



ORAL HEALTH AMONG ADULTS IN MISSISSIPPI 2018

In Mississippi, over half of adults have had one or more permanent teeth removed because of gum disease or tooth decay.

Strategies for maintaining good Oral Health.

- ◆ Drink fluoridated water and use fluoride toothpaste.
- ◆ Thoroughly brush with a soft toothbrush 2-3 times a day and floss to reduce dental plaque and prevent gingivitis.
- ◆ Regular use of mouthwash can kill the bacteria responsible for bad breath, reduce plaque that can cause cavities, prevent gum disease and can prevent tooth decay if a fluoride mouthwash is used.
- ◆ Visit a dental provider once every 6 months.
- ◆ Avoid tobacco and limit alcohol.
- ◆ Eat wisely – limit foods with sugars and simple starches and the number of snacks eaten throughout the day.

The Burden of Oral Disease

- In Mississippi, nearly 26% or more than 1/4th of adults 65 years and older have lost all their teeth, compared to 17% in the nation. Gum disease and tooth decay are the most common causes of tooth loss.
- Over 1.2 million (57%) of Mississippi adults have had one or more permanent teeth removed because of gum disease or tooth decay compared to 44% in the Nation.
- 77% of adults aged 45 and over in Mississippi have had at least one permanent tooth removed.

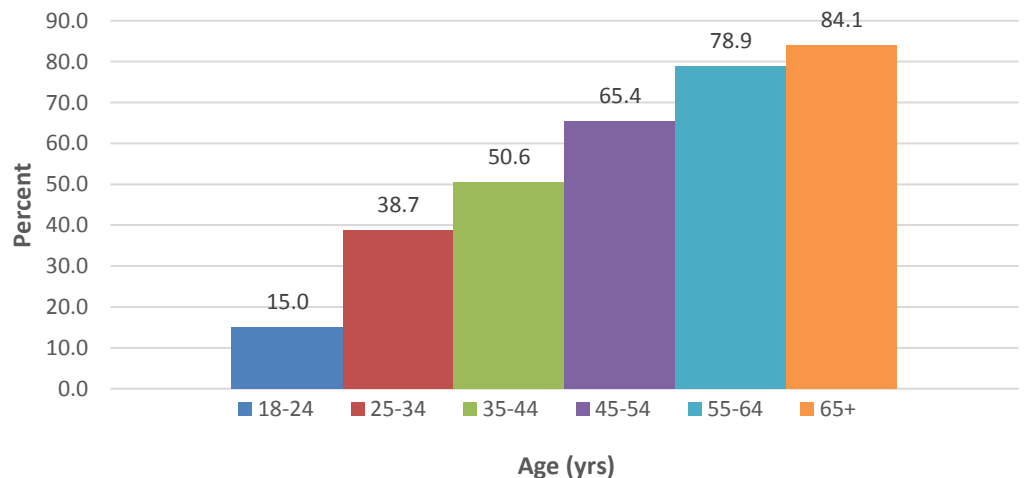
GENDER

- 60% of women and 55% of men have had one or more permanent teeth removed because of gum disease or tooth decay.
- Among adults age 45 and over, 15% of men and 17% of women have lost all their permanent teeth.

AGE

The percent of adults who have had one or more permanent teeth removed increases with age, as shown in the graphs below.

One or More Permanent Teeth Removed due to Gum Disease or Decay by Age, Mississippi 2018



More than half of Mississippi adults (55%) reported having their teeth cleaned by a dentist or dental hygienist within the past year, while 3.5% reported never having had their teeth cleaned.

Those with higher education and higher income are more likely to have visited a dental clinic or dentist within the past year

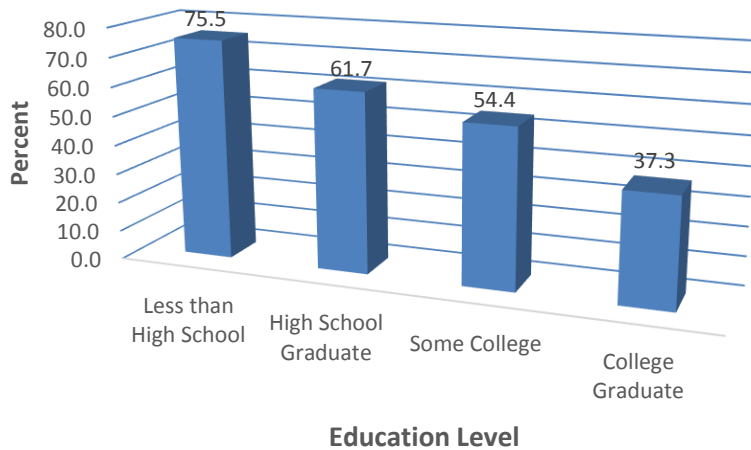
RACE/ETHNICITY

In Mississippi, about 65% of African-American adults have had one or more permanent teeth removed compared to 54% for Whites. Among adults age 45 and over, 18% of African Americans and 16% of White have lost all their permanent teeth

EDUCATION

The risk of having teeth removed because of gum disease or tooth decay varies by education level, as shown in the graph below.

Premanