

**North Carolina Institute of Medicine**  
**Healthy NC 2020: Maternal and Infant Health**  
**Wednesday, February 24, 2010**

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**Methodology for Setting Objectives and Targets**

In developing objectives and targets for each focus area, subcommittees should work to propose three objectives and select one objective that can be considered a "summary indicator" for their particular focus area; propose scientifically-derived targets that can be aspirational but realistic and measurable in 10 years; and consider objectives that are available at the county-level and for race/ethnicity, gender, and age.

**Draft Maternal and Infant Health Objectives**

The Maternal and Infant Health Subcommittee is considering the following measures to develop draft objectives:

1. a. Percent of babies born at low birth weight, or b. Percent of premature births (gestational age less than 37 weeks)
2. Percent of women at childbearing age who are "healthy" using either
  - i. The new Healthy People 2020 Objective MICH HP 2020-25: Among *women delivering a live birth, increase the percentage who received preconception care services and practice key recommended preconception health behaviors*
  - OR-
  - ii. A composite measure using Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System (BRFSS) data for age, smoking status, alcohol use, depression, etc.
3. Percent of women receiving prenatal care in the first trimester
4. Percent of births occurring with birth interval of greater than 18 months

**Next Steps**

The NCIOM is working with the North Carolina State Center for Health Statistics to determine what BRFSS data are available for creating a composite measure of the health of women at childbearing age and to learn more about the data source for Objective MICH HP 2020-25. In addition, the possibility of including infant mortality as a "cross-area indicator," and therefore, not as a subcommittee objective, will be discussed with the HNC 2020 steering committee. At the second meeting, subcommittee members will further discuss the proposed objectives, select the final three objectives including the summary indicator, and set targets.