

# DELTA DENTAL MAKING SMILES HAPPEN® ORAL HEALTH STUDY OF KENTUCKY'S YOUTH

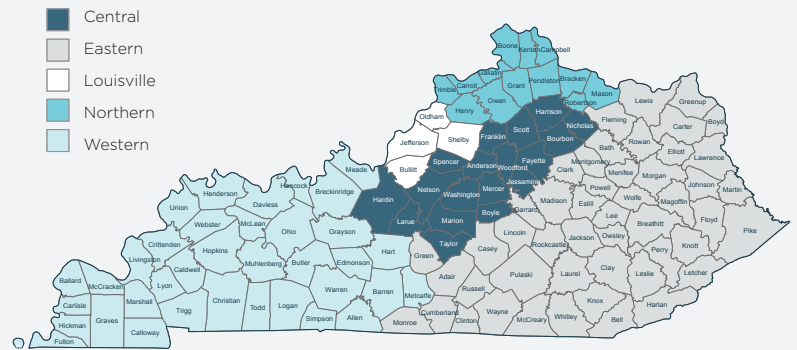
## Western Region Profile



Delta Dental of Kentucky partnered with Kentucky Youth Advocates and the University of Louisville School of Dentistry through the Delta Dental of Kentucky Making Smiles Happen® initiative to conduct a new statewide survey of children's oral health. Dentists were sent to 60 schools across five regions of the state to directly observe the mouths of 3rd and 6th graders. Parents were also asked about family oral health history, collecting data for over 2,000 students. The result is a long overdue picture of children's oral health in Kentucky - the last survey prior to this initiative was completed in 2001.

### WESTERN REGION AT A GLANCE

- The Western region has one of the highest rates of untreated tooth decay at 49%.
- One of two 3rd and 6th graders - around 11,700 children - in the Western region have untreated tooth decay.
- There was a significant increase in the rate of cavities experiences from 55% to 68%.



#### WESTERN REGION SCREENING DEMOGRAPHICS



523 Students Participated in the Study



87% White  
7% Black/African American  
5% Hispanic/Latino  
Less than 1% Asian



66% on Free or Reduced Lunch

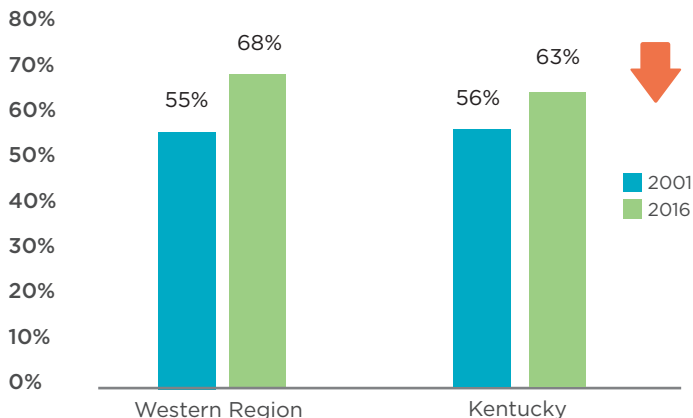
### 2001 VS. 2016 SURVEY RESULTS COMPARISONS

Children who have experienced tooth decay are at greater risk of having future tooth decay. These numbers have worsened since the 2001 survey.

TRENDING KEY: ↑ Positive → Neutral ↓ Negative

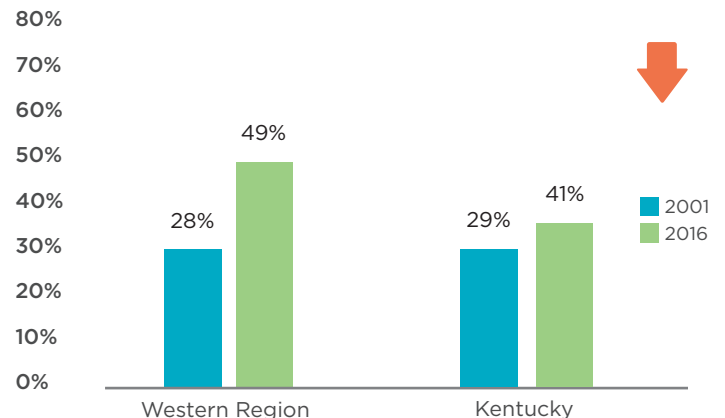
#### Over 2 in 3 children have experienced tooth decay

