

Introduction

In the spring of 2000, the Kentucky Department for Public Health released *Healthy Kentuckians 2010* (HK 2010). This document, which set the agenda for Kentucky's public health initiatives, was based on the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services' document, *Healthy People 2010*. The two overarching goals for HK 2010 are extending years of healthy life and eliminating health disparities. HK 2010 has been used extensively in program planning, targeting prevention initiatives, grant preparation, and forming health policy.

Now it is time to determine how well Kentucky is meeting its objectives. This document, *Healthy Kentuckians 2010 Mid-Decade Review*, is a roadmap that shows how well Kentucky is making progress and where added emphasis is needed.

The Mid-Decade Review process began in the spring of 2005 with the development of a steering committee comprised of representatives from all divisions in the Kentucky Department for Public Health. The steering committee guided development of the document format and recommended coordinators for each chapter. These chapter coordinators worked with epidemiologists, team members, and other stakeholders to track each objective in HK 2010. While most objectives remained the same as in the original document, some were revised to reflect data from new or modified data sources. For example, an objective may rely on data from a certain survey question. If that survey question was changed, the objective was altered to reflect data obtained from the new survey question.

At the time that HK 2010 objectives and targets were set, most had data sources to track their progress. Other objectives were classified as "developmental" because no data source was available at the time to track the objectives. The developers of the objectives hoped that a data source would be available by mid-decade. Although many developmental objectives now have data sources to track their progress, some still do not. If a developmental objective would not have a data source by 2006, then in most cases it was deleted. Although these objectives are still considered important, they were removed from the document since no data would be available to track their progress.

Due to the changing emphasis on certain public health issues and the development of additional data sources, new objectives were added to certain chapters. In fact, an entire chapter on Public Health Preparedness was added to reflect the state's commitment to this issue. In the first five years of this decade, we have seen acts of bioterrorism, wide scale natural disasters, and the potential for disease pandemics—all of which underscore the need for states to be able to effectively respond to such catastrophes.

Since this document serves as an indicator of how well Kentucky is meeting its 2010 objectives, each chapter includes the overall goal, a chapter overview, and a summary of progress for each chapter objective. Also included is a summary table that lists each

objective, the baseline, HK 2010 target, mid-decade status, whether progress was made, and the data source. More extensive information on each objective, such as data trends and strategies, can also be found in the document.

Healthy Kentuckians 2010 Mid-Decade Review reflects the objectives that Kentucky will be tracking for the next half of this decade (from FY 2006 through FY 2010). This updated document provides the framework for developing public health prevention initiatives geared to improving the health status of all Kentuckians. For questions on how to use this document in public health planning, please contact the Kentucky Department for Public Health, Division of Epidemiology and Health Planning at (502) 564-3418.