



Oral Health

Smile Survey 2010 Adams County, WA

Statewide Smile Survey History:

The smile survey idea began in Washington State in the mid 1990's in response to the need to obtain more information about the oral health needs of our populations. As a result the smile survey was created and today is known as the basic screening survey tool for oral health. It is recommended by the CDC and ASTDD. In our state the first smile survey was administered in 1996, the second in 2000 and the third in 2005. Smile Surveys are generally done every 4-5 years. In 2010, 32 counties, including Adams County, conducted their own smile survey (reference: WA State DOH, Oral Health Program). In addition one school in Adams County was selected as part of the state sample.



Summary of Adams County Smile Survey:

In December of 2009, the Adams County Public Health Department-Oral Health Program began conducting an oral health survey consistent with the state wide 2010 Washington State Smile Survey. The 2010 Washington State Smile Survey screens kindergarten and third grade elementary students and students enrolled in Head Start and ECEAP programs. For the local elementary schools, all county public Elementary Schools participated in the survey. 592 elementary students were screened during the first week in December 2009 and May 2010. 159 students in Head Start/ECEAP programs were screened in December 2009 and July 2010.



Dr. Howard Blessing, and his staff are calibrated examiners for Washington State. They screened the children using gloves, masks, a disposable mirror, and a light source. Data were reported on a standardized form provided by Washington State Department of Health-Maternal and Child Health Program. The data was entered into the CDC/EPI Info database and analyzed by Dr. Blessing.



- Dental decay is a significant public health problem for Adams County children



56.3% of elementary school children have decay experience.



Key Findings

Adams County has a statistically significant higher percentage of non-white preschool, K and 3rd grade students screened than in the state. This is the first year the WSMC children were screened.

- Preschool children from WSMC had a 17% untreated decay compared to 13% in Washington State. Decay experience for preschool children was 49%. Washington State decay experience for Hispanic preschool children was 46.5%.
- Nearly 3/4 of elementary school children screened in Adams County do not have dental sealants, a well accepted clinical intervention to prevent tooth decay on molar teeth.
- Adams County has met the Healthy People 2010 objective for reducing the prevalence of untreated tooth decay among elementary and preschool school children.

Additional Points of Interest



- In Adams County 27% of elementary school children screened had sealants on permanent molars compared to 51% in Washington State. The Healthy People 2010 target is 50%.
- In Adams County 18% of the elementary had untreated decay compared to 17% in Washington State. The Healthy People 2010 objective is 21%.
- In Adams County 56% of school aged children have decay experience compared to 58% in Washington State. The Healthy People 2010 objective is 42%.

Conclusion

- Adams County has already met the Healthy People 2010 Objective for untreated decay in elementary school children.
- Adams County has not met the Healthy People 2010 Objectives for Sealants on Permanent Molars and Caries Experience for elementary school children.
- Adams County has a significant amount of dental caries experience in the population screened.



425 E. Main, Ste. 700
Othello, WA 99344
Ph: 509-488-2031
Fax: 509-331-0030

108 W. Main
Ritzville, WA 99169
Ph: 509-659-3315
Fax: 509-659-4109