



# Tracking Houston's food safety progress against the 2010 and 2020 healthy people goals



Brenda Thorne, MS, DTM; William Bryant, MS; Kirstin Short, MPH; Salma Khuwaja, MD, PhD; Raouf Arafat, MD, MPH  
Houston Department of Health and Human Services, Bureau of Epidemiology

## Introduction

This poster project will present selected food borne incidence rates in Houston for certain years in comparison to the Healthy People 2010 goals and Healthy People 2020 goals in the food safety focus area.

## Objectives

The objectives of this poster project are:

- To present the incidence rates of key foodborne pathogens that were reported to the City of Houston, Bureau of Epidemiology in 2009, 2010 and 2011 and compare with "Healthy People 2010" and "Healthy People 2020" target goals.
- To present public health actions and strategies needed as indicated by the data

## Method

Enteric data for selected years was extracted from the Houston Electronic Disease Surveillance System (HEDSS), the repository database for most reportable diseases monitored by the Houston Department of Health and Human Services in the state of Texas. The pivot table function of Excel was used to summarize the data. 2000

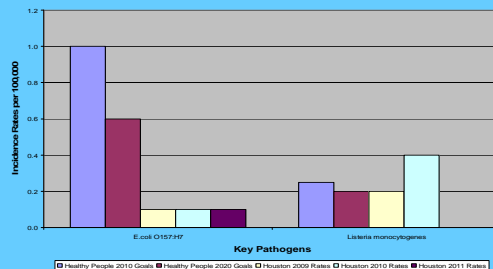
## Method (continued)

census population was used to calculate 2009 rates and 2010 census population was used to calculate 2010 and 2011 rates. Census population data was obtained from <http://factfinder2.census.gov>. Local rates were compared to 2010 and 2020 Healthy People Goals in the food safety

## Results

Currently, Houston has met both the Healthy People 2010 and 2020 goals for *Campylobacter* and *E. coli* o157:H7 except for *Listeria monocytogenes* and *Salmonella*. Houston did not meet the Healthy People 2010 goal for *Listeria monocytogenes*. Houston did not meet any of the Healthy People goals for *Salmonella*.

Figure 1: Comparison of Houston's Incidence Rates (2009-2011) with Healthy People 2010 and Healthy People 2020 Goals



## Results (continued)

Table 1: Comparison of Houston's Incidence Rates\* (2009-2011) with Healthy People 2010 and Healthy People 2020 Goals

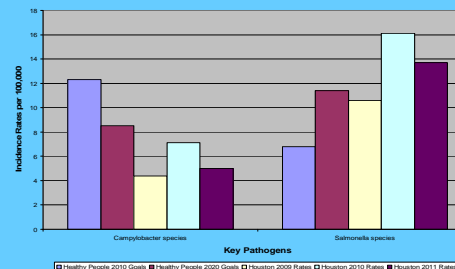
Key Pathogen	HP** 2010 Goals	HP** 2020 Goals	2009 Houston Rates	2010 Houston Rates	2011 Houston Rates
Campylobacter species	12.3	8.5	4.4	7.1	5.0
E. coli o157:H7	1.0	0.6	0.1	0.1	0.1
Listeria monocytogenes	0.25	0.2	0.2	0.4	0.0
Salmonella species	6.8	11.4	10.6	16.1	13.7

\*Rate per 100,000 population

\*\*Healthy People

White font indicates Houston met goals. Red font indicates Houston did not meet goals.

Figure 2: Comparison of Houston's Incidence Rates (2009-2011) with Healthy People 2010 and Healthy People Goals



## Conclusion

More effort needs to be done to keep the Houston population healthy from Salmonellosis. Public health education is key to disseminating information on food safety and hand hygiene. Analysis of this data will be shared through various forums including reaching the public through mass media.