



PROGRESS REVIEW

Hispanic Americans

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES ■ PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICE ■ April 29, 1997

The Deputy Secretary and the Acting Assistant Secretary for Health jointly chaired the second review of progress on subobjectives for Hispanic Americans. The progress review was organized around three themes: improving Hispanic data, development of Healthy People 2010, and improving access to quality health care. The Deputy Secretary shared information on the HHS Hispanic Agenda for Action. Progress on selected Healthy People 2000 subobjectives which target Hispanics is described below.

Objectives Closing the Gap

14.1c Although Puerto Rican infant mortality rates are closing the gap with the total U.S. population, they are still high—9.7 per 1,000 live births (1991). The year 2000 target is 8 per 1,000 live births.

14.11c Pregnant Hispanic women receiving prenatal care in the first trimester of pregnancy increased from 61 percent in 1987 to 70 percent in 1995. Ninety percent is the year 2000 target.

15.14b and 15.14d The proportion of Mexican Americans, between the ages of 18-74 years who have ever had their blood cholesterol checked was 55 percent in 1993, compared to 42 percent in 1991. The year 2000 target is 75 percent.

16.11a Data from the National Health Interview Survey indicate that, in 1994, 50 percent of Hispanic women, 50 years and older had received a clinical breast examination and a mammogram. The target is 60 percent.

16.12a The proportion of Hispanic women, ages 18 and over that have ever received a pap test has increased from 75 percent in 1987 to 91 percent in 1994—approaching the year 2000 target of 95 percent.

21.3a There has been an increase from the 1991 baseline of 63 percent in the proportion of Hispanics, ages 18 and older who have a regular source of primary care. The 1994 data indicate 71 percent of Hispanic adults had a regular source of primary care -- still lower than the 84 percent for the total population. Among Hispanics, Mexican Americans are least likely to have a regular source of primary care.

Improving but Not Closing the Gap

20.4c The objective is to reduce the incidence of tuberculosis among Hispanics to no more than 5 cases per 100,000 people. In 1995, there were 18 cases per 100,000, a small decrease from the 1988 baseline of 18.3 but a large decrease from the peak of 22.8 in 1991. Hispanics are twice as likely to have tuberculo-

sis as the total population (8.7 cases per 100,000).

20.11b The percentages of Hispanic adults, ages 65 and older receiving pneumococcal and influenza immunizations increased in 1994 to 14 and 38 percent, respectively, as compared with the baseline year 1989 (11 and 28 percent, respectively). The year 2000 target is 60 percent.

Moving Away from the Target

1.2c Overweight prevalence among Hispanic women, ages 20 and older increased from 27 percent in 1985 to 33 percent in 1993. The year 2000 target is 25 percent.

HIGHLIGHTS

- By the year 2010, it is estimated that Hispanics will become the largest minority group in the U.S. — an estimated 13 percent of the U.S. population.
- In 1994, 26.4 million Hispanic Americans were living in the continental United States: 64 percent were Mexican Americans, 11 percent were Puerto Ricans, 13 percent were from Central and South America and the Caribbean, 5 percent were Cuban Americans, and 7 percent were classified as "Other" Hispanics.
- Of the 82 Healthy People 2000 objectives with regularly updated data, about half have data indicating progress—in other words a decrease in health disparity between Hispanics and the total population. Ten percent of the Hispanic objectives show no reduction in disparity. For twenty-two percent of the Hispanic objectives, data are moving away from the target and for twenty-one percent there are no data to assess progress.
- On September 1996, the Secretary announced the Department-wide Hispanic Agenda for Action: Improving the Services to Hispanic Americans Initiative. The primary focus of this initiative is to ensure that the workforce and programs of the Department are reflective of and sensitive to its Hispanic customers.
- To improve health information about Hispanics, the National Center for Health Statistics will be translating the 1998 National Health Interview Survey into Spanish.
- Local health departments are working with the National Center for Farmworkers Health to improve the collection and utilization of demographic and epidemiological information throughout the U.S.-Mexico border area.

5.1b In 1991, there were 180 pregnancies per 1,000 Hispanic adolescent females between the ages of 15-19, compared with 143 per 1,000 in 1985. Hispanic adolescent females were significantly more likely than the total population (74.6 per 1,000) to have been pregnant.

7.1d In 1994, the homicide rate among Hispanic males, ages 15-34 increased to 52.2 per 100,000 from the 1987 baseline of 41.3 per 100,000. The year 2000 target is 33 per 100,000.

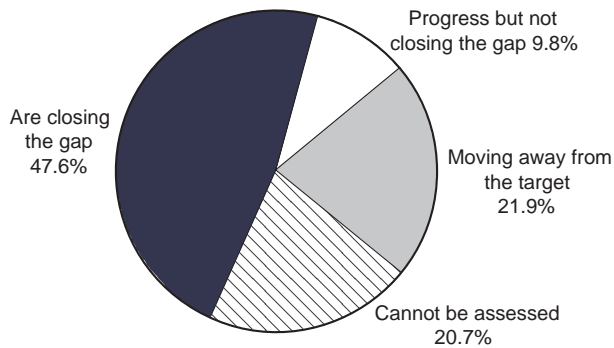
13.14d and 13.14e In 1993, the proportion of Mexican Americans, ages 35 and older using an oral health care system increased to 45 percent from 38 percent in 1991. The rate for Puerto Ricans decreased to 37 percent from the 1991 baseline of 51 percent.

17.11c While the prevalence of diabetes among the total population increased from 28 per 1,000 in 1986 to 30 cases per 1,000 in 1994, among Mexican-Americans, the prevalence increased from 54 to 66

cases per 1,000 during the same period.

18.1c Hispanics are disproportionately affected by the HIV/AIDS epidemic. In 1994, there were 49.9 AIDS cases per 100,000 Hispanics, as compared with 29.9 cases per 100,000 for the total population.

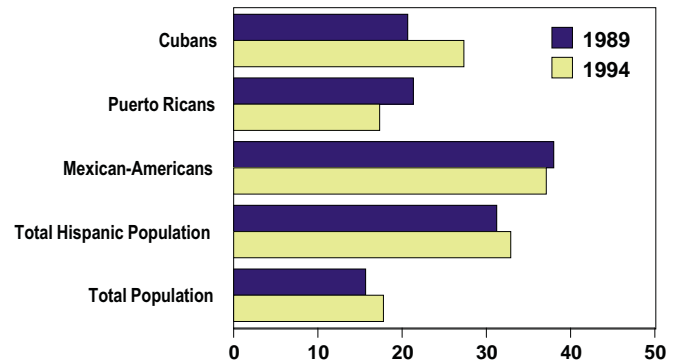
Hispanic Health Disparities are Being Reduced



N=82 Healthy People 2000 Hispanic Health Objectives

Source: CDC/NCHS, National Health Interview Survey

Health Insurance Proportion of People Under 65 Years Without Insurance



Source: CDC/NCHS, National Health Interview Survey

21.4b In 1994, the proportion of Hispanics under 65 years of age (32.9 percent) who were without health insurance was twice that for the total population (17.8 percent). Among Hispanics, the proportion of Mexican-Americans without coverage in 1994 was 37.2 percent; for Puerto Ricans it was 17.4 percent, and for Cubans it was 27.4 percent.

FOLLOW-UP

The progress review concluded with a summary of action items:

1. Development of a Hispanic data collection strategy that:
 - Addresses data collection priorities and related funding decisions.
 - Increases knowledge about Hispanic subgroups and uses regional surveys in those States that have the largest number of Hispanics.
 - Identifies surveys which have adequate numbers of Hispanics and/or Hispanic subgroups for analysis, as well as surveys which are conducted in Spanish and specify the methods used.
 - Ensures a research agenda that studies the attributes of ethnic groups which will enable more effective interventions to support healthy behaviors and families and to address socioeconomic disparities.
 - Ensures the collection of data on both victims and perpetrators of violent acts.
2. Development of Healthy People 2010:
 - Review objectives and targets relevant to Hispanics (not just those specifically identified for Hispanics). Draft 2010 objectives that eliminate, not just reduce, disparities, setting targets for Hispanic Americans the same as for the total population.
 - Draft 2010 Hispanic objectives addressing mental health, substance abuse, occupational health, environmental health, and the effects of violence, focusing on morbidity.
3. Access to quality health care:
 - Develop a strategy to reduce financial barriers that impede delivery of health services to Hispanics.
 - Expand training programs for Hispanic health and social service professionals.

PARTICIPANTS

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 ASPIRA Association
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 Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
 Congressional Hispanic Caucus
 Food and Drug Administration
 Health Care Financing Administration
 Health Resources and Services Administration
 HHS Hispanic Employees Association
 Indian Health Service
 National Association of Hispanic Publications
 National Association of Hispanic-Serving Health Professional Schools
 National Center for Farmworkers Health
 National Coalition of Hispanic Health and Human Services Organizations
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