

Northwestern Arizona Region

Mohave County



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Presentation Outline

- Overview of Oral Health in Arizona
 - 2009 Arizona Oral Health Survey of Preschool Children
- Oral Health in Mohave County
 - Environment
 - Economic Factors
 - Personal and social norms and behaviors
 - Political Factors
- Regional Oral Health Coordinator
- Mohave/La Paz Regional Oral Health Coalition
- Next Steps

Arizona Oral Health Survey of Preschool Children, 2009

Office of Oral Health, Arizona Department of
Health Services, Arizona Oral Health Survey of
Preschool Children, 2009 ©

Leadership for a Healthy Arizona

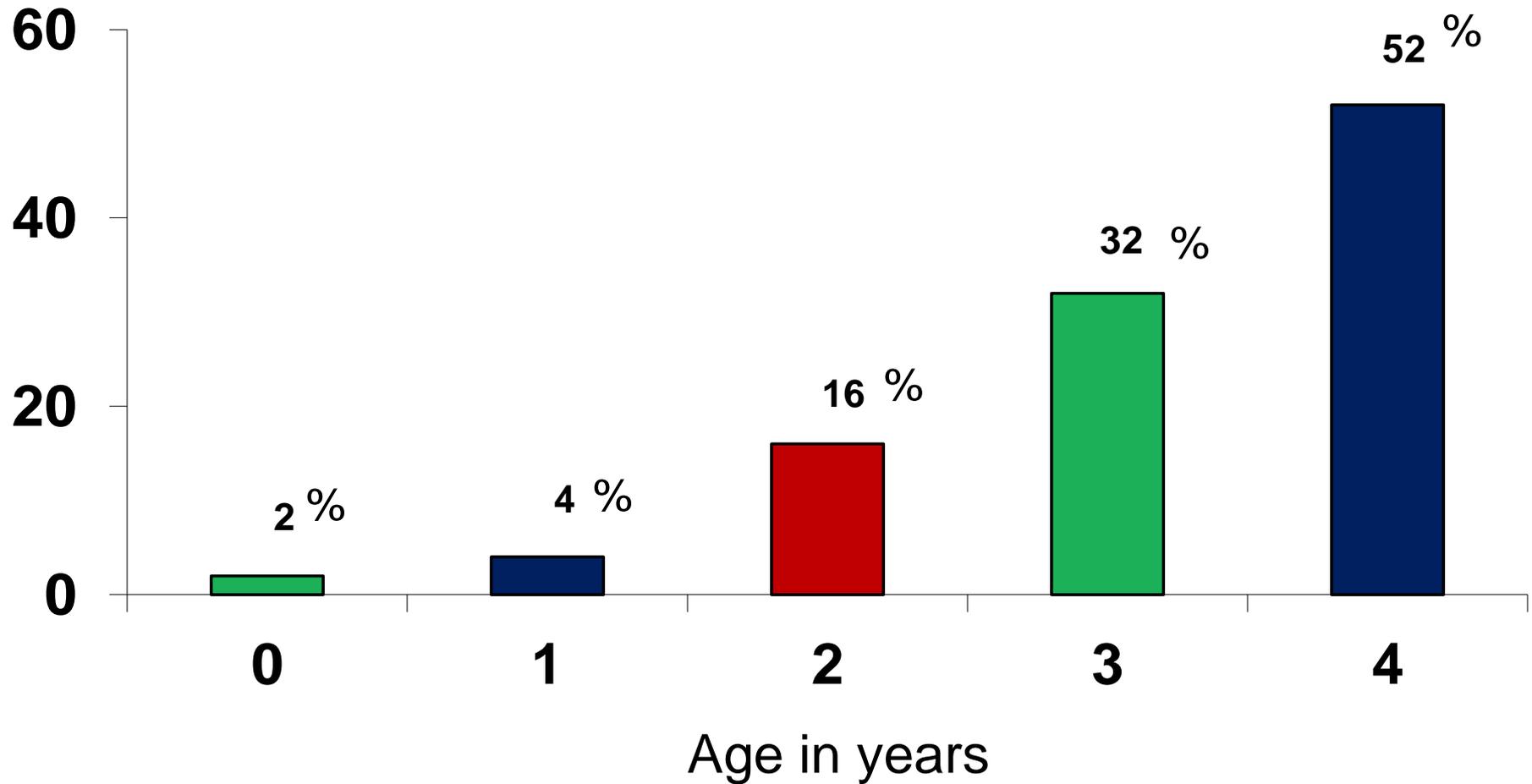


Oral Health Status Arizona Preschool Children Ages 0-4 Years

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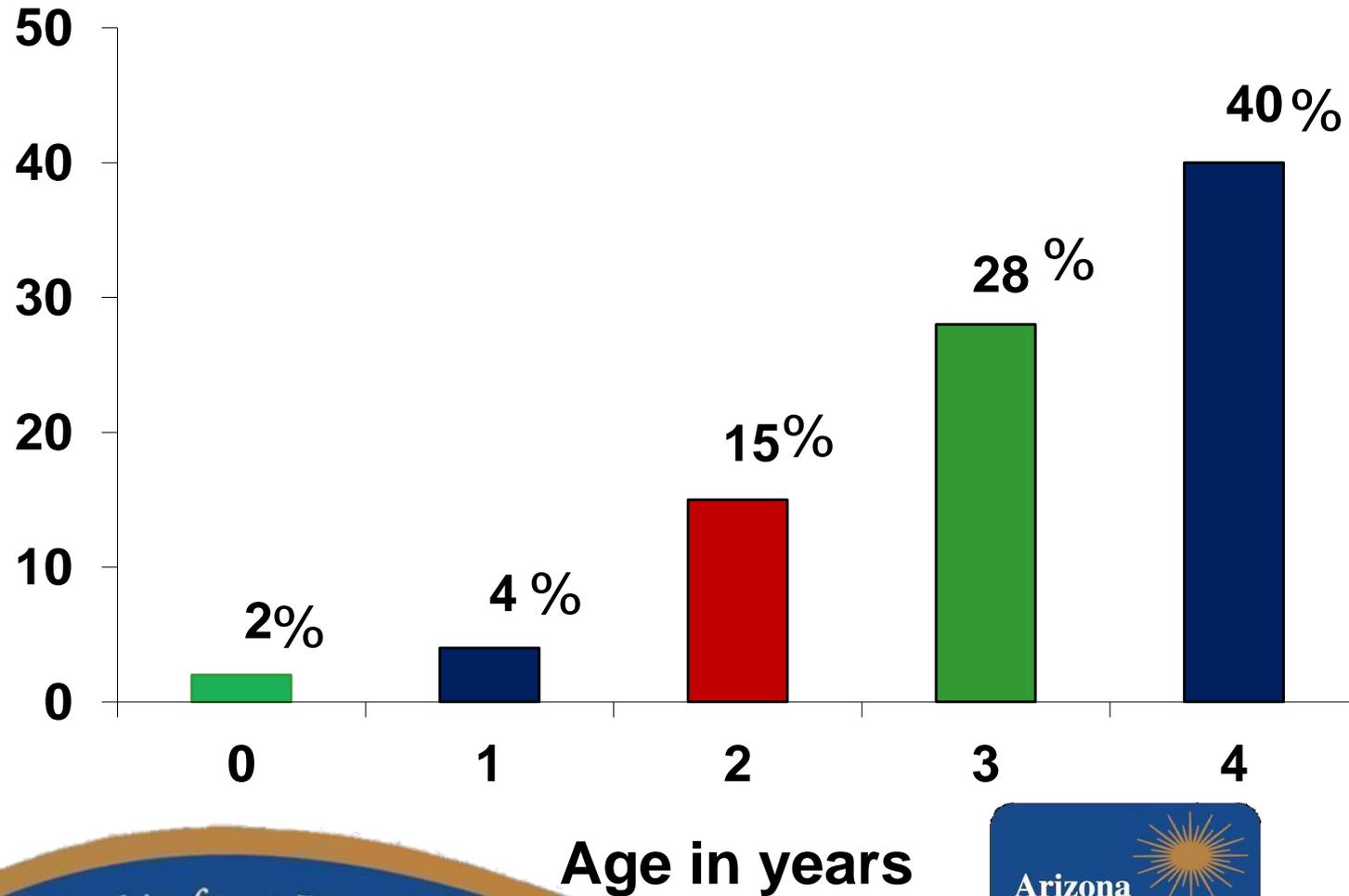
Tooth Decay Experience by Age



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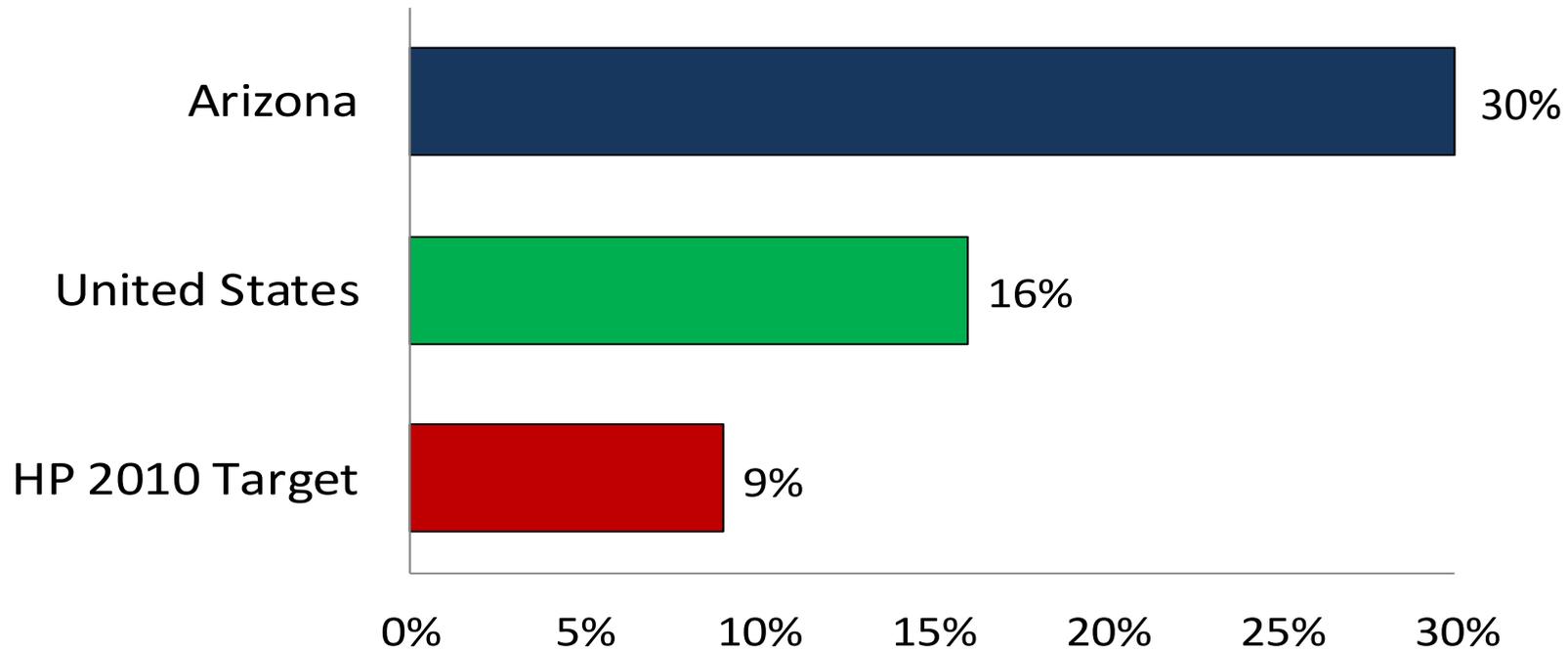
Untreated Tooth Decay by Age



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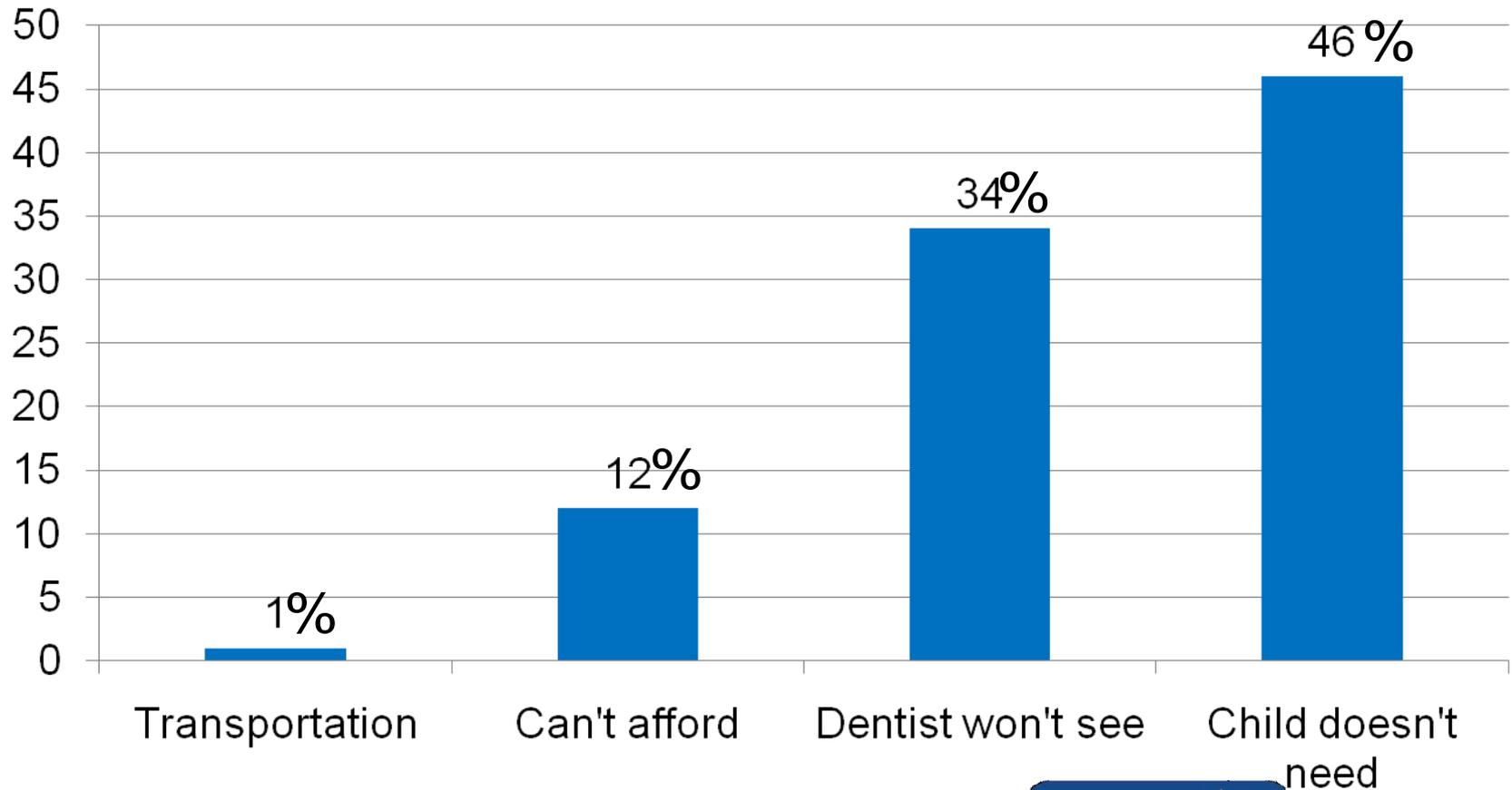
Untreated Tooth Decay Children Ages 2-4



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Reason for no dental visits

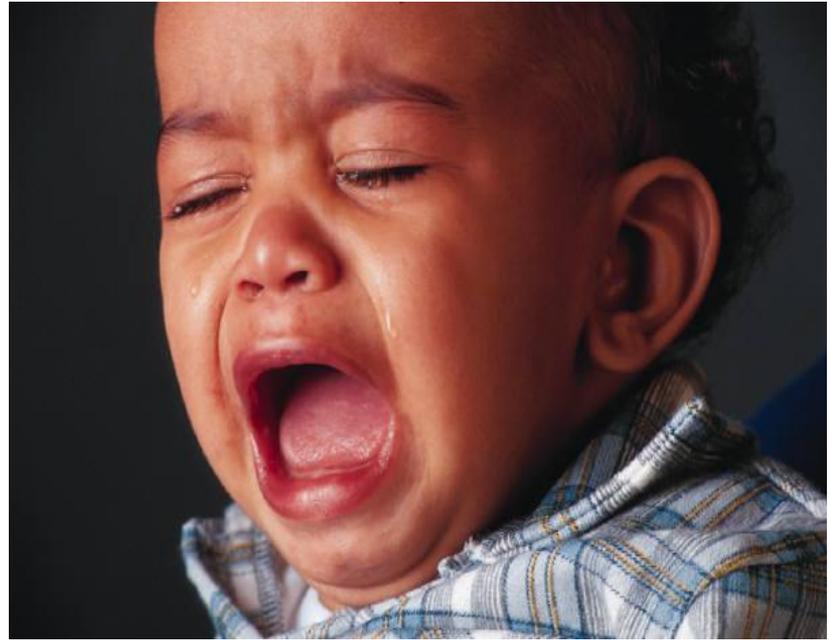


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Treatment Urgency

- 4 out of 10 four year olds have early or urgent treatment needs.



