) |                                      |                                      | 1.237*                               |                                      |   |                                      |                                      |                                      |                                      | 1.608*                               |                                      |                                      |                                      |                                      |                                      | 1.363*                               |                                      |                                      |                                      |                                      |                                      | 1.882*                               |                                      |                                      | 1.080* |  |  | 1.026  |
| <b>AHS-6.2</b> Persons unable to obtain or delay in obtaining necessary medical care (percent) (2012)   |                                      |                                      | 1.405*                               |                                      |   |                                      |                                      |                                      |                                      | 1.765*                               |                                      |                                      |                                      |                                      |                                      | 1.372*                               |                                      |                                      |                                      |                                      |                                      | 1.979*                               |                                      |                                      | 1.080* |  |  | 1.014  |

**Table 1–3. Midcourse Health Disparities<sup>1</sup> for Population-based Access to Health Services Objectives—Continued**

Most favorable (least adverse) and least favorable (most adverse) group rates and summary disparity ratios<sup>2,3</sup> for selected characteristics at the midcourse data point

| Population-based Objectives   | Characteristics and Groups |        |                                      |                                  |       |   |                   |                    |                        |                     |                                      |                       |                      |                            |                    |                |                 |                                      |      |           |        |           |        |                                      |                           |                              |                                      |              |                 |
|---|----------------------------|--------|--------------------------------------|----------------------------------|-------|---|-------------------|--------------------|------------------------|---------------------|--------------------------------------|-----------------------|----------------------|----------------------------|--------------------|----------------|-----------------|--------------------------------------|------|-----------|--------|-----------|--------|--------------------------------------|---------------------------|------------------------------|--------------------------------------|--------------|-----------------|
|   | Sex                        |        | Race and Ethnicity                   |                                  |       |   |                   |                    | Education <sup>4</sup> |                     |                                      |                       |                      | Family Income <sup>5</sup> |                    |                |                 | Disability                           |      | Location  |        |           |        |                                      |                           |                              |                                      |              |                 |
|   | Male                       | Female | Summary Disparity Ratio <sup>2</sup> | American Indian or Alaska Native | Asian | Native Hawaiian or other Pacific Islander | Two or more races | Hispanic or Latino | Black, not Hispanic    | White, not Hispanic | Summary Disparity Ratio <sup>3</sup> | Less than high school | High school graduate | At least some college      | Associate's degree | 4-year college | Advanced degree | Summary Disparity Ratio <sup>3</sup> | Poor | Near-poor | Middle | Near-high | High   | Summary Disparity Ratio <sup>3</sup> | Persons with disabilities | Persons without disabilities | Summary Disparity Ratio <sup>2</sup> | Metropolitan | Nonmetropolitan |
| <b>AHS-6.3</b> Persons unable to obtain or delay in obtaining necessary dental care (percent) (2012)            |                            |        | 1.169*                               |                                  |       |   |                   |                    |                        |                     | 1.543*                               |                       |                      |                            |                    |                | 1.889*          |                                      |      |           |        |           | 2.758* |                                      |                           |                              |                                      |              | 1.014           |
| <b>AHS-6.4</b> Persons unable to obtain or delay in obtaining necessary prescription medicines (percent) (2012) |                            |        | 1.455*                               |                                  |       |   |                   |                    |                        | 2.240*              |                                      |                       |                      |                            |                    |                | 1.679*          |                                      |      |           |        |           | 1.864* |                                      |                           |                              |                                      |              | 1.020           |

**NOTES**

See [HealthyPeople.gov](http://HealthyPeople.gov) for all Healthy People 2020 data. The **Technical Notes** provide more information on the measures of disparities.

**FOOTNOTES**

<sup>1</sup>**Health disparities** were assessed among population groups within specified demographic characteristics (sex, race and ethnicity, educational attainment, etc.). This assessment did not include objectives that were not population-based, such as those based on states, worksites, or those monitoring the number of events.

<sup>2</sup>When there were only two groups (e.g., male and female), the **summary disparity ratio** was the ratio of the higher to the lower rate.

<sup>3</sup>When there were three or more groups (e.g., white non-Hispanic, black non-Hispanic, Hispanic) and the most favorable rate ( $R_b$ ) was the highest rate, the **summary disparity ratio** was calculated as  $R_b/R_a$ , where  $R_a$  = the average of the rates for all other groups. When there were three or more groups and the most favorable rate was the lowest rate, the summary disparity ratio was calculated as  $R_a/R_b$ .

<sup>4</sup>Unless otherwise footnoted, data do not include persons under age 25 years.

<sup>5</sup>Unless otherwise footnoted, the poor, near-poor, middle, near-high, and high income groups are for persons whose family incomes were less than 100%, 100%–199%, 200%–399%, 400%–599%, and at or above 600% of the poverty threshold, respectively.

<sup>6</sup>Data do not include persons under age 18 years.

\*The summary disparity ratio was significantly greater than 1.000. Statistical significance was assessed at the 0.05 level using a normal one-sided test on the natural logarithm scale.

**DATA SOURCES**

- AHS-1.1 National Health Interview Survey (NHIS), CDC/NCHS
- AHS-3 Medical Expenditure Panel Survey (MEPS), AHRQ
- AHS-5.1 National Health Interview Survey (NHIS), CDC/NCHS
- AHS-5.2 National Health Interview Survey (NHIS), CDC/NCHS
- AHS-5.3 National Health Interview Survey (NHIS), CDC/NCHS
- AHS-5.4 National Health Interview Survey (NHIS), CDC/NCHS
- AHS-6.1 Medical Expenditure Panel Survey (MEPS), AHRQ
- AHS-6.2 Medical Expenditure Panel Survey (MEPS), AHRQ
- AHS-6.3 Medical Expenditure Panel Survey (MEPS), AHRQ
- AHS-6.4 Medical Expenditure Panel Survey (MEPS), AHRQ