What Do We Know About the Oral Health of Older Ohioans?

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“How many of your permanent teeth have been removed because of tooth decay or gum disease?”

- Lost no teeth: 27%
- Lost 1-5 teeth: 34%
- Lost 6 or more, but not all: 22%
- Lost all teeth: 17%
Disparities in Tooth Loss by Income and Education

- Income:
  - <$15,000: 28% (6 or more teeth), 37% (All teeth)
  - >$75,000: 14% (6 or more teeth), 4% (All teeth)

- Education:
  - <High School: 30% (6 or more teeth), 41% (All teeth)
  - College Graduate: 15% (6 or more teeth), 4% (All teeth)
Percentage of Adults Age 65+ with Complete Tooth Loss, by Geographic Region

Ohio = 17%
“How long has it been since you last visited a dentist or a dental clinic for any reason?”

Overall, 66% of adults 65 years and older said they had visited the dentist in the past year.
Disparities in Dental Visits by Income and Education

- $15,000: 47%
- $75,000: 88%
- High School: 36%
- College Graduate: 86%
Percentage of Adults Age 65+ with a Dental Visit in the Past Year, by Geographic Region

Ohio = 66%
“During the past 12 months, was there a time when you needed dental care, but could not get it at that time?”

Of adults age 65+, about 13% of adults with the lowest income* reported unmet dental needs, compared to 4% among persons in the highest income category.

*Lowest income = 0-138% of FPL
Highest income = ≥ 400% FPL
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