Health, United States:
History and Future Directions
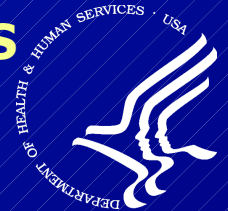
Diane Makuc, Dr.P.H.

October 10, 2003

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES
Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
National Center for Health Statistics

SAFER・HEALTHIER・PEOPLE™

Health, United States, 2003

With Chartbook on Trends in the Health of Americans

STATISTICS TRENDS DATA *health*

Outline

- **Legislation**

- **Goals/audiences**

- **2003 edition: content, format, dissemination, marketing**

- **Content of past editions**

- **Sources of input on content**

- **Constraints**

- **Questions for consideration by BSC**

Health, US is Mandated by the Public Health Service Act

Each year the Secretary shall submit to the President and Congress reports on:

- **Health care costs and financing trends**
- **Health resources by geographic area**
- **Utilization of health resources by age, sex, income, geographic area**
- **The health of the Nation's people by age, sex, income, geographic area**

Goals

- **Comprehensive source on national trends in health statistics**

- **Useful to a wide audience**

- **Timely**

- **Accurate**

- **Easy to access**

Audiences

- **Policymakers**

- **Researchers**

- **Public health professionals**

- **Educators/students**

- **Librarians**

Content & Format of Health US 2003

- **Highlights summarize major findings**
- **Chartbook:**
    - **Trends in the health of Americans**
- **Tables on trends in 4 areas in legislation**
    - **150 tables/60 data sources**
- **Appendixes : I - Data sources**
    - **II - Definitions and methods**
    - **III - Additional data years on web**
- **Index to tables**

Chartbook on
Trends in the Health of Americans

- **Population (age, race/ethnicity, poverty)**

- **Health insurance**

- **Preventive health care**

- **Health risk factors**

- **Limitation of activity**

- **Mortality**

- **Diabetes (special topic for 2003)**

Report Includes Extensive Technical Notes to Help Interpret Data

- Change in ICD revision from 9 to 10
- Change to 2000 population standard for age adjustment
- Change in OMB standards for race/ethnicity groups
- Change to 2000-based population estimates bridged to single race groups
- Data reliability
- Changes in surveys

Health US 2003 Dissemination

- **Printed report**

  11,500 distributed by NCHS also sold by GPO

- **Web site**

- **CD-ROM**

- **Printed special excerpt: Trend tables on 65 and Older Population (50 tables) – distributed at selected meetings**

Health US Web Site

- **Complete report as pdf file**

- **Tables in separate pdf files**

- **Chartbook in separate pdf file**

- **Excel spreadsheets with additional data**

- **Table updates**

- **All previous editions back to 1975**

Marketing Health US 2003

- **News release by DHHS**
- **Postcards – 30,000 mailed**
- **Listserv**
- **Announcement in MMWR**
- **Meeting exhibits**
- **Magnets/ bookmarks**

History of Report Content (see handout)

- **Trend tables on 4 areas in legislation appear in all editions**

- **1975-1983:**

  - **Chapters/short articles on selected heath topics**

- **1984-2003:**

  - **Chartbook section in most years**

Selected Chartbook Topics

- **Minority health (1990)**

- **Women's health (1995)**

- **Socioeconomic status and health (1998)**

- **Aging (1999)**

- **Adolescent health (2000)**

- **Urban and rural health (2001)**

- **Trends in the health of Americans (2002 forward with special topic section each year)**

Sources of Input on Content

- **NCHS staff/reviewers**
- **CDC reviewers**
- **DHHS reviewers**
- **NCVHS**
- **External experts on special focus areas**
- **Other sources such as**
  - **AJE 2000 book review**
  - **User email**

Constraints

- **Legislative requirements**

- **Clearance process**

- **Annual schedule**

- **Resources**

Review and Clearance

Draft highlights/chartbook reviewed by:

- **NCHS senior staff**
- **CDC CIOs**
- **DHHS Data Council**
- **NCVHS**
- **Other selected experts**

Clearance book reviewed by:

- **DHHS OS**
- **DHHS agencies**

Timeline for 2004 Edition

Sept-Dec 03	**Prepare draft**
Jan 04	**Review (1 mo.)**
Feb-Mar 04	**Revise/update**
Apr-Jun 04	**Clearance (3 mo.)**
Jul-Aug 04	**Printing (2 mo.)**
Sept 04	**Release**
Nov 04	**Web update**

Questions for Consideration

- **How should we decide on future directions for Health US?**

- **Should we conduct a review outside of the annual clearance?**

- **On what aspects of the report?**

  target audience, content, format?

- **What process should be used?**

- **Who should provide the input?**

Some Possible Areas for Input

Audience

    Whom should we be targeting?

Content

    Should the mix of topics be changed?

    Should it be more/less technical?

Format

    Should the format be modified?

    How can the web site be improved?

Who Should Provide the Input on a Comprehensive Report?

- **Experts from each audience/content area?**

- **Experts from most important audience(s)?**

- **Experts on statistical reports?**

- **Selected users of the report?**