

Vision for children tooth decay free in California: School Dental Programs

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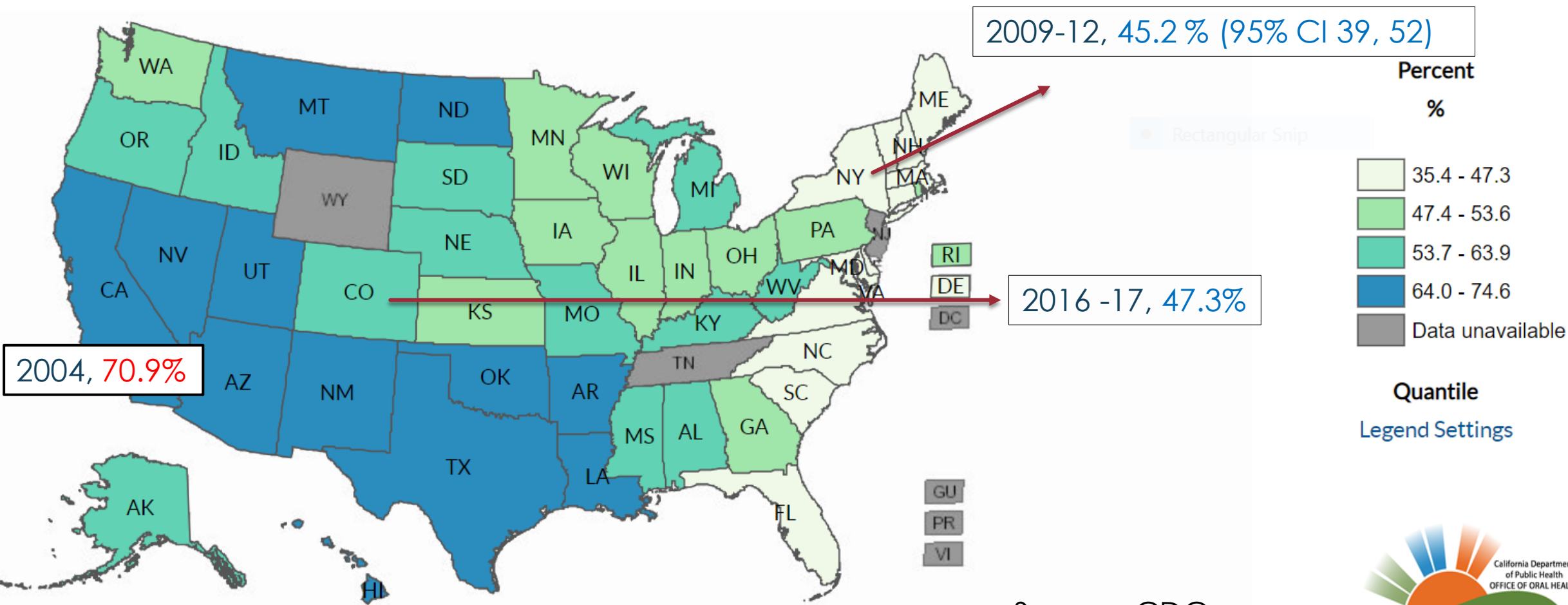


Tooth Decay Prevalence (%) in 3rd Grade Children

Latest data

Percentage of students with Caries Experience (treated or untreated tooth decay)

Breakdown: Grade – Third Grade

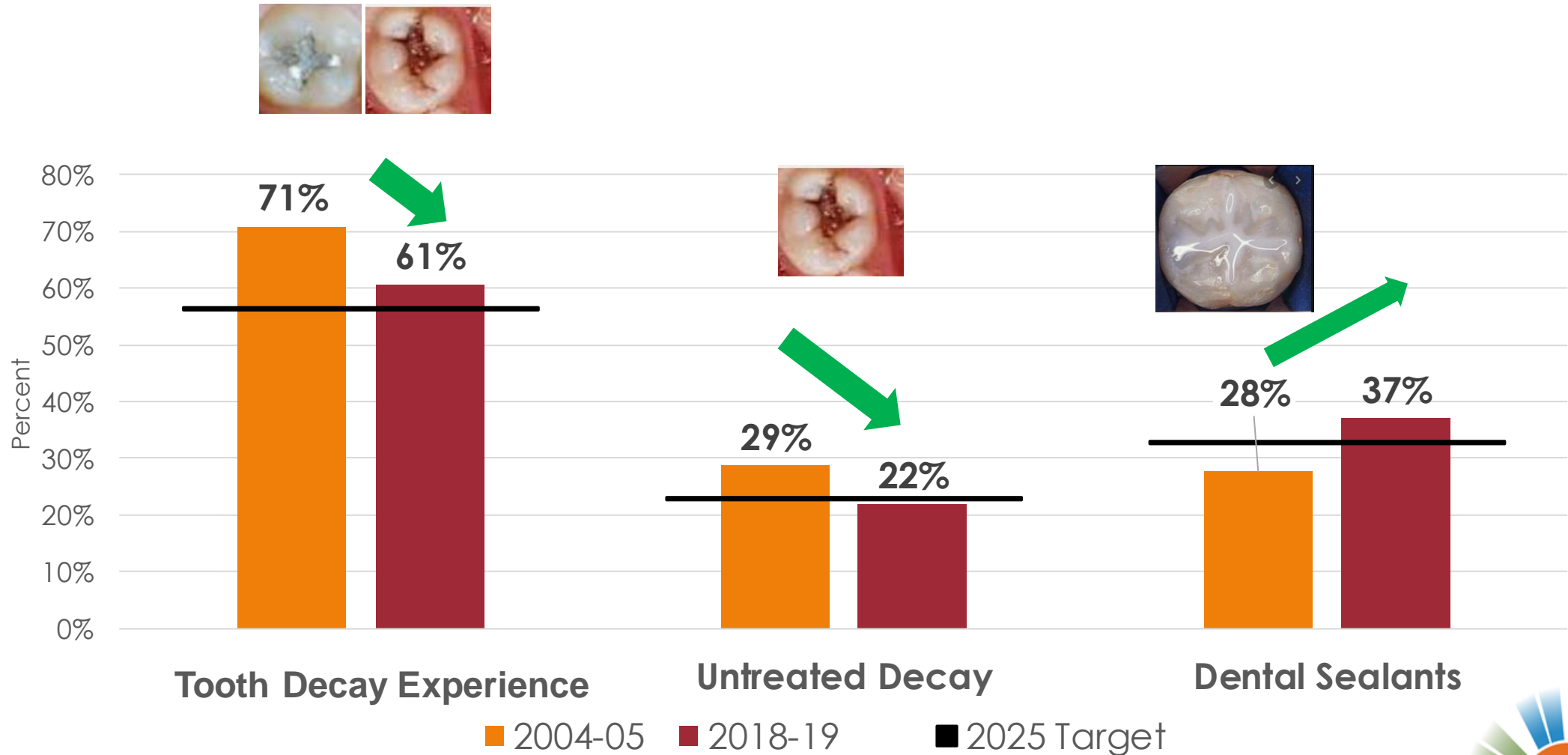


Source: CDC



California Smile Survey:

Results from 2004-2005 and 2018-19



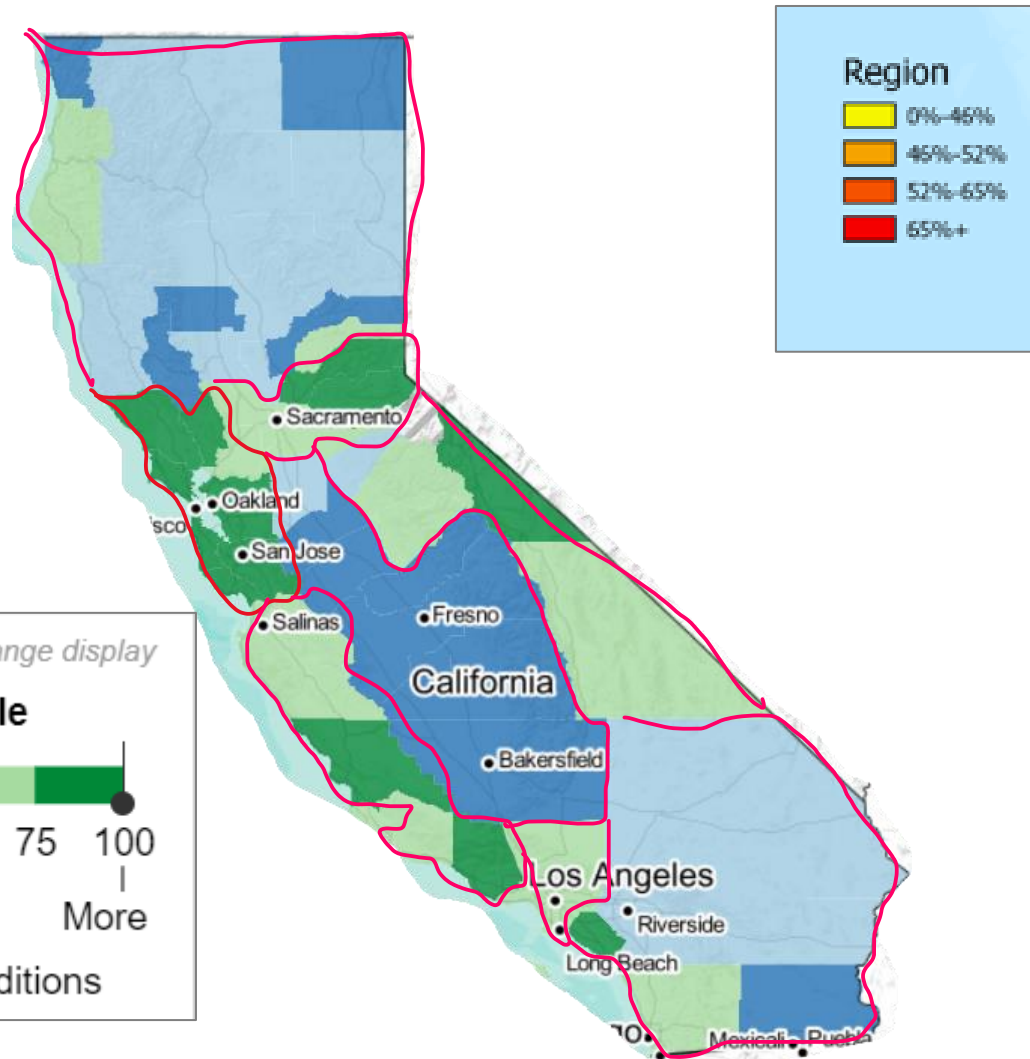
Tooth Decay Experience by Region

California Smile Survey 2018-2019

Region	Tooth Decay Experience (%)
California	60.6%
Bay Area	45.4%
Sacramento	46.2%
Northern/Sierra	51.6%
Southern	60.4%
Central Coast	64.2%
Los Angeles	64.7%
Central Valley	75.9%



Healthy Place Index



Tooth Decay Experience



In California...

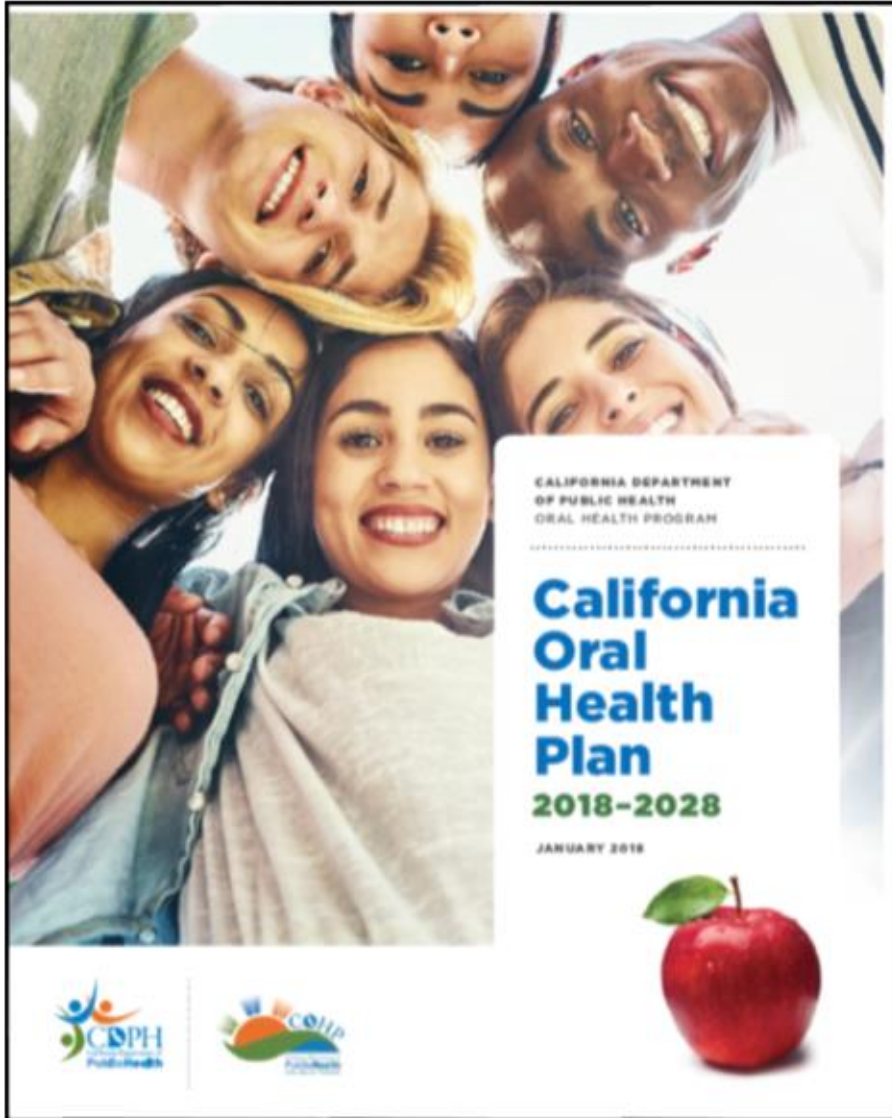
- More than **60%** of students have experienced tooth decay by third grade.*
- **1 in 5** kids have untreated tooth decay.*
- Approximately **440,000** children missed at least one day of school due to a dental problem in 2018.**

