

Health | Status

2009 Update

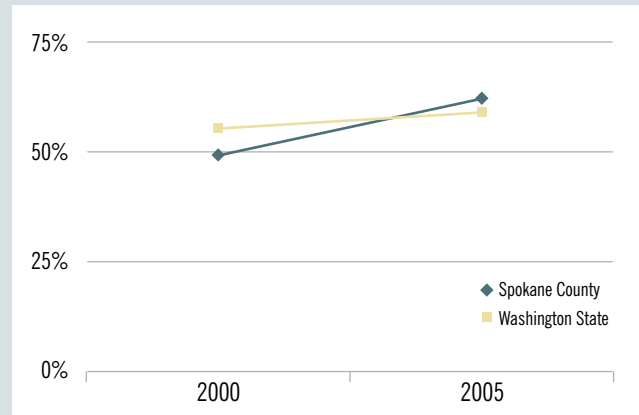
This indicator is 1 of 44 Spokane Counts indicators found at www.srhd.org/SpokaneCounts

Oral Health (children)

Childhood oral health is measured as the percent of second and third grade students who have had a cavity in a primary or permanent tooth. "Tooth decay is one of the most common chronic infectious diseases among U.S. children." Tooth decay may be prevented through proper oral health care.

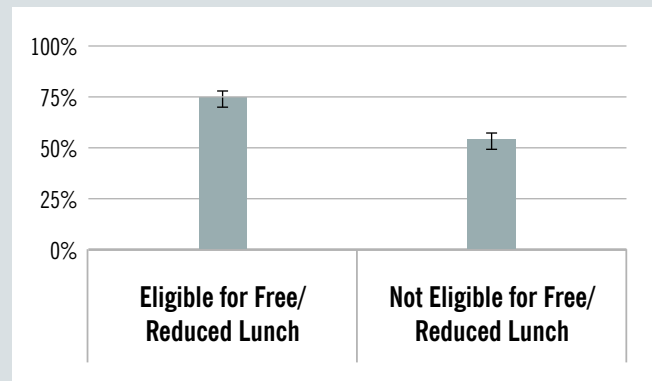
In Spokane County, 3 out of 5 children had dental decay experience in 2005. There was a significant increase in dental decay experience from 2000 to 2005. The proportion of children in Spokane County with dental decay experience was similar to that in Washington State in 2005.

Dental Decay Experience Among Children



Source: SMILE Survey

Demographic Disparities in Dental Decay Experience Spokane County Children, 2005



NOTE: Free or reduced lunch (FRL) was used as an indication of income. To be eligible for FRL, a family cannot make more than 185% of the Federal Poverty Level. To be eligible for FRL in 2005, a family of four could not make more than \$35,798 annually (\$2,983 monthly).

Source: SMILE Survey

There was no difference in decay experience by race.

Among Spokane County children in 2005:

- Lower income children were more likely to have experienced dental decay.

Indicator: Dental Decay Experience Among 2nd and 3rd Graders

Percent
(95% Confidence Interval)

| | | 2000 | 2005 |
|---------------|-------------------------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| Total | Spokane County | 49.4% (44.2, 54.7) | 62.0% (58.9, 65.1) |
| | Washington State | 55.6% (53.7, 57.4) | 59.0% (57.9, 60.1) |
| Income | Eligible for Free/Reduced Lunch | 67.8% (57.6, 76.5) | 74.3% (69.8, 78.3) |
| | Not Eligible for Free/Reduced Lunch | 41.5% (53.5, 94.4) | 53.6% (49.4, 57.8) |
| Race | White Non-Hispanic | 46.5% (40.9, 52.0) | 61.2% (57.9, 64.4) |
| | Non-White or Hispanic | 89.5% (75.1, 96.0) | 70.8% (61.1, 79.0) |

NOTE: National data not available.
Source: SMILE Survey