

ORAL HEALTH IN OUR COMMUNITY

2016 Survey of Larimer County Residents



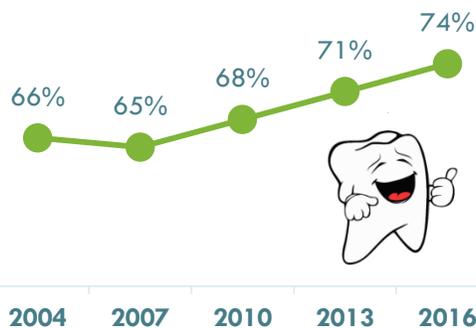
Oral health is essential to overall health. Good oral health improves a person's ability to speak, smile, smell, taste, chew, swallow, and make facial expressions to show feelings and emotions. A healthy mouth can lower the risk of getting chronic illnesses like diabetes, heart disease, stroke, and respiratory diseases.

A CLOSER LOOK AT ORAL HEALTH IN OUR COMMUNITY

More Get Annual Dental Exams

From 2004-2016, more Larimer County adults reported visiting a dentist for an exam or cleaning in the past year.

% Adults With Annual Dental Exam



Fewer Report Tooth Issues

In 2010, **10%** of all respondents reported currently having a toothache, and **19%** reported having other problems with their gums or teeth.



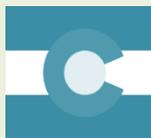
In 2016, these numbers improved. **6%** of respondents reported currently having a toothache and **13%** reported having other problems with their gums or teeth.

WHAT PERCENT OF ADULTS VISITED A DENTIST PAST YEAR?



74%
OF LARIMER COUNTY ADULTS*

67%
OF COLORADO ADULTS †



66%
OF AMERICAN ADULTS †

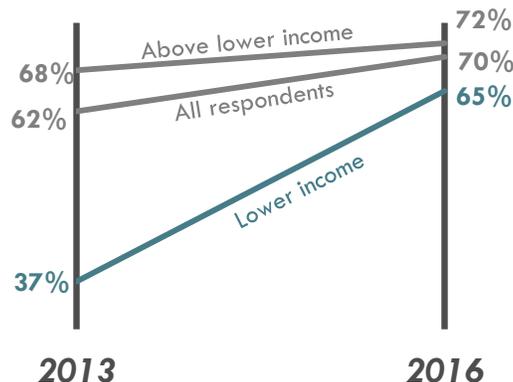
* "had a dental exam or cleaning"
† 2016 BRFSS "visited a dentist for any reason"

NEED AFFORDABLE DENTAL CARE?

Visit us online at healthdistrict.org/dental or call 970-416-5331 for information about the Family Dental Clinic and eligibility.

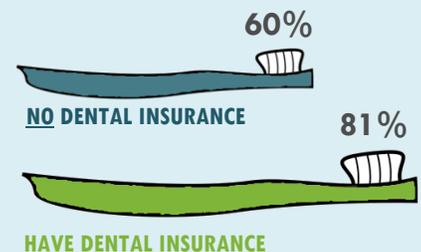
Dental Insurance

From 2013 to 2016, many adults gained insurance that covers some dental costs. The increase was especially dramatic for lower income adults, going from just **37%** in 2013 to **65%** in 2016.



Respondents with insurance that covered at least some costs for dental services were more likely to have had a recent dental exam.

PERCENT OF ADULTS WHO HAD DENTAL EXAM IN PAST YEAR, BY INSURANCE COVERAGE



COST IS A BARRIER TO DENTAL CARE

In 2016, 37% of all respondents reported they had put off dental visits in the past two years because care was too expensive. Respondents with lower incomes* or adults between the ages 45-64 were even more likely to have put off dental care within the past two years.

THOSE PUTTING OFF DENTAL CARE IN PAST 2 YEARS DUE TO COST



*Less than 250% of Federal Poverty Level.

LACK OF REGULAR DENTAL PROVIDER

About 1 in 4 adults (22%) reported they do not have a regular dental provider. Individuals were significantly more likely to lack a regular dental provider if they were in a lower income* household or were aged 18-34.

THOSE REPORTING THEY DO NOT HAVE A REGULAR DENTAL PROVIDER

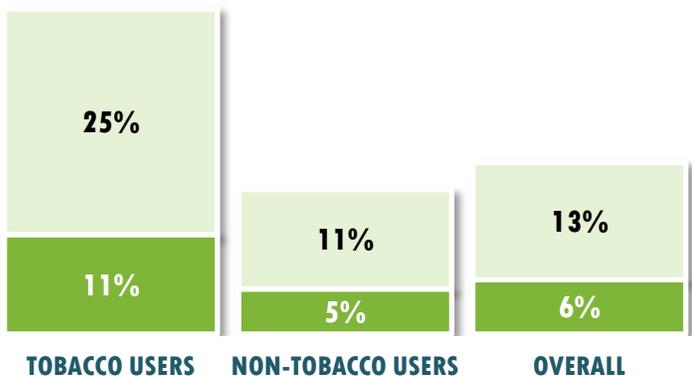


TOBACCO USE AND DENTAL PROBLEMS

Those who use some form of tobacco[^] were more than twice as likely to report having a current toothache than those who do not use tobacco. They were also more than twice as likely to report having other problems with their teeth or gums compared to those who do not use tobacco.

DENTAL PROBLEMS BY TOBACCO USE STATUS

■ TOOTHACHE ■ OTHER TEETH OR GUM PROBLEMS



[^]Tobacco use includes cigarettes, chew/spit tobacco or other smokeless products, cigars, cigarillos, or pipes (including hookah).

TRYING TO QUIT USING TOBACCO?

Visit healthdistrict.org/quitsmoking or call 970-224-5209 for information about the Health District's Quit Tobacco Program.

ACCESS TO DENTAL CARE FOR LOWER INCOME SENIORS

Maintaining healthy teeth and gums is important across the lifespan, and is especially important for older adults. Gum infections and tooth decay can cause or worsen heart disease, stroke, diabetes, and rheumatism. Medicare does not cover dental procedures and out-of-pocket costs may be out of reach for lower income seniors on fixed incomes.

Almost **2 out of 3** lower income seniors have *no insurance* to help with the cost of dental care.

64% of lower income* seniors lacked dental coverage compared to just 29% of all adults in Larimer County without dental insurance.

Nearly **1 in 4** lower income seniors have *not had a cleaning or dental exam* in the past 2 years.

23% of lower income* seniors reported their last dental exam or cleaning was more than 2 years ago compared to 9% of higher income seniors.