The main objective of the Department of Public Health and Preventive Medicine is to provide the qualitative primary health care services to the community. Rendering maternal and child health care, prevention and control of communicable and non-communicable diseases are the major components.

Now, under this Department, Districts are named as Health Unit Districts and few larger Districts are bifurcated in to two for administrative reasons. Each Health Unit District is functioning under the technical and administrative control of one Deputy Director of Health Services. Each Health unit District comprises of 30-40 Primary Health Centres on an average.

The Primary Health Centres have been established at the rate of one per 30,000 rural population in plain areas and one per 20,000 population in hilly areas. Each Primary Health Centre is functioning with minimum of two Medical Officers supported by a team of field health staff.

Each Primary Health Centre comprises of 5 to 6 Health Sub-Centres on an average. These have been established at the rate of one per 5000 rural population in plain areas and one per 3000 rural population in hilly areas.