

OLDER IOWANS AND ORAL HEALTH

2017 Iowa Basic Screening Survey of Older Adults Attending Congregate Meal Sites

Oral disease is a common problem for older adults and can lead to pain and problems with eating and speaking. It can also be a contributor to serious chronic diseases such as heart and lung disease and diabetes.

19%

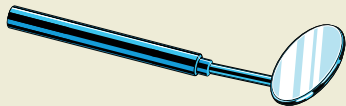
of older Iowans have untreated decay.

2x

Males were twice as likely to have untreated decay as females.



PERIODONTAL (GUM) CARE



15%

of older Iowans need periodontal care.

2x

Males were twice as likely to need periodontal care as females.



1 in 3 older Iowans reported having dental insurance.



Only 16% of Iowans age 80+ reported having dental insurance. More than half of Iowans age 60-69 reported having dental insurance.

2x

Older Iowans in urban counties were twice as likely to have dental insurance than those in rural counties.

DENTAL INSURANCE



DENTAL ACCESS



1 out of 2

older Iowans reported seeing a dentist in the past 12 months. There was no difference between rural and urban areas nor between males and females.

1 out of 3

older Iowans reported not having a dentist. There was no difference between urban and rural areas nor between males and females.