Estimated number of children: 16,200





#### Nearly 1 in 2 children have untreated tooth decay

Estimated number of children: 11,700



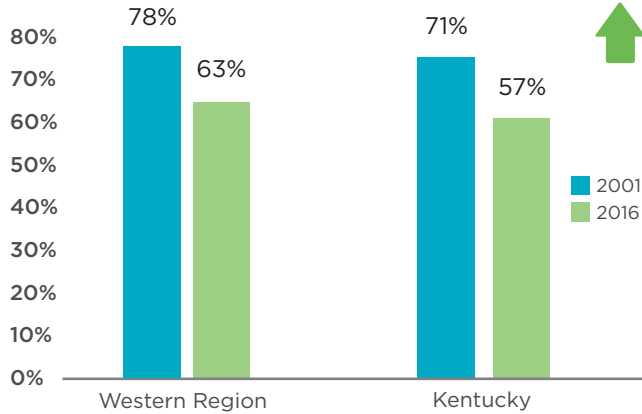
## 2001 VS. 2016 SURVEY RESULTS COMPARISONS

Sealants can help prevent the need for early or urgent dental care.

TRENDING KEY:  Positive  Neutral  Negative

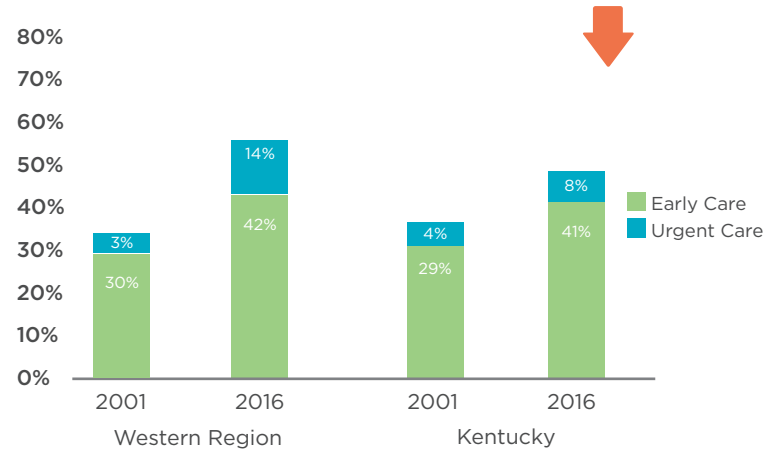
### Over 3 in 5 children do not have sealants

Estimated number of children: 15,000







### Over 1 in 2 children need early or urgent dental care




Estimated number of children: 13,400



## PARENT QUESTIONNAIRES

	Western Region 2001	Region 2016	Kentucky 2016	Regional Trend
Child reported to have a toothache in the last 6 months	12%	13%	9%	
More than 1 year since last dental visit	24%	21%	16%	
During past 12 months, child needed dental care but could not get it	23%	9%	5%	
Child lacks dental insurance	23%	12%	9%	

## SOCIAL DETERMINANTS OF ORAL HEALTH

INDICATOR	Western Region	Kentucky
 Children living in poverty, 2011-2015	26%	26%
Child food insecurity rate, 2014	21%	22%
People ages 25+ with a Bachelors degree or above, 2011-2015	17%	22%
 Number of dentists per 1,000 children, 2015	2.2	2.7
Children without health insurance coverage, 2011-2015	7%	5%
Children enrolled in Medicaid/KCHIP utilizing dental services, 2015	45%	48%
Kindergarteners receiving a dental screening/exam, SY 2015-2016	61%	57%
 Children ages 5 to 17 that speak a language other than English at home, 2011-2015	6%	6%
Households with no vehicles, 2011-2015	7%	8%
Births to mothers who smoked during pregnancy, 2012-2014	20%	22%

FIND COUNTY-LEVEL DATA ON OTHER SOCIAL DETERMINANTS OF ORAL HEALTH AT:

KIDS COUNT Data Center | [www.datacenter.kidscount.org/data#KY](http://www.datacenter.kidscount.org/data#KY)

Kentucky Health Facts | [www.kentuckyhealthfacts.org](http://www.kentuckyhealthfacts.org)

County Health Rankings and Roadmaps | [www.countyhealthrankings.org](http://www.countyhealthrankings.org)

Find the complete report and learn more about how you can get involved at [KentuckyOralHealth.com](http://KentuckyOralHealth.com)