



Smile Survey 2020

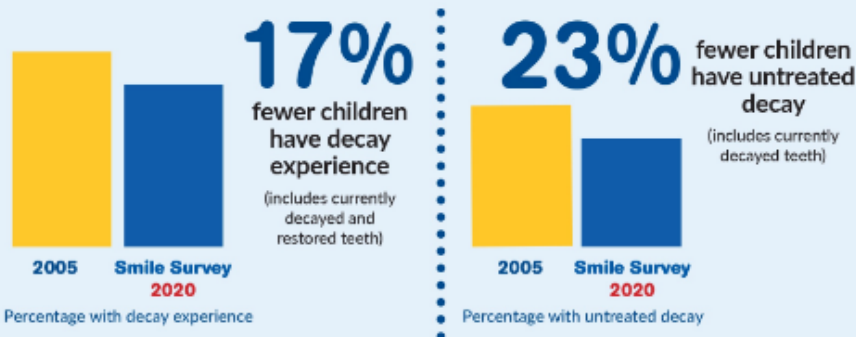
The Oral Health of Los Angeles County's Children

About the Survey

More than **10,000** kindergarten and third grade children in **72** public schools received dental screenings



Children's oral health has improved since 2005



Nearly half

of LA County children have experienced tooth decay by the time they enter kindergarten.

Despite improvements, disparities persist



Lower income children are significantly more likely to have tooth decay compared to their higher income peers



Children from racial/ethnic minority groups are significantly more likely to have tooth decay compared to White children

On any given day,

4,500

of LA County's kindergarten and 3rd grade children need urgent dental care.

Too few children have dental sealants



Only 31% of 3rd grade children in LA County have sealants compared to a national average of 42%

Sealants are a safe, cost effective way to prevent decay