**Good oral health in childhood
means better oral health for life!**



Oral Health and Children

- **Early childhood caries (cavities) is the number 1 chronic disease affecting young children.**
- **Early childhood caries is 5 times more common than asthma and 7 times more common than hay fever.**
- **Tooth pain keeps many children home from school or distracted from learning.**
- **Children are recommended to have their first dental visit by age 1.**



WHAT IS NEEDED TO REDUCE TOOTH DECAY?

Prevention of tooth decay needs a comprehensive, integrated approach that addresses many factors

Including:

- **Environment** (e.g., access to community water fluoridation and number of dental providers);
- **Economic** (e.g., payment of dental services and dental insurance);
- **Personal or social norms/behaviors** (e.g., health literacy, diet, oral hygiene care and transmission of disease);
- **Political** (e.g., funding, support for community water fluoridation and scope of dental practice).

Evidence Based Community Interventions

Water Fluoridation

-Natural or optimally adjusted public water supplies



School-based Dental Sealant Program

-50% or more free and reduced Lunch participation

Dental Providers

The traditional dental team in the private sector:

- A dentist employs one or more dental hygienists and dental assistants to form a provider team to deliver dental preventive and treatment services.
- This is the dominant care delivery model for the solo and group practices in Arizona and across the nation.

Dental HPSA s

(Health Professional Shortage Areas)

Dental workforce shortage is acute in rural areas and in some neighborhoods of larger cities. Children and families living in Arizona's workforce shortage areas often need to travel long distances to a dental practice to seek care and/or that accepts their insurance plan.

Dental HPSAs

(Health Professional Shortage Areas)

As of March 11, 2011, there are: 4,638 Dental HPSAs in the U.S. with 51 million people.

Mohave County has 5 designated Dental HPSAs:

1. Littlefield
2. Dolan Springs
3. Hualapai Tribe Rational Service Area
4. Bullhead City
5. Ft. Mohave

Safety Net Dental Clinics

Safety-net dental clinics are facilities that provide oral health care to individuals and families regardless of their ability to pay for services. These clinics in Arizona are operated by community based organizations, public health systems or hospitals.

In Mohave County, resources for safety-net dental services include:

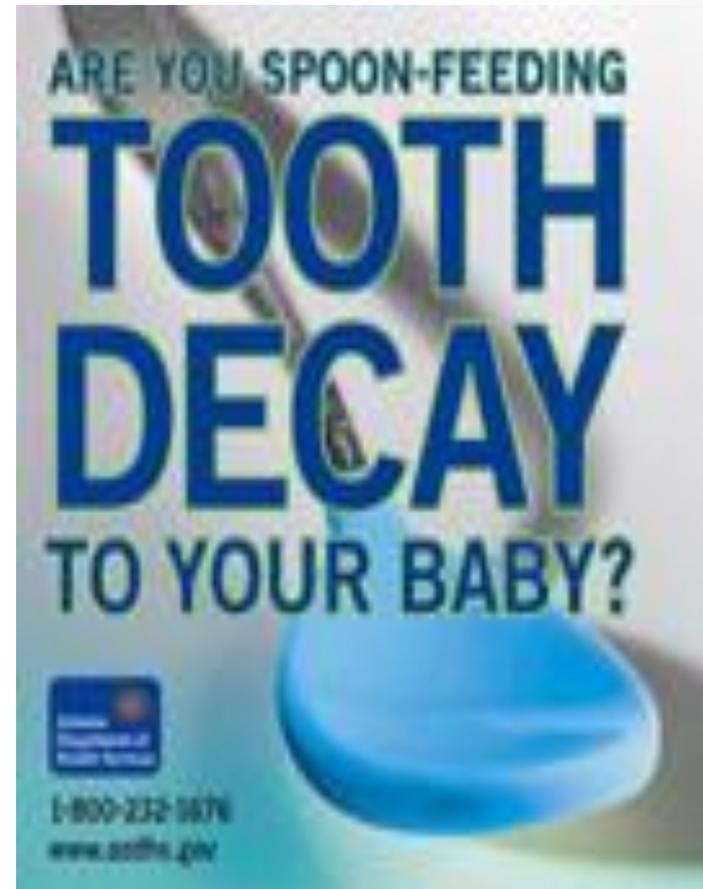
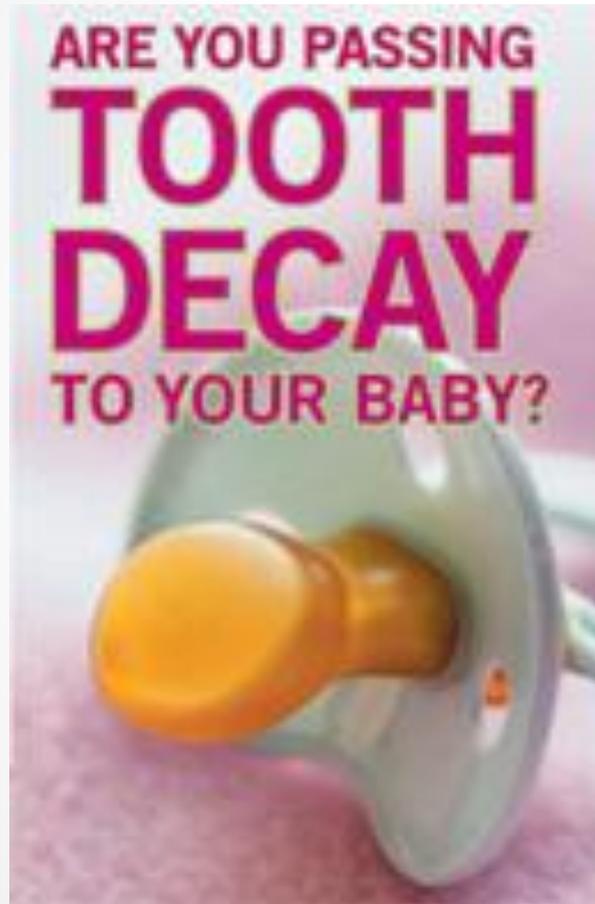
1. Northwest Arizona Regional Health Center
2. Mohave Community College Dental Programs Clinic

Economic factors

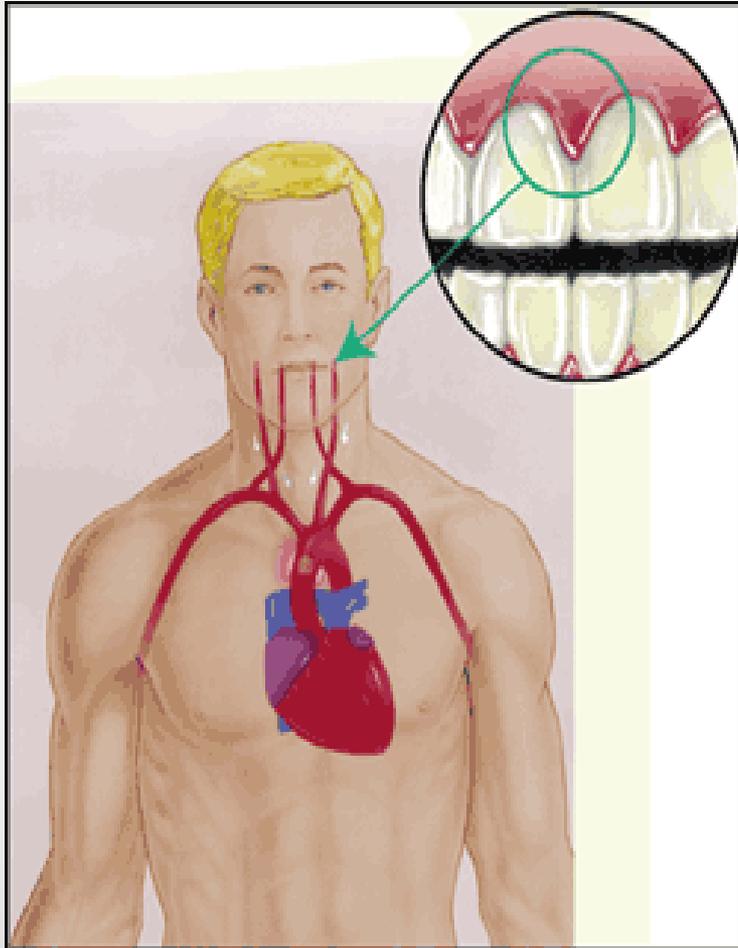
- Increased unemployment
- Reduced employee health benefits
- Reduced discretionary spending

Dental decay is.....

