

NPM 11: PREVENTIVE DENTAL VISIT

GOAL

To increase the percentage of pregnant women and children who receive preventive dental visits.

SIGNIFICANCE

Oral health is a vital component of overall health and oral health care remains the greatest unmet health need for children. Insufficient access to oral health care and effective preventive services affects children's health, education, and ability to prosper. To prevent tooth decay and oral infection, the American Academy of Pediatric Dentistry (AAPD) recommends preventive dental care for all children after the eruption of the first tooth or by 12 months of age, usually at intervals of every 6 months.¹ Oral Evaluation Dental Services is part of the Core Set of Children's Health Care Quality Measures for Medicaid and CHIP.

DEFINITION

Numerators:

- Number of women who reported having their teeth cleaned by a dentist or dental hygienist during pregnancy.
- Number of children, ages 1 through 17, who are reported by a parent to have seen a dentist or other oral health care provider for preventive dental care in the past year.

Denominators:

- Number of women with a recent live birth.
- Number of children, ages 1 through 17.

HEALTHY PEOPLE 2030 OBJECTIVE

- Related to Oral Health (OH) Objective 08: Increase the proportion of children, adolescents, and adults who use the oral health care system. (Baseline: 43.3 percent in 2016 (age adjusted to the year 2000 standard population), Target: 45.0 percent)
- Related to Oral Health (OH) Objective 09: Increase the proportion of low-income youth who have a preventive dental visit. (Baseline: 78.8 percent in 2016-17, Target: 82.7 percent).

STATUS

As given in Figures 1 and 2, the percentages of Hispanic and Black non-Hispanic postpartum women with a dental cleaning during their pregnancy were lower than that of White non-Hispanic postpartum women; similarly, the percentage of Medicaid-covered postpartum women with a dental cleaning during pregnancy was lower than the percentage of postpartum women with private insurance. In addition, the percentage of children who have seen a dentist in the past year for a preventive dental care visit was slightly lower among Black non-Hispanic children as compared to White non-Hispanic and Hispanic children. Medicaid-enrolled children also reportedly had a slightly lower percentage of children with a preventive dental visit as compared to children covered by private insurance.

¹ Periodicity of Examination, Preventive Dental Services, Anticipatory Guidance/Counseling, and Oral Treatment for Infants, Children, and Adolescents. *Pediatr Dent.* 2017;39(6):188-196.

Figure 1. Percentage of Postpartum Who Had Dental Cleaning During Recent Pregnancy, by Selected Race/Ethnicities, PRAMS 2021. [Delaware Only]

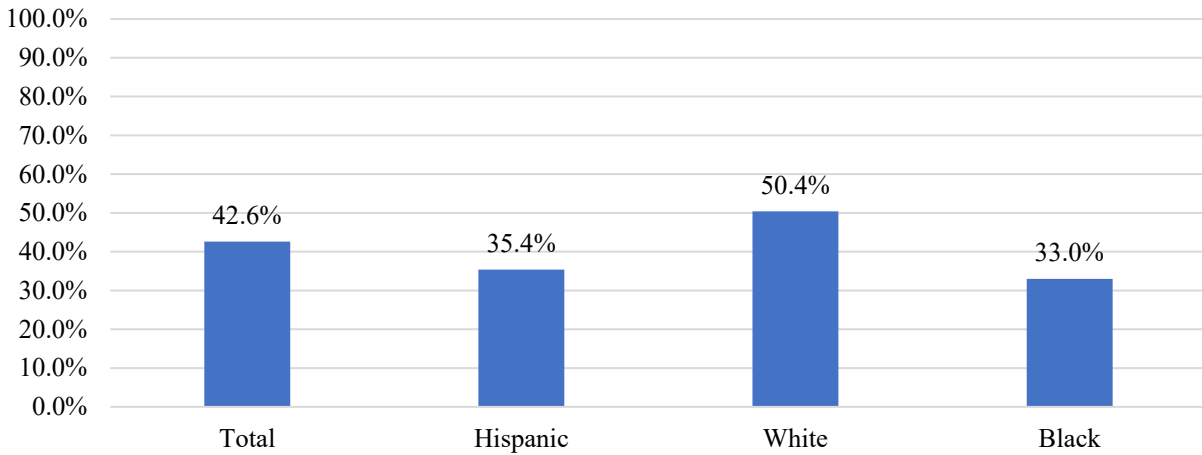


Figure 2. Percentage of Postpartum Who Had Dental Cleaning During Recent Pregnancy, by Health Care Coverage, PRAMS 2021 [Delaware Only, this is also calculated differently]

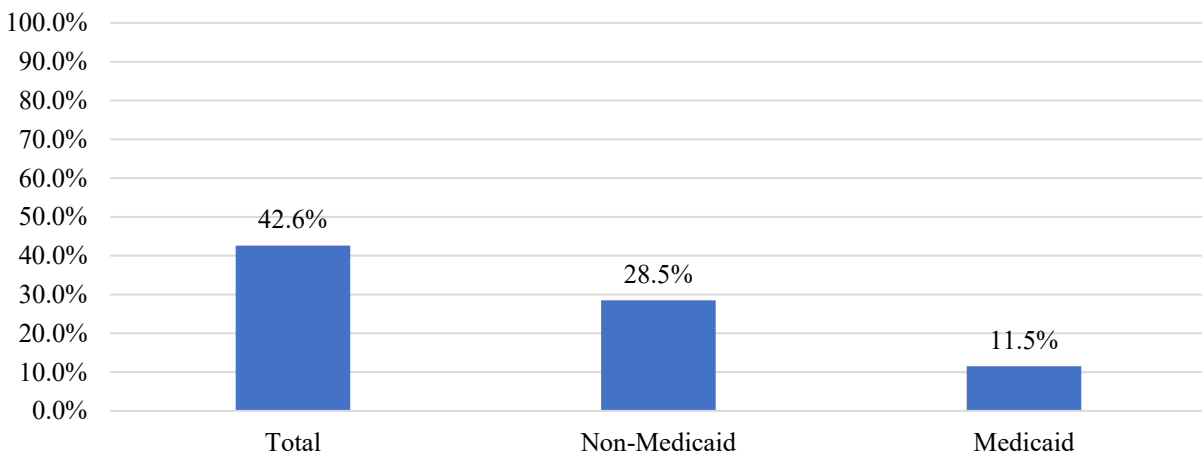


Figure 3. Percentage of Postpartum Who Had Dental Cleaning During Recent Pregnancy, by Age of Mother, PRAMS 2021 [Delaware Only]

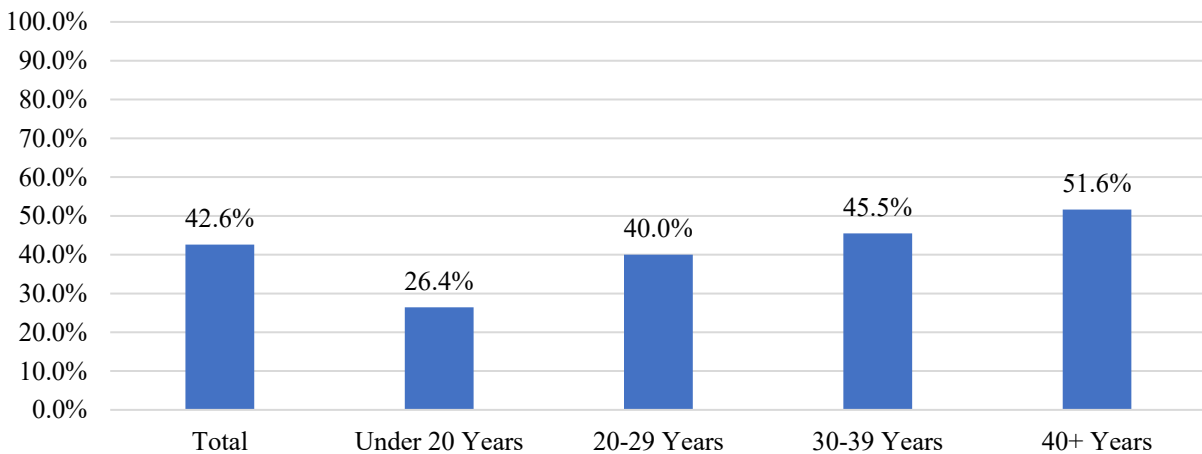


Figure 4. Percentage of Children Who Have Seen Dentist in Past Year for Preventive Dental Care, by Selected Race/Ethnicities, NSCH 2021-2022.

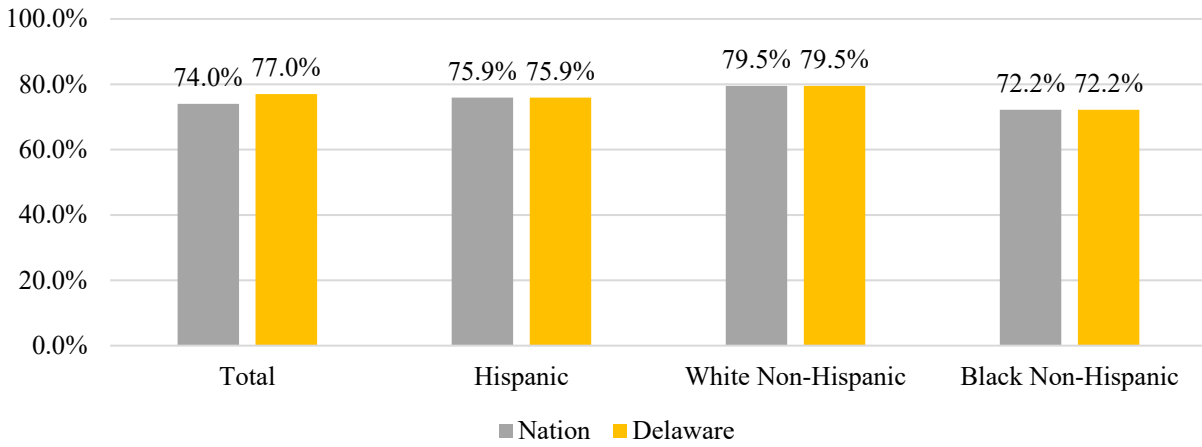


Figure 5. Percentage of Children Who Have Seen Dentist in Past Year for Preventive Dental Care, by Health Care Coverage, NSCH 2021-2022.