Tooth Decay and Children



*2018-20 3rd Grade Basic Screening Survey, California Office of Oral Health

**2018 California Health Interview Survey, UCLA Center for Health Policy Research

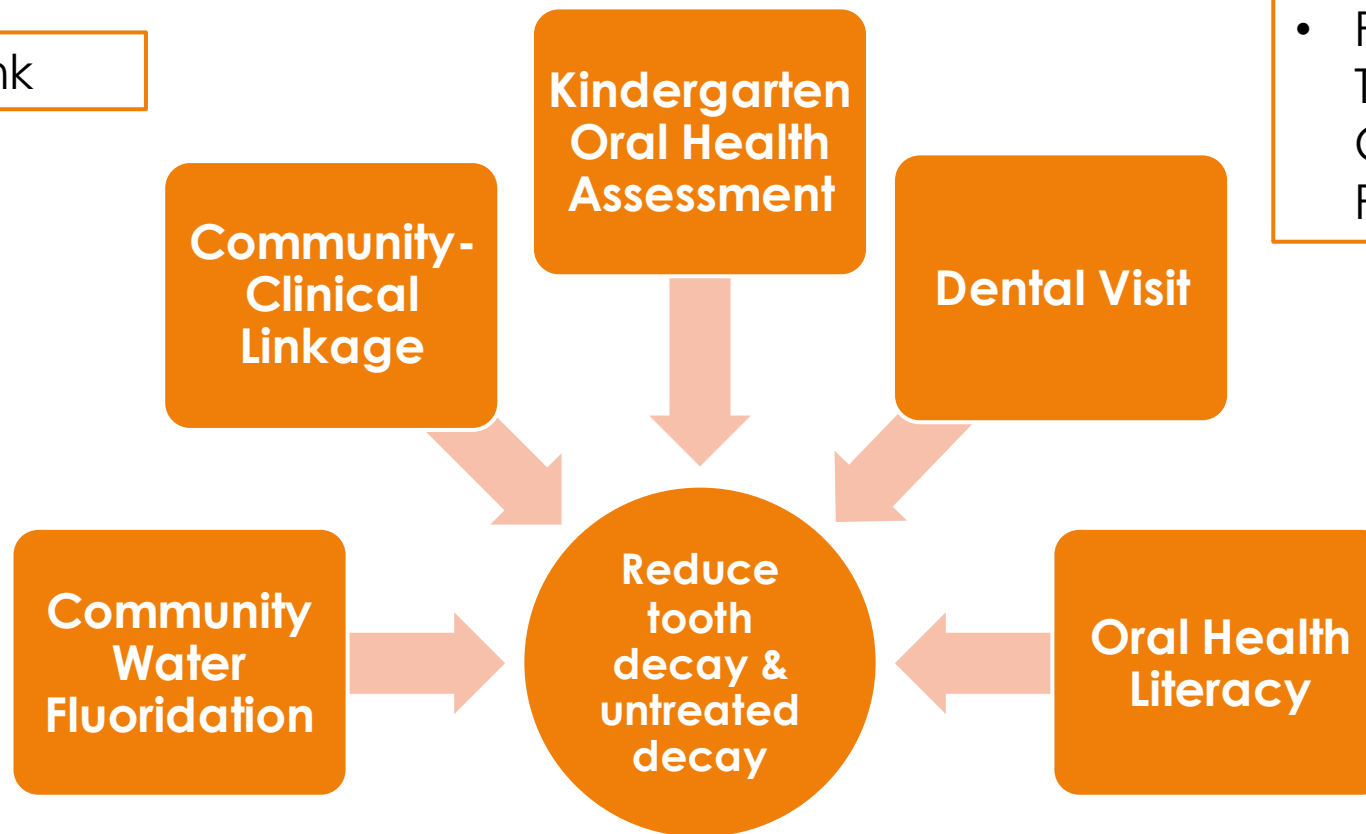


California Department of Public Health

Office of Oral Health

Goal: Tooth Decay Free

- Rethink Your Drink



- PSE Change – Toothbrushing in Early Care & Education Programs

Measure performance:
How much are we doing? How well are we doing?
Is this making children healthier?



Health Prevention & School Dental Programs

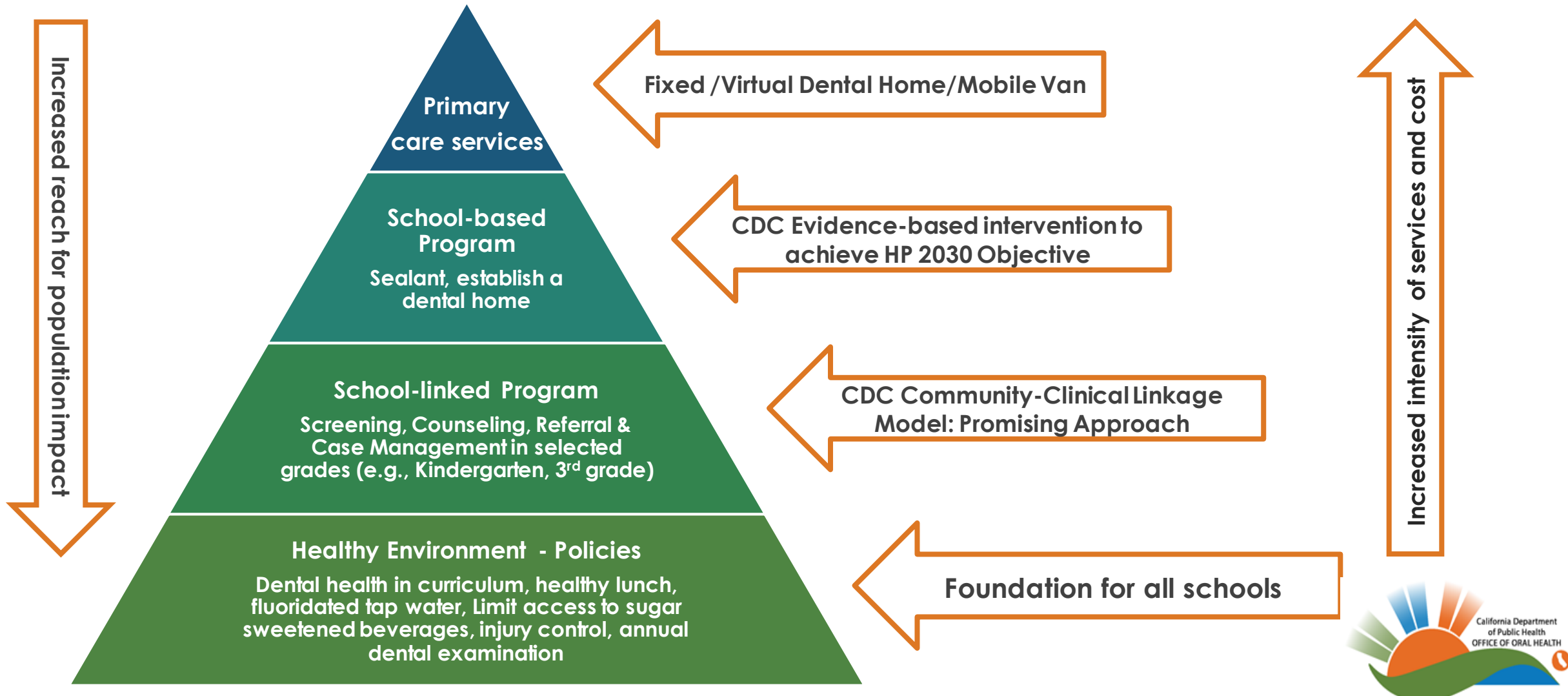
The 3 Buckets of Prevention



SOURCE: Auerbach J. The 3 Buckets of Prevention. J Public Health Management Practice
2011http://journals.lww.com/jphmp/Citation/publishahead/The_3_Buckets_of_Prevention__99695.aspx



Building Interventions in Schools: Intensity Matched to Need





School Dental Programs

COMMUNITY CLINICAL LINKAGE



Important Facts About Oral Health and Children

- ▶ 40% of kindergarteners have tooth decay
- ▶ 440,000 missed days
- ▶ \$85/day = \$37.4M loss revenue for schools
- ▶ Oral health is the leading cause of school absences ⁽¹⁾
- ▶ Students with tooth pain in last 6 months were 4x more likely to have low grade point average ⁽²⁾



1. Pourat N, Nicholson G. Unaffordable dental care is linked to frequent school absences. Policy Brief UCLA Cent Health Policy Res. 2009(PB2009-10):1-6.

2. Seirawan H, Faust S, Mulligan R. The impact of oral health on the academic performance of disadvantaged children. American journal of public health. 2012;102(9):1729-34.



Important Facts About Oral Health and Children (cont.)

- ▶ Healthy teeth are important for overall health.
- ▶ School based programs help prevent dental decay.
- ▶ Decrease dental decay and pain = decrease absenteeism.
- ▶ We ALL can be an advocate for oral health education and services for school age children.
- ▶ Caries disease is 100% preventable.



Building Interventions in Schools



Primary
care services

School-
based
Program

School-linked
Program

Healthy Environment -
Policies

School Dental Program Models

#1 School Screening

- ▶ School-linked
- ▶ Case identification and referral management

(e.g., hearing & vision screening → KOHA)



#2 Sealant Program

- ▶ School-based
- ▶ One time contact for a long lasting clinical preventive service

(e.g., Immunization → Tooth Sealant)



#3 Comprehensive dental care in schools (primary care)

- ▶ School-based
- ▶ Ongoing care: dental cleaning, x-rays, exams, fillings, etc.
- ▶ Refer to local dental office

(e.g., Mobile dental van, Virtual Dental Home)

Supporting Kids in Their Oral Health: School Dental Programs

- ▶ Train nurses in oral health prevention
- ▶ Implement oral health education in classroom curriculum
- ▶ Start a school-linked program (e.g., screening, support KOHA)
- ▶ Consider a school-based program (e.g., sealant program)
- ▶ Refer kids → comprehensive care → local dental offices or Virtual Dental Home
- ▶ And...



Partner with Local Oral Health Programs (LOHP)

- ▶ Prop 56 Tobacco Tax, 5-year grant cycle
- ▶ 59 of 61 local health jurisdiction (LHJ) has LOHPs in the current grant cycle July 2017 – June 2022
- ▶ New grant cycle July 2022 – June 2027
- ▶ School-linked or school-based grant objective



How to Identify Schools for Dental Programs

Definition for targeting a school for school-linked or school-based dental programs:

- ▶ All public elementary urban schools with > 50% of students on the free/reduced meal program (FRMP).
- ▶ All rural schools are considered eligible

	Schools	K- 6th Enrollment
Rural	1223	398,008
Urban	3403	1,648,061
Total	4626	2,046,069

State Oral Health Plan and LOHP Goals

- ▶ VISION = Eliminate oral health disparities
- ▶ GOAL = 10%
- ▶ Decrease tooth decay and untreated tooth decay by 10% points
- ▶ Increase sealant prevalence by 10% points
- ▶ At least 50% of eligible schools with a dental program by 2027



#1 Screening Program: School-Linked Dental Program



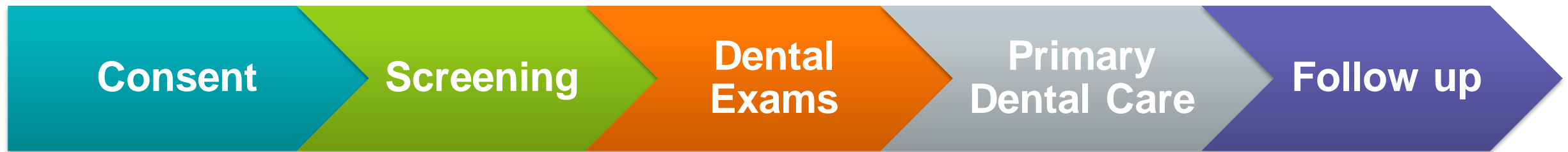
- Passive Consent

#2 Sealant Program: School-Based Dental Programs



- Passive Consent for Screening
- Active Consent for Sealants
- Some start with active

