

HEALTHY SMILES HEALTHY GROWTH

2018 | WISCONSIN'S THIRD-GRADE CHILDREN



Some things have changed for the better among Wisconsin's third-graders. Since the last Healthy Smiles Healthy Growth Survey, the use of dental sealants has grown. But barriers to better dental health still remain, especially for low-income and minority children. Caries experience levels have increased from the last survey and demonstrate that dental decay is still a problem for Wisconsin children. Working together, public and private health care providers can improve access to comprehensive dental care to all children.

TOOTH DECAY

#1

Tooth decay is the most common chronic disease of childhood.

3 OUT OF 5 CHILDREN HAVE HAD TOOTH DECAY



DENTAL PAIN

In addition, approximately 3,000 third-grade children statewide are suffering with dental pain or an infection and need urgent dental treatment.

UNTREATED TOOTH DECAY

1 in 5 children have untreated tooth decay.



IMPACT OF TOOTH DECAY

Tooth decay can impact a child's life in the following ways:



learning



self-esteem



speaking



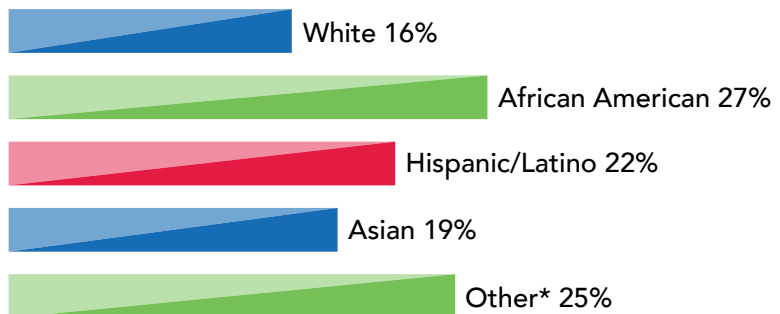
sleeping



eating

DECAY BY RACE/ETHNICITY

African American children are nearly twice as likely to have untreated decay compared to White children.



*Other includes: American Indian/Alaska Native, Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander, multi-racial and unknown

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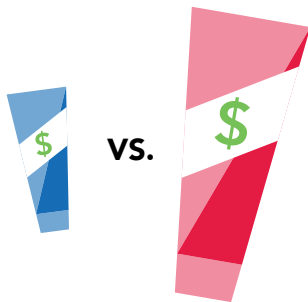
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SEALANTS



Dental sealants prevent tooth decay on the chewing surfaces of teeth.



SEALANT COSTS

The cost of one dental sealant is roughly one-third the cost of a filling.

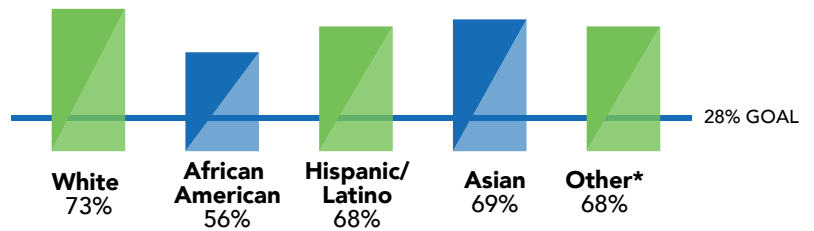


PREVALENCE

About 70% of Wisconsin children have dental sealants.

CONCLUSIONS

HEALTHY PEOPLE 2020

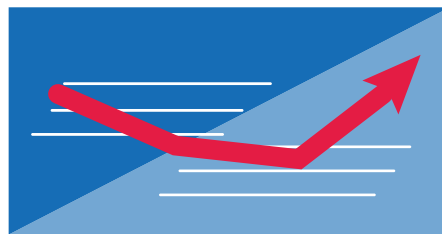


Children from all races and ethnicities exceed the Healthy People 2020 target of 28% for dental sealants.



*Other includes: American Indian/Alaska Native, Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander, multi-racial and unknown

IMPROVEMENTS NEEDED

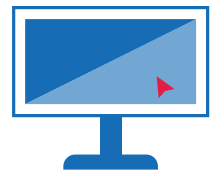


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Currently children are experiencing more tooth decay compared to previous school years.

For more information about the Wisconsin Healthy Smiles Survey visit:

www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/publications/p0/p00589.pdf



WISCONSIN DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH SERVICES

