

Box 1-1

Health and Health Care Priorities for American Children

Poverty

Hunger

Lack of health insurance

Child abuse and neglect

Overweight and obesity

Firearm deaths and injuries

Mental health

Racial and ethnic disparities

Immigration

Adapted from Flores G, Lesley B: Children and US federal policy on health and health care: seen but not heard, *JAMA Pediatr* 168(12):1155-1163, 2014.

Health Promotion

Child health promotion provides opportunities to reduce differences in current health status among members of different groups and to ensure equal opportunities and resources to enable all children to achieve their fullest health potential. The Healthy People 2020 Leading Health Indicators ([Box 1-2](#)) provide a framework for identifying essential components for child health promotion programs designed to prevent future health problems in our nation's children. Bright Futures is a national health promotion initiative with a goal to improve the health of our nation's children ([Bright Futures, 2014](#)). Major themes of the Bright Futures guideline are promoting family support, child development, mental health, healthy nutrition that leads to healthy weight, physical activity, oral health, healthy sexual development and sexuality, safety and injury