

DENTAL FACTS & STATS



The **survey findings** about tooth or gum problems are noteworthy given that the federal **Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality** estimates that **Americans** made roughly

882,000 visits to hospital emergency departments in 2010 for preventable dental conditions.

The agency projected that

nearly 48,000 of these dental-related emergency trips were made by children.



Water fluoridation helps prevent cavities.

In cities with 20,000+ people, **every \$1** invested in this preventive measure **yields approximately \$38** savings in dental treatment costs.



52%

of Medicaid-enrolled kids in the U.S. went a full year without dental care – not even an exam.



Roughly **1 out of 7 children** went 12 months without seeing a dentist.

3x

Children with cavities in their **primary (baby) teeth** are **three times** more likely to develop cavities in their **permanent (adult) teeth**.

According to a North Carolina study, children with **poor oral health** were nearly **three times** more likely to miss school due to dental pain.



Nearly **1/2** of all **5-year-olds** have experienced tooth decay in baby teeth.

Tooth or gum pain can hurt a child in many ways, including her ability to learn, play, talk, smile, and eat healthy foods.



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

HEALTHY
PEOPLE
2020

North Carolina has already **surpassed** the **Healthy People 2020 goals** for third graders (permanent teeth) in **three important areas**:

DENTAL DISEASE

Only **41.9%** have ever had a dental disease.

The national 2020 target is **49.0% or less**.

UNTREATED CAVITIES

Only **14.3%** had untreated cavities.

The national 2020 target is **25.9% or less**.

DENTAL SEALANTS PLACED

45.3% had preventive dental sealants.

The national 2020 target is **28.1% or more**.



SOURCES: