

CHAPTER 34

Preparedness (PREP)

Lead Agencies

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

Office of Policy, Strategic Planning, and Communications, Office of the Assistant Secretary for Preparedness and Response, Office of the Secretary

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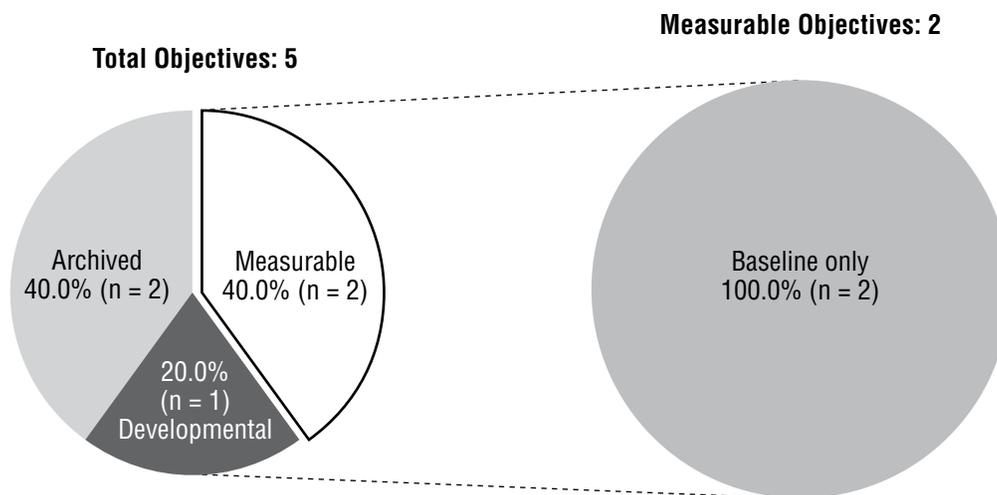
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Goal: Improve the Nation’s ability to prevent, prepare for, respond to, and recover from a major health incident.

This chapter includes objectives that monitor public health agency response times to major public health emergencies, and state public health agency establishment of after-action reports and improvement plans following responses to public health emergencies and exercises. 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.¹

Status of Objectives

Figure 34–1. Midcourse Status of the Preparedness Objectives



Of the five objectives in the Preparedness Topic Area at midcourse, two objectives were archived,² one was developmental,³ and two were measurable⁴ (Figure 34–1, Table 34–1). At midcourse, the two measurable objectives had baseline data only,⁵ so progress toward their 2020 targets could not be assessed (Table 34–2).

More Information

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

- For the background and importance of the topic area, see: <https://www.healthypeople.gov/2020/topics-objectives/topic/preparedness>
- For data details for each objective, including definitions, numerators, denominators, calculations, and data limitations, see: <https://www.healthypeople.gov/2020/topics-objectives/topic/preparedness/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: <https://www.healthypeople.gov/2020/topics-objectives/topic/preparedness/objectives>

Select an objective, then click on the “Data2020” icon.

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

- Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Division of State and Local Readiness: <http://emergency.cdc.gov/planning/index.asp>

Footnotes

¹The **Technical Notes** provide more information on Healthy People 2020 statistical methods and issues.

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

³**Developmental** objectives did not have a national baseline value.

⁴**Measurable** objectives had a national baseline value.

⁵**Baseline only**—The objective only had one data point, so progress toward target attainment could not be assessed.

Suggested Citation

National Center for Health Statistics. Chapter 34: Preparedness. Healthy People 2020 Midcourse Review. Hyattsville, MD. 2016.

Table 34-1. Preparedness 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
PREP-1	(Developmental) Reduce the time necessary to issue official information to the public about a public health emergency	(Potential) Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Division of State and Local Readiness (CDC/DSLRL)	Not Applicable
PREP-2	Reduce the time necessary to activate designated personnel in response to a public health emergency	Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Division of State and Local Readiness (CDC/DSLRL)	
PREP-3.1	(Archived) Increase the proportion of LRN biological laboratories that meet proficiency standards for Category A and B threat agents	(Potential) CDC Laboratory Response Network (LRN), CDC/NCEH	Not Applicable
PREP-3.2	(Archived) Increase the proportion of LRN chemical laboratories that meet proficiency standards for chemical threat agents	CDC Laboratory Response Network (LRN), CDC/NCEH	Not Applicable
PREP-4	Reduce the time for state public health agencies to establish after-action reports and improvement plans following responses to public health emergencies and exercises	Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Division of State and Local Readiness (CDC/DSLRL)	

Table 34–2. Midcourse Progress for Measurable¹ Preparedness Objectives

LEGEND

 Target met or exceeded^{2,3}
 Improving^{4,5}
 Little or no detectable change⁶⁻¹⁰
 Getting worse^{11,12}
 Baseline only¹³
 Informational¹⁴

Objective Description	Baseline Value (Year)	Midcourse Value (Year)	Target	Movement Toward Target ¹⁵	Movement Away From Baseline ¹⁶	Movement Statistically Significant ¹⁷
¹³ PREP-2 Designated personnel report-to-duty time in a public health emergency (average time in minutes)	66 (2009)		59			
¹³ PREP-4 Timely production of after-action reports and improvement plans after simulation exercise (average time in days)	46 (2009)		41			

NOTES

See HealthyPeople.gov for all Healthy People 2020 data. The **Technical Notes** provide more information on the measures of progress.

FOOTNOTES

¹**Measurable** objectives had a national baseline value.

Target met or exceeded:

²At 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%.)

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

Improving:

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

⁵Movement 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:

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

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

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

⁹Movement was away from the baseline and target, standard errors were not available, and the objective had moved less than 10% relative to the baseline.

¹⁰There was no change between the baseline and the midcourse data point.

Getting worse:

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

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

FOOTNOTES—Continued

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

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

¹⁵For 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):

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

¹⁶For 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:

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

¹⁷Statistical 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

- PREP-2 Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Division of State and Local Readiness (CDC/DSLRL)
- PREP-4 Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Division of State and Local Readiness (CDC/DSLRL)