#3 Primary Care (comprehensive services): School-Based Dental Program



- Passive Consent for Screening
- Active Consent for Exams and Treatments
- Some Start with Active Consent



Examples: School Linked School Based Dental Programs

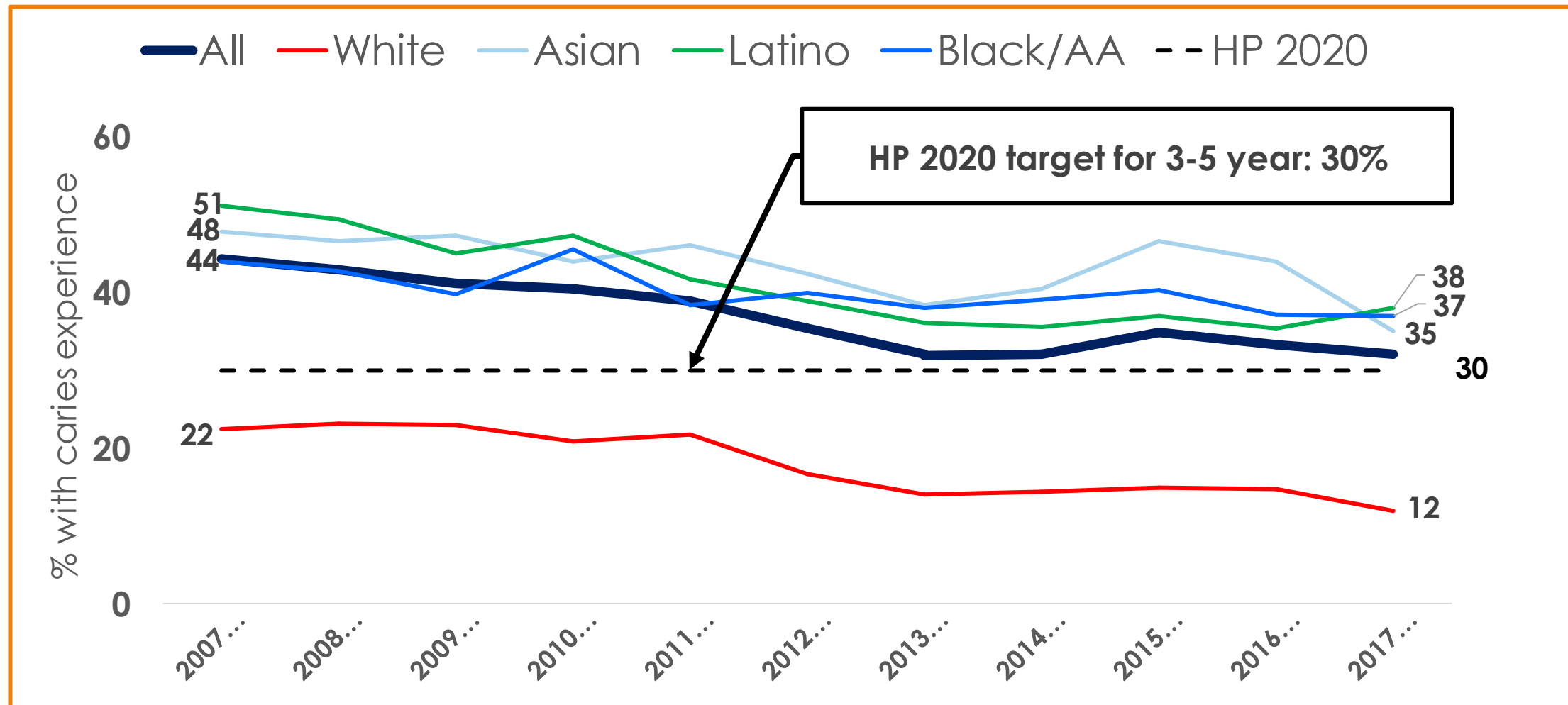
SAN FRANCISCO COUNTY

TUOLUMNE COUNTY



Oral Health Screening 2001-2017, San Francisco Unified School District

Kindergarteners who have **experienced tooth decay** in their primary teeth by race-ethnicity



Tuolumne County: Superintendent of Schools & Smile Keepers Dental Program

- ▶ County Office of Education
- ▶ 1995, preventive dental services to Tuolumne county schools, 4 local schools
- ▶ Mobile dental van: screenings, dental cleanings, sealants, fluoride varnish
- ▶ Referral to local dental offices
- ▶ 4750 students



School Based Oral Health Resources

- ▶ [Truancy Toolkit | State of California - Department of Justice - Office of the Attorney General](#)
- ▶ [Strategies for School Nurses to Address Chronic Absenteeism](#)
- ▶ [School Oral Health Programs | California Oral Health Technical Assistance Center \(ucsf.edu\)](#)
- ▶ [List of Local Oral Health Program Project Coordinators](#)
- ▶ [School-Based Dental Sealant Programs \(mchoralhealth.org\)](#)
- ▶ [CDA Kindergarten Oral Health Assessment](#)
- ▶ [ASTDD Best Practices](#)
- ▶ [ASTDD Basic Screening Tools](#)
- ▶ [Virtual Dental Home Policy Brief - University of the Pacific, San Francisco](#)



Contact Us

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Thank You!



The L.A. Trust: At a glance

- Bridging health and education to improve student wellness
- Prevention education, research, best practices, convenings, student health leaders
- Supporting LAUSD's Wellness Centers and SBHCs through data driven outcomes



**The Los Angeles Trust
for Children's Health**

Putting the care in student healthcare

The L.A. Trust & LAUSD Oral Health Initiative

- A comprehensive public health approach to meet the oral health needs of LAUSD students
- Standardized oral health education, prevention and early intervention program across LAUSD since 2012, including:
 - Universal education for teachers, students, and parents
 - Universal screening and fluoride varnish
 - Special emphasis in kindergarten students
 - Establishing dental hubs throughout the district
 - Case management and referral processes
 - Oral health policy advocacy
 - Oral health data collection

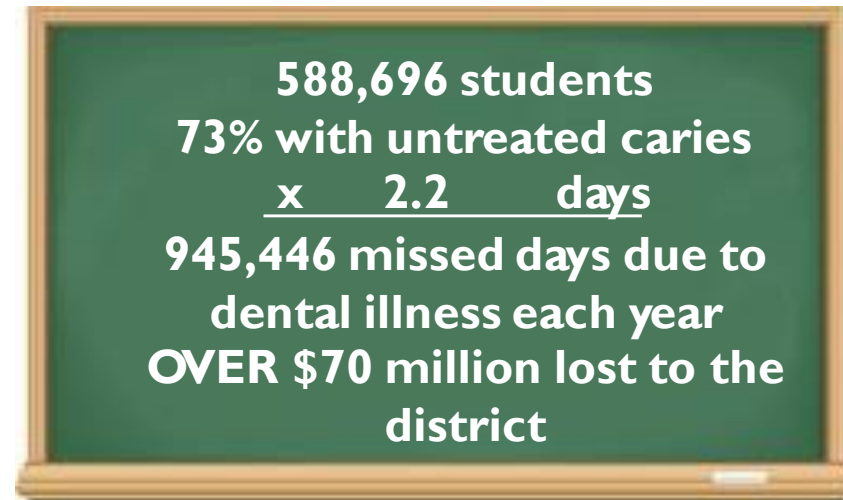
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**The Los Angeles Trust
for Children's Health**

Implications for School Performance

A 2012 study of oral health needs in LAUSD found that students with toothaches are almost 4 X more likely to have a low-grade point average. 1 in 3 school absences was dental-related which amounts to, on average, 2.2 missed school days each year due to untreated dental disease.



Children's Oral Health Status

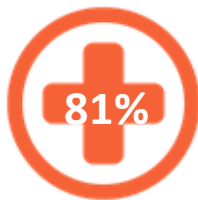
Children & School Performance



73% of underserved children in Los Angeles have **untreated caries**.



Students with toothaches are almost **4 times** more likely to have **low GPAs**.



81% of underserved children in Los Angeles **needed dental care**.



Students without access to needed dental care were almost **3 times more likely to miss school** than students with access.

Public Health Approach

The L.A. Trust
Oral
Health
Initiative



The Los Angeles Trust
for Children's Health

Oral Health Screening Program

Advancing the Kindergarten Mandate in LAUSD



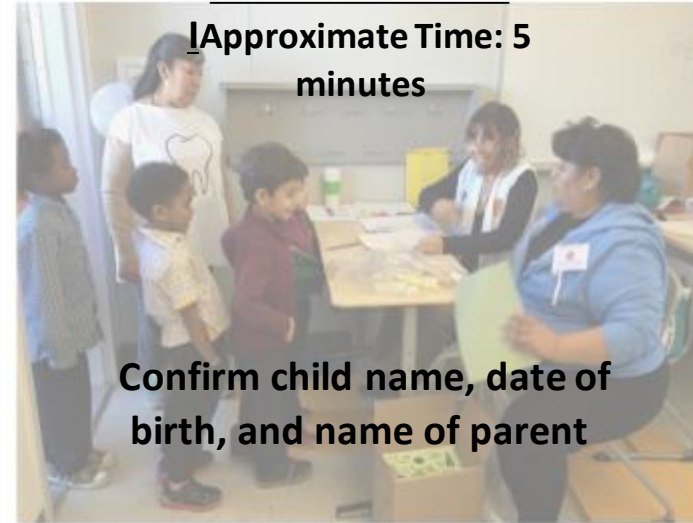
Parent Volunteers



Escort students to and from class
Give students Oral Health Goody Bag

Student Check In

Approximate Time: 5 minutes



Confirm child name, date of birth, and name of parent

Screening Process - Total Time Out of Class: 20 minutes



Provider Station
Approximate Time: 2 minutes

Screening exam
Apply fluoride varnish
Complete report

Wait Time

6 minutes

Oral Health Education

Approximate Time: 7 minutes



Brushing & flossing methods
Eating healthy foods
Drink fluoridated tap water

Oral Health Report Card

	2017-2018
Total number of children screened	255
Had not been to a dentist in last 6 months	30%
Drank fluoridated tap water last week	42%
Drank soda last week	52%
Drank sugar-sweetened beverages last week	93%
Abnormal exam	82%
Visible decay	34%
Potential cavities prevented	189
Potential school days saved	439



The L.A. Trust

Oral Health Operations Manual

https://thelatrast.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/08/The-LATrust_OperationsManual_Oral-Health-Initiative_booklet.pdf



**The Los Angeles Trust
for Children's Health**

Oral Health Education Videos

The L.A. Trust developed 3 Oral Health videos in Spanish and English:

1. Brushing with Billy
2. Flossing with Billy
3. Healthy Eating with Billy

Target Population:

Children in elementary school
(ages 4.5 – 11.5 years)



https://thelatrust.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/10/Brush-with-Billy_Brushing480.mov

Oral Health Ed Online during COVID lock down

- Three oral health videos aired on LAUSD District's TV channel, KLCS
- One-minute spots aired over 150 times and were viewed more than 1.1 million times
- Videos have been shared with 18 Early Education Centers (EECs) and all Local District (LD) South Elementary Schools

Oral Health Toolkit

The multimedia Oral Health Toolkit featuring links to kids' oral health videos, local dental services referrals, state oral health assistance programs and more

Addresses barriers to oral health access that was experienced by many students during the pandemic by informing the community on why, how and where to get care

Report – Dental 2019-2020

Executive Overview - Dental

Definition

Executive Overview - Dental

Wellness Center (All)	Calendar Calendar (Jan - Dec)	Year 2019	Patient Type (All)
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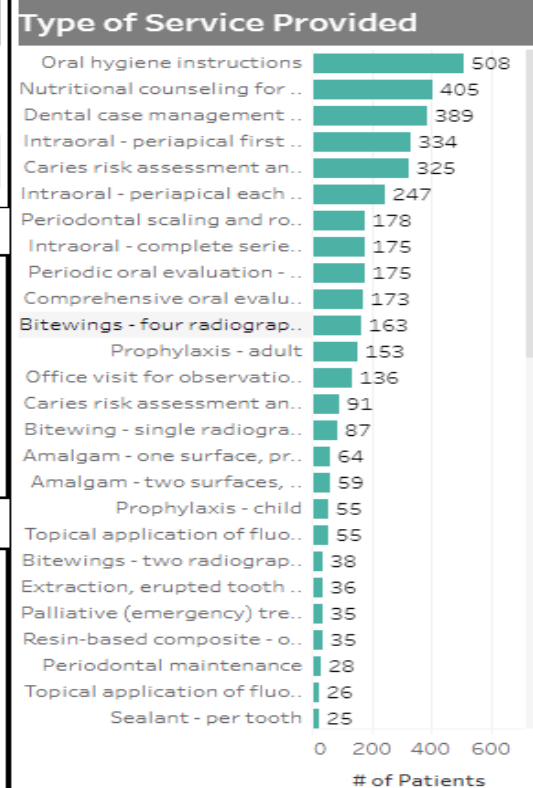
Key Metrics - Dental

Number of Encounters				Number of Unique Patients				Avg Number of Patient Visits / Year				Type of Service Provided
1,286				936				1.4				
2015	2016	2017	2018	2015	2016	2017	2018	2015	2016	2017	2018	
1	2,422	6,848	7,780	1	1,291	2,730	2,915	1.0	1.9	2.5	2.7	

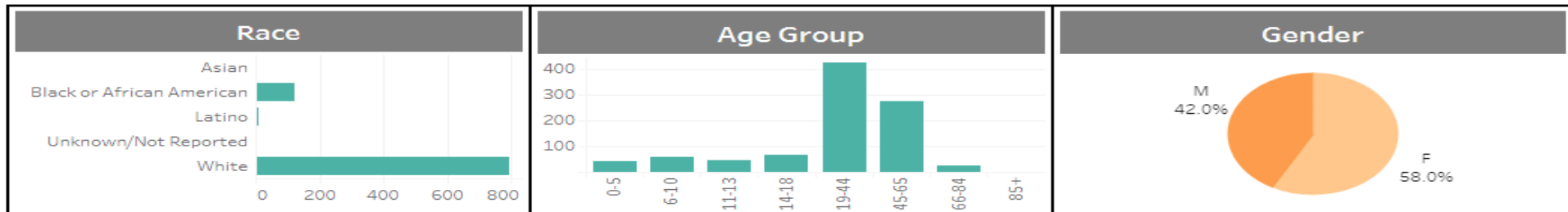
Oral hygiene instructions	508
Nutritional counseling for ..	405
Dental case management ..	389
Intraoral - periapical first ..	334
Caries risk assessment an ..	325
Intraoral - periapical each ..	247

Indicators of Depth of Relationship Clinics Have With Patients - Dental

Percent of Patients Who Are Students				Number of Patients w/ Preventative Services			Number of Patients w/ Restorative Services		
19.4%				541			189		
2015	2016	2017	2018	2016	2017	2018	2016	2017	2018
100.0%	18.0%	19.9%	18.6%	672	2,052	2,325	358	847	881



Patient Demographics Across All Wellness Centers - Dental



**The Los Angeles Trust
for Children's Health**

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Please note: all reports in this document are still in beta test mode. If you notice any data discrepancies or feel the reports are not capturing key insights that you need, please contact patty@thelatrast.org.

Tooth Fairy Event

An annual event included in LAUSD's Wellness Fair



**The Los Angeles Trust
for Children's Health**

Successes and next steps

- **Established an Oral health Initiative with LAUSD approved by the School board in January 2017 and opt out consent for screening approved February 2020**
- **Toolkits and videos developed**
- **Distributed over \$800K in oral health supplies**

Next:

Continuing oral health program support and assessment of Kindergarten Mandated reporting in 28 LA County Districts

Thank You!

Contact: esther@thelatrust.org

<https://www.thelatrust.org/oral-health>

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on Instagram @thelatrust**

Facebook-The Los Angeles Trust for Children's Health

The California School Based Health
Alliance Conference

November 2, 2021

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South Central Family Health Center

School Based Wellness Center

Ryan Huang, D.D.S.
Dental Director

South Central Family Health Center

- Federally Qualified Health Center (FQHC)
- Serving community of South Central Los Angeles for over 40 years
- Comprehensive Health Center
 - Medical
 - Dental
 - Behavioral Health
 - Optometry



South Central Family Health Center (SCFHC)

- 10 Medical Clinic sites
- 3 Dental clinics
- 2 School Based Wellness Centers
- Vision care clinic
- Pharmacy
- Mobile Van Unit



Patient Population

- Low-income population
- Continually changing demographic population
- Predominately Hispanic (90%), 10% mix of other ethnicities
- Transient
- Densely populated area ~100,000 people in one square mile
- Access to medical and dental care a significant need in community

Need for Dental Services in South LA

- Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services recommends ratio of one provider for every 1,500 patients
- California Office of Statewide Health Planning and Development defines a geographic area:
 - Unusually high needs if the ratio of 1 provider exceeds over 4,000 patients
- In South Central LA, most dental providers are community health centers or dental schools

Dental Desert

- South Central LA: less than one dental provider per 10,000 people
- Insufficient dental services, high population density, low median household income
- <138% of Federal Poverty Level (FPL) = Medi-Cal eligible
- South Central LA: 80% patients qualify for Medi-Cal



History of Dental and Wellness Center

- Dental Services Started in 2013
- HRSA grant for creation of School Based Wellness Center at Jefferson High School for Medical Services
- Partnership with LAUSD to provide oral health education and access of health services for students
- Added Dental Services due to overwhelming patient need for oral health services
- Purpose of Wellness Center to provide medical and dental home for LAUSD students and families

Jefferson Wellness Center

- Dental: 2 Chair clinic
- Medical: 4 Exam Rooms
- Comprehensive dental services provided
- Medical: Sports physicals, vaccinations, confidential services
- Behavioral Health: Counseling
- Clinic evolved into community health center for surrounding population
 - 25% patients are LAUSD students and families



Goals for the Wellness Center

- Integration of Medical, Dental, and Mental Health Services for students and community
- Increased health awareness for LAUSD students
- Additional resource for Healthy Start counselors and School Nurse
- Educational Fairs and Oral Health Screenings for Jefferson High School and feeder primary schools with LA Trust

How to set up Dental Clinic

- Dental Chairs
- Vacuum/Compressor System
- X-ray Unit
- Water/Electric Lines
- Patient and Staff Safety First
- Infection Control Protocol



Daily Challenges

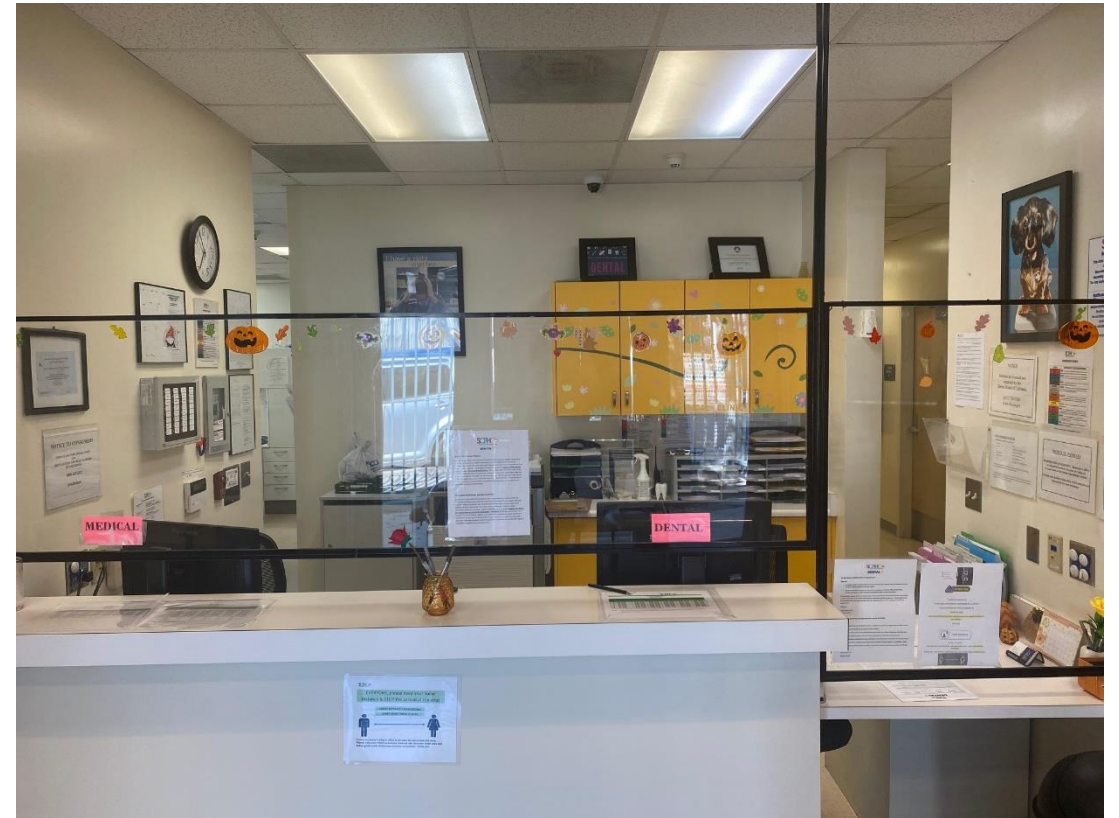
- Active Consent for Dental Services in LAUSD
- Not a problem for Medical and Mental Health (Confidential) services
- Education for students and families about benefits of Medi-Cal programs
- High No-show and broken appointment rates
- Compliance with oral health recommendations and treatment plan completions

Dental in the Time of COVID Pandemic

- Pandemic in March 2020
- Possible correlation between Dental and COVID-19 transmission (CDC, LADPH)
- Limited Dental Services
- Increased PPE guidelines and infection control protocols



Dental in the Time of COVID Pandemic



Resumption of Dental Services

- May 2020: LADPH and CDC recommended limited Aerosol-Generating Procedures (AGPs) and increased PPE guidelines (N95 masks)
- June 2020: Re-opening of SCFHC dental clinics
- July 2020: AGPs done with negative COVID-19 test for patients, HEPA filters installed
- January 2021: Resume all dental services previously restricted
- February-April 2021: SCFHC employees vaccinated for COVID-19

Bridging Medical and Dental

- Continue to develop integrations between medical, dental and behavioral health programs
- Pediatric patients: same day well child and oral health visits
- Chronic diseases patients: diabetics
- Women's health patients: oral health and prenatal care
- New bridge in process: Mental health and oral health
 - SBIRTs program- substance abuse intervention and mental health (depression and anxiety) have effect on maintenance of oral health

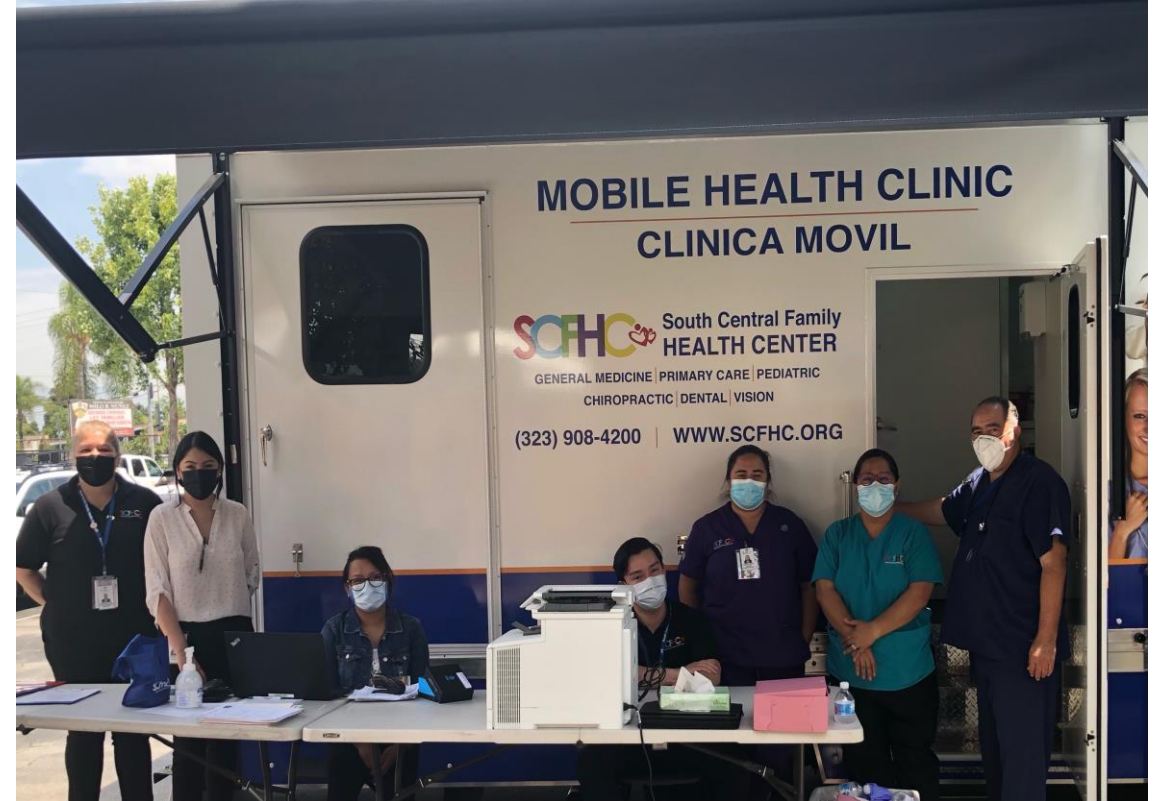
Community Health Partners

- LAUSD: Wellness Center
- LA Trust: Oral Health Screening Events and Tooth Fairy Festivals
- UCLA School of Dentistry: endodontics, oral surgery, and pediatric specialist programs



Future for Jefferson Wellness Center

- Mobile Van Unit for Oral health screening events
- COVID-19 vaccinations and testing
- New health center in heart of Jefferson HS campus in 2024 (LAUSD modernization grant)



Thank you!!

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