

2018

AUSTRALIA'S
CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE
ORAL HEALTH TRACKER

A report card on preventable oral diseases and their risk factors
Tracking progress for a healthier Australia by 2025

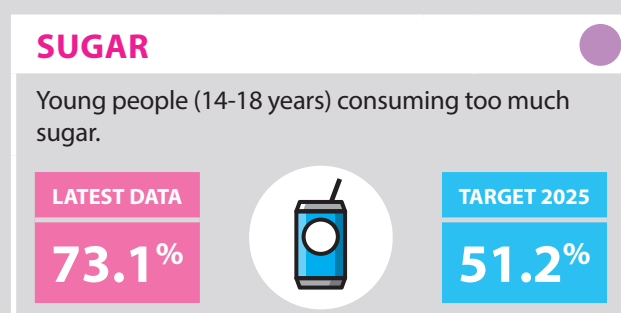
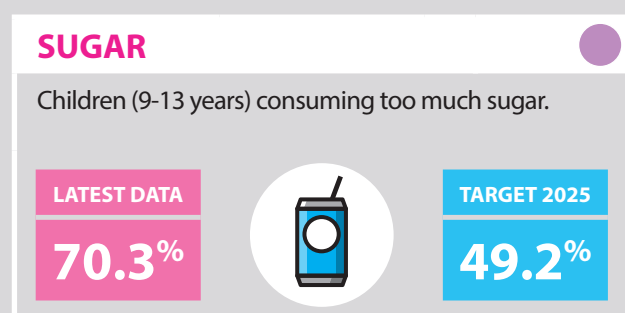
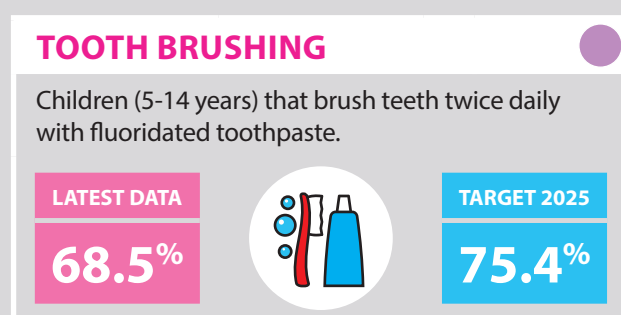
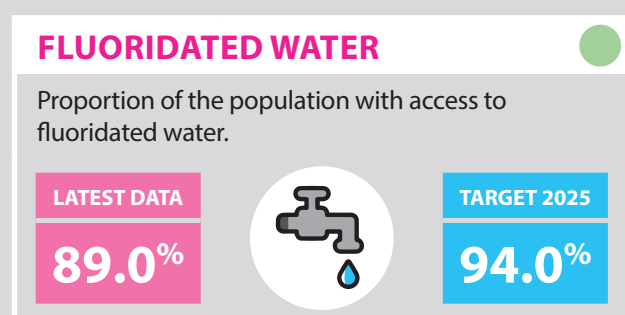


AUSTRALIAN
HEALTH POLICY
COLLABORATION

AUSTRALIA'S CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE ORAL HEALTH TRACKER – MARCH 2018

This report card looks at the oral health of Australian children and young people in relation to risk factors, oral disease and adverse oral health outcomes.

Australia's Children and Young People Oral Health Tracker will be issued regularly and will track the targets for better oral health in Australia by 2025.



● Poor progress against target.
 ● Limited progress towards target.
 ● Good progress. Maintain efforts to reach target.
 ● Insufficient data to report on progress.

Oral health risk factors encountered during childhood and adolescence may lead to poorer oral health outcomes later in life.

Action by parents and families, governments and communities can help prevent poor oral health across the life-course.

Poor oral health can lead to pain, discomfort, hospitalisation and disease.

Poor oral health can affect employment, community participation and quality of life.

The 2025 oral health targets have been developed through the collective effort and guidance of leading oral health and public health experts.

This work is consistent with the World Health Organization Action Plan to prevent chronic diseases across the globe.

CHILDREN

TOOTH DECAY

Children (5-6 years) who have experienced decay in primary teeth.

LATEST DATA

34.3%



TARGET 2025

30.9%

UNTREATED TOOTH DECAY

Children (5-10 years) with untreated tooth decay in primary teeth.

LATEST DATA

27.1%



TARGET 2025

21.7%

PREVENTABLE HOSPITALISATIONS

Potentially preventable hospitalisations in children (5-9 years) due to dental conditions.

LATEST DATA

9.3 PER 1,000



TARGET 2025

8.4 PER 1,000

EARLY CHILDHOOD DENTAL VISIT

Children (5-6 years) that visited a dentist before age 5.

