

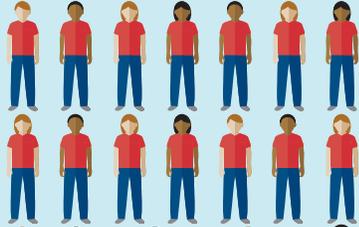
Pierce County Comprehensive Community Oral Health

Working together to improve children's oral health

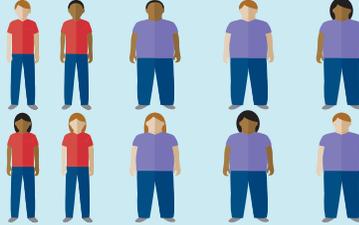
Oral health diseases cause pain and suffering. It impairs how we function, and reduces the quality of life. Good oral health care is critical to health. To improve our oral health, we need many stakeholders:

- Oral health professionals
- Healthcare providers
- Community members
- Business leaders
- Community leaders
- Schools and government

25%
of children
ages 2-4 and



23%
of 10th graders
are obese
or overweight.¹



Babies exclusively breastfed for six months were



72% less likely to have crooked teeth.²

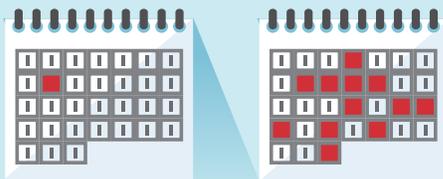
The average annual cost of formula to feed an average baby is

\$1,733.75⁷

44% of population has fluoridated water to protect teeth.³

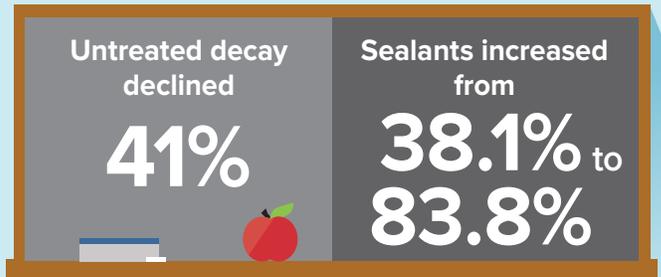
Oral health problems cause low-income children to miss

12X more days from school or other activities.⁵



Tooth decay's pain and infection cause problems with eating, speaking and learning.

Results of the work done by our School-Based Oral Health Program since 2015.⁶



58% of third graders have tooth decay in primary and permanent teeth.⁴



15% of the third graders had decay in seven or more teeth.⁴



PEOPLE-OF-COLOR have almost **2X** the prevalence of decay as **WHITES**.⁴



Sealants can reduce decay in school children by more than

80%⁵



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Oral health is fundamental to maintain good overall health and quality of life. Multi-dimensional approaches will result in improved outcomes for all Pierce County residents.

Dental Health Facts:

- Despite being largely preventable, tooth decay remains the most prevalent chronic health condition among U.S. children and adolescents.
<https://www.cdhp.org/resources/328-policy-options-for-reducing-early-childhood-tooth-decay>
- By the time children are in the 3rd grade, 52% have experienced decay.
Washington Dental Services Foundation 2017
- Dental sealants can reduce decay in school-age children by more than 70%.
The Surgeon Report on Oral Health 2014.
- School-age children without sealants have almost three times more cavities than those with sealants.
https://www.cdc.gov/oralhealth/dental_sealant_program/index.htm
- Nearly 40% of students in Washington start kindergarten with tooth decay.
<https://www.deltadentalwa.com/our-foundation/our-work/childrens-programs.aspx>
- Sugar is a leading risk factor for dental caries (tooth decay).
https://www.fdiworldental.org/sites/default/files/media/resources/sugar_toolkit-fdi-2016.pdf
- Poor dental health impacts overall health and increases the risk of diabetes, heart disease, and poor birth outcomes.
Dental Crisis in America: The Need to Expand Access—Chairman Bernard Sanders—U.S. Senate Committee of Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions, February 29, 2012

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1. <http://www.doh.wa.gov/DataandStatisticalReports/DiseasesandChronicConditions/Obesity>
2. Pediatrics, June 2015 study. <http://www.mouthhealthy.org/en/az-topics/b/breastfeeding>
3. <http://www.pcohc.org/wp-content/uploads/2013/10/Fluoridation-Map-Pierce-County-Oct-2013-V2.pdf>
4. <https://www.deltadentalwa.com/our-foundation/our-work/childrens-programs.aspx>
5. <http://www.mouthhealthy.org/en/standard-items/search-results#q=sealants%20reduce%20cavities&sort=relevancy>
6. Tacoma-Pierce County Health Department. Smile Survey 2015
7. 2013—<http://www.thesimpledollar.com/how-much-money-does-breastfeeding-really-save/>