



**National Association of States
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Stay informed with us on:



PROFILE OF ORAL HEALTH IN AMERICA

Nearly one-third of older adults have untreated tooth decay

Nearly one-third of persons with intellectual and developmental disabilities (I/DD) have untreated cavities and have difficulty visiting the dentist

Minority older adults are less likely to visit the dentist

Cost is the main reason for not visiting the dentist more frequently

Cognitive, physical, and behavioral limitations can make it difficult for persons with I/DD to brush and floss their teeth

As Alzheimer's progresses, persons with dementia may forget how to brush their teeth

Less than half of older adults actually visited the dentist in the last year, although three-fourths said they planned to

74% of low income adults and 48% of high income adults accept that they will lose some teeth with age

Missing natural teeth is another reason seniors do not visit the dentist



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SOURCES:

WHO IS IMPACTED?

- *State of Decay: Are Older Americans Coming of Age Without Oral Healthcare?*, Oral Health America, 2013
- *Health, United States, 2015: With Special Feature on Racial and Ethnic Health Disparities*, National Center for Health Statistics, 2015
- *The Changing Landscape of Aging and Disability Information and Referral/Assistance*, National Association of States United for Aging and Disabilities, 2015

WHAT HAPPENS AS A RESULT?

- *U.S. Department of Health and Human Services Oral Health Strategic Framework 2014–2017*, 2014; and Morgan, J., Minihan, P., Stark, P., Finkelman, M., Yantsides, K., BS; Park, A., Nobles, C., Tao, W., and Must, A. *The Oral Health Status of 4,732 Adults with Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities*, August 2012
- *Medicaid Adult Dental Benefits: An Overview*, Center for Health Care Strategies, May 2017
- *Oral Health in America: A Report of the Surgeon General*, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, 2000
- *Oral Health: Oral Health Problems*, Administration for Community Living, 2017

WHY DOES THIS HAPPEN?

- *Older Adults' Oral Health in a State of Decay*, Oral Health America, 2013
- Morgan, J., Minihan, P., Stark, P., Finkelman, M., Yantsides, K., BS; Park, A., Nobles, C., Tao, W., and Must, A. *The Oral Health Status of 4,732 Adults with Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities*, August 2012
- *Medicaid Adult Dental Benefits: An Overview*, Center for Health Care Strategies, May 2017

PROFILE OF ORAL HEALTH IN AMERICA

- *Oral Health: Overview*, Administration for Community Living, 2017
- Morgan, J., Minihan, P., Stark, P., Finkelman, M., Yantsides, K., BS; Park, A., Nobles, C., Tao, W., and Must, A. *The Oral Health Status of 4,732 Adults with Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities*, August 2012
- *Health, United States, 2015: With Special Feature on Racial and Ethnic Health Disparities*, National Center for Health Statistics, 2015
- *Dental Care*, Alzheimer's Association, 2017
- *Oral Health and Well-Being in the United States*, American Dental Association, 2015
- *Oral Health and Well-Being Among Seniors in the United States*, American Dental Association, 2016

ORAL HEALTH IN AMERICA

Experiences of Older Adults and Persons with Disabilities



WHO IS IMPACTED?

Older Adults



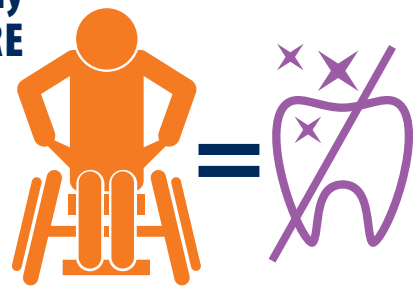
Low-Income Older Adults...

...Over **ONE HALF** did **NOT** have a **DENTAL VISIT** in the past year



People with Disabilities...

FORGO DENTAL TREATMENT DUE TO COST nearly **3 TIMES MORE** than people without disabilities

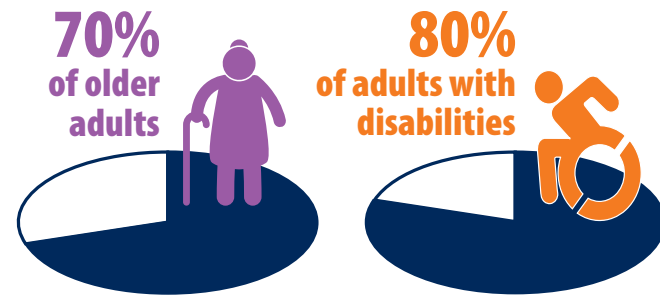


Unmet Need



WHAT HAPPENS AS A RESULT?

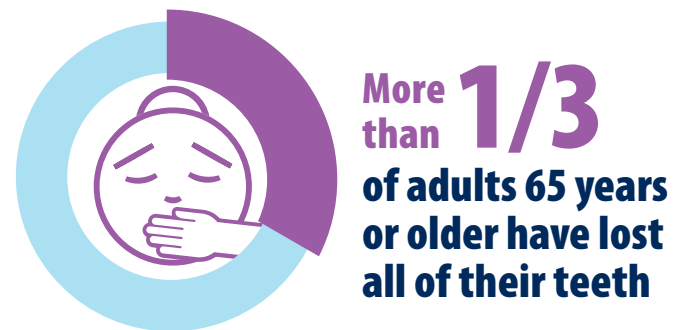
Gum Disease Occurs In...



Periodontal Disease is Associated With...



Tooth Loss



Poor Nutrition Occurs When...



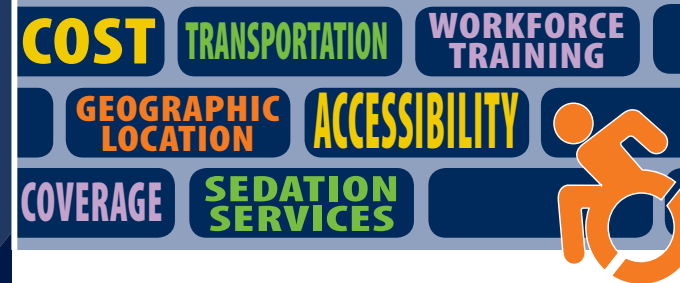
WHY DOES THIS HAPPEN?

No Dental Care Coverage in Medicare

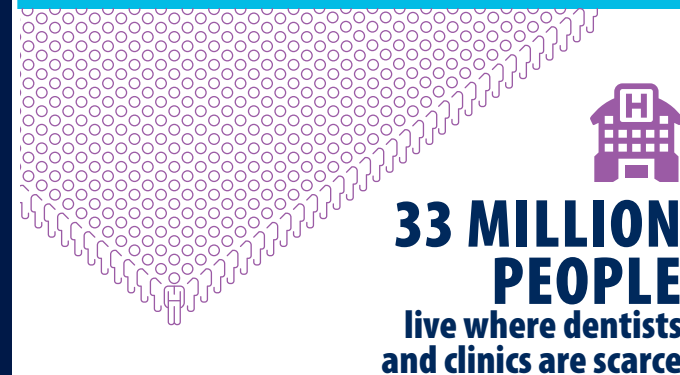
4 out of 5 uninsured seniors cannot pay for a major dental procedure



Barriers to Dental Care For Persons with Disabilities ...



Limited Access to Providers



Only **20%** of **Dentists** Nationwide **Accept Medicaid**



WHERE DO WE GO FROM HERE?

Increase Coverage



Increase Access



Innovation



Awareness