Contagious



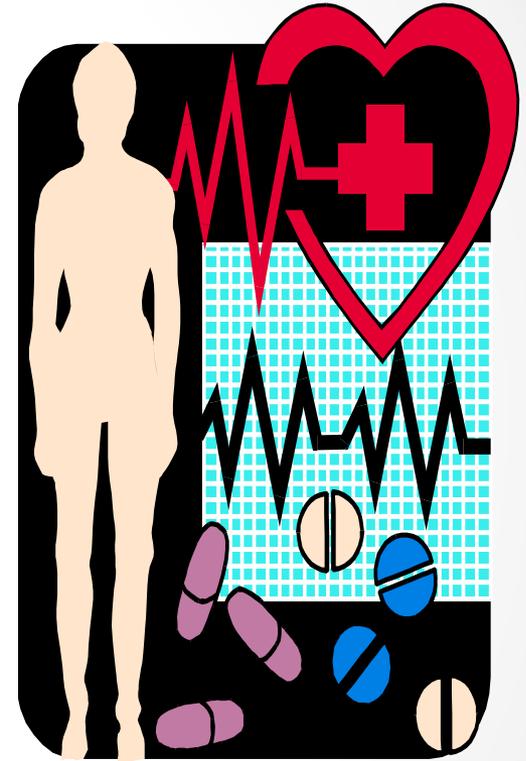
The mouth is connected to the rest of the body!



- Diabetes
- Preterm Low Birth Weight Babies
- Heart Disease
- Respiratory Problems
- Osteoporosis
- Acid Reflux or Ulcers

New Research

- Stroke
- Aspiration Pneumonia
- Alzheimer's Disease
- Arthritis



Enhanced Dental Team

1. Provides prevention services
2. Establishes a dental home
3. Bridges geographical distances
4. Coordinates oral health care



Enhanced Dental Team

Affiliated Practice

An affiliated agreement, with standing orders, between a dental hygienist and a dentist allows:

- Dental hygiene services in public health settings without general or direct supervision
- Patients must be seen by a dentist within 12 months

Enhanced Dental Team

Teledentistry

Utilizes current technologies, acquire and digitally transmit all necessary diagnostic data to a distant dentist for:

- Triage
- Dental treatment planning
- Referral

Enhanced Dental Teams Grant

Purpose of the Grant

Increase availability of the oral health workforce and accessibility of oral health services to underserved communities and families in Arizona.



Enhanced Dental Teams



Enhanced Dental Teams Grant

Affiliated Practice Dental Hygienist



Dentists evaluate the data



Regional Oral Health Coordinators

- **Develop community partnerships**
- **Serve as community resource**



Mohave/La Paz Oral Health Coordinator

- Build regional oral health Coalition
- Provide training and support for Affiliated Practice
- Provide training and support for Teledentistry

Coalitions

- Critical to maintain and implement regional programs and oral health activities.
- Need local support to keep activities going and remain viable.

Mohave/La Paz Oral Health Coalition

Vision Statement:

A community that is free of oral disease through awareness and knowledge of oral health.

Mission Statement:

Increase oral health awareness and knowledge throughout the community, and reduce the incidence of oral disease through increased access to care.

Mohave/La Paz Oral Health Coalition

Key members and/or partnerships:

1. Mohave Community College Dental Programs
2. Northwest Arizona Regional Health Center
3. Fredonia Health Center Dental Clinic
4. Mohave County Public Health Nurses
5. WIC Director
6. Western Arizona Regional Medical Center
7. WACOG Mohave County Head Start Programs
8. Just for Kids Dentistry- Kingman, Bullhead City and Lake Havasu

Upcoming Mohave/La Paz Oral Health Coalition Meeting

You are cordially invited to attend the next meeting:

Tuesday, October 9, 2012 at 6:00 p.m.

Mohave Community College

Bullhead City Campus Building 900

Legacy Foundation Allied Health Sciences Building

3400 Highway 95

Bullhead City, AZ 86442

Call to action

Establish oral health as an integrated component of health initiatives in Mohave County.



Next Steps

1. Increase oral health awareness
2. Educate providers, funders and educators
3. Advocate for oral health funding
4. Increase collaborations
5. Advocate for oral health safety net services
6. Collect oral health surveillance data

Thank you!



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