LATEST DATA

55.8%



TARGET 2025

67.0%

YOUNG PEOPLE

TOOTH DECAY

Children (6-14 years) who have experienced tooth decay in permanent teeth.

LATEST DATA

23.5%



TARGET 2025

21.2%

UNTREATED TOOTH DECAY

Children (6-14 years) with untreated tooth decay in permanent teeth.

LATEST DATA

10.9%



TARGET 2025

8.7%

TOOTHACHE

Children (5-14 years) who reported toothache in the last 12 months.

LATEST DATA

6.8%



TARGET 2025

6.1%

DENTAL CHECK UP

Young people (aged 12-17) that have had a dental check-up in the last 12 months.

LATEST DATA

78.4%



TARGET 2025

86.2%

For further details, including additional indicators and data for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders where available, please see the accompanying technical document available at ada.org.au/oralhealthtracker.

Chronic diseases prevention for Australia: Statement of commitment

We call for, and are active contributors towards, a systemic and sustained approach to the prevention and management of chronic diseases in Australia.

Core principles

Action is required urgently to reduce the incidence and impact of chronic diseases, and must address the underlying risk factors and determinants. There is a critical need for a national prevention agenda.

We support a set of core principles that provide a common platform for interventions to prevent chronic diseases:

1. A systemic approach—focussing on common risk factors and determinants.
2. Evidence-based action—acting now, using best available evidence, and continuing to build evidence.
3. Tackling health inequity and health disparity—working to improve and redress inequities and disparities in access to programs, services and inequities in outcomes.
4. A national agenda with local action—building commitment and innovation with local and community-level actions.
5. A life course approach—intervening early and exploiting prevention opportunities at all ages and across generations.
6. Shared responsibility—encouraging complementary actions by all groups.
7. Responsible partnerships—avoiding ceding policy influence to vested interests.

The benefits of reducing the incidence and impact of chronic diseases are nationally significant. They extend beyond the impact on the health of individuals to our children's future, the wellbeing of the communities in which we live, and the economic prosperity of our society. Australians deserve a healthier future. We can, and we must, do better.

Signatories for Australia's Oral Health Tracker

Australasian Academy of Paediatric Dentistry
 Australian & New Zealand Academy of Periodontists
 Australian College of Dental Schools
 Oral Medicine Academy of Australasia
 Dental Hygienist Association of Australia
 Australian Dental and Oral Health Therapist Association
 Alliance for a Cavity Free Future
 Rethink Sugary Drink
 Royal Australasian College of Dental Surgeons
 Australian Dental Prosthetists Association
 Australian Research Centre for Population Oral Health
 Consumers Health Forum
 Dietitians Association of Australia
 Australian Society of Special Care in Dentistry

Signatories and supporters for chronic diseases prevention for Australia

Australia and New Zealand Obesity Society
 Australian Centre for Health Research
 Australian Dental Association
 Australian Disease Management Association
 Australian Federation of AIDS Organisations
 Australian Health Care Reform Alliance
 Australian Health Promotion Association
 Australian Healthcare and Hospitals Association
 Australian Psychological Society
 Australian Women's Health Network
 Baker IDI Heart and Diabetes Institute
 Better Health Plan for the West
 Brimbank City Council
 Cabrini Institute
 Cancer Council Australia
 Catholic Health Australia
 Caring & Living As Neighbours
 Charles Perkins Centre, University of Sydney
 Chronic Illness Alliance
 Cohealth
 Confederation of Australian Sport
 CRANaplus
 Deakin University
 Diabetes Australia
 Foundation for Alcohol Research and Education
 George Institute for Global Health
 Health West Partnership
 Inner North West Primary Care Partnership
 Kidney Health Australia
 Lowitja Institute
 Mental Health Australia
 MOVE muscle, bone & joint health
 National Alliance for Action on Alcohol
 National Heart Foundation
 National Rural Health Alliance
 National Stroke Foundation
 NCD FREE
 Network of Alcohol and other Drugs Agencies
 Networking Health Victoria
 Obesity Australia
 Overcoming Multiple Sclerosis
 People's Health Movement OZ
 Public Health Association of Australia
 Royal Flying Doctor Service
 School of Medicine, University of Notre Dame
 School of Psychology and Public Health, La Trobe University
 Services for Australian Rural and Remote Allied Health
 Social Determinants of Health Alliance
 South Australian Health and Medical Research Institute
 Suicide Prevention Australia
 The Telethon Kids Institute
 Victoria University
 Victorian Health Promotion Foundation
 YMCA

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vu.edu.au/ahpc

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