

AWARENESS of **ORAL HEALTH**



A child's first trip to a dental office should happen by their 1st birthday.



Tooth decay is bad for kids & your wallet.

Delta Dental researchers used claims data to calculate the lifetime costs of a decayed tooth. **Its analysis found that lifetime costs for a decayed tooth range from \$1,788 to \$2,187.**

According to the Mayo Clinic, **oral health is a "window to your overall health."** Your oral health might affect, be affected by, or contribute to various diseases and conditions, including:

- Endocarditis
- Cardiovascular disease
- Premature birth and low birth weight
- Diabetes
- HIV/AIDS
- Osteoporosis
- Alzheimer's disease
- Other conditions – Other conditions that might be linked to oral health include Sjogren's syndrome — an immune system disorder that causes dry mouth — and eating disorders.

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Out-of-pocket costs can hinder families' ability to get dental care.



Nearly 4 out of 10 Americans say they or their family are delaying dental care.

Dental sealants provide an additional option to help prevent tooth decay.

According to the Journal of the American Dental Association, **when dental sealants were placed on chewing surfaces of teeth, the average decrease in tooth decay among children age six through 17 years was**

60%



For more information visit www.oralhealth.ncdhhs.gov.



SOURCES: