Introduction

Healthy People 2010 builds on initiatives pursued over the past two decades. The latest of these, *Healthy People 2000: National Health Promotion and Disease Prevention Objectives*, released in 1990, identified health improvement goals and objectives to be reached by the year 2000. The Healthy People 2010 initiative continues in this tradition. Many of the objectives that were in Healthy People 2000 also appear in Healthy People 2010, though some have been modified or adapted to reflect improvements in methodology and changes in the focus of public health policy.

This condensed volume of *Tracking Healthy People 2010* focuses on reproductive health. It presents 72 objectives, which focus on improving the reproductive health of Americans by the year 2010. The purpose of this volume is to provide technical information so that the many partners in this improvement effort understand how the data are derived and the major statistical issues affecting the interpretation of the statistics.

Tracking Healthy People 2010—Reproductive Health is organized into three sections.

- **Part A: General Data Issues** discusses issues that affect many objectives. It covers in detail target-setting methods and developmental objectives. Also included are the minimum select population template and abbreviated sections on national, state, and local data. The reader is encouraged to refer to the main volume, *Tracking Healthy People 2010*, for data issues not covered in this publication.

- **Part B: Operational Definitions** provides definitions for each of the 72 Healthy People 2010 objectives related to reproductive health. The purpose of these definitions is to give the necessary technical information so the statistics can be reproduced for the national populations and comparable statistics can be calculated for other populations.

- **Part C: Major Health Data Sources** describes characteristics of the three major data systems that are responsible for tracking five or more Healthy People 2010 objectives on reproductive health. These characteristics are important considerations for others trying to develop similar data sources or trying to use the data sources for other purposes, such as the calculation of statistics for other select populations.

For additional details not covered in this publication, the reader is encouraged to refer to the main volume, *Tracking Healthy People 2010*.