21ˢᵗ Century Health Statistics Vision Process
Meeting Preparation Workbook

This Workbook is for your use in preparing for the discussion session. Use it to help formulate your thoughts about the topics that will be addressed, and bring it to the meeting. The workbooks will be collected at the end of the meeting.

If you are unable to attend the meeting, but would like to contribute your ideas, please forward this workbook to Rob Weinzimer by fax at 301-458-4025 or mail it to 6525 Belcrest Rd., Room 1064, Hyattsville, MD 20782. Comments received this way before the meeting will be introduced to participants during the course of discussion.

Objectives of the 21ˢᵗ Century Health Statistics Vision Process:

1. Identify major future trends in health, health care, technology, demographics, and social policy, and statistical methodology that will help determine needed characteristics and components of 21ˢᵗ century health statistics system.

2. Document and articulate a clear statement of the role health statistics can play in addressing these major health issues.

3. Build a literature that defines the field of health statistics, describes its importance, and documents its unique contributions to health care and health policy making, program development and research.

4. Build consensus on key health statistics system issues and data gaps that need to be addressed in building the 21ˢᵗ century health statistics system.

Discussion Session Topics:

Topic Area 1: Major Current and Emerging Health Issues

1. Identify major trends in health status of the U.S. population in this decade (e.g. chronic conditions, disabilities).   Are these trends likely to continue into the next decade? If not, how will they change?

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2. Identify major trends in use of health services and delivery of health care in recent years? (e.g.

managed care; physician group practices; migration of encounters to outpatient settings).   Are these trends likely to continue into the next decade? If not, how will they change?

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3.   Identify anticipated developments in demographics and social policy in the next decade, and how they will affect the health system (e.g. aging and diversity of the population; welfare reform).

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Topic Area 2: Health Information Needs Associated with Trends

4.   What will be the information needs for addressing the issues that you identified above? On the national level? State? Local level? (Consider both public and private sector needs.)

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5.   How can the health statistics system of the next decade and beyond respond to those information needs?

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6.   Identify key technological considerations for the health statistics system and for health information more generally, in the next several years (e.g. the internet; health informatics).

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7.   Given your response to all of the above, what would you consider to be the highest priority needs to be addressed in building the health statistics system of the future?

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Topic Area 3: Roles and Responsibilities for Providing Information and Statistics

8.   Identify the most important roles for the public sector in meeting needs for health information and statistics.

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9.   Identify the most important roles for the private sector in meeting needs for health information and statistics.

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10.   Identify the most constructive steps that could be taken by the Federal government in meeting needs for health information and statistics.

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11.   Identify the most constructive steps that could be taken by State and local governments in meeting needs for health information and statistics.

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12.   Who are some of the key users of health statistics information and how might we go about gaining their input into the above questions?   Please identify any specific individuals or organizations that should be involved in this process.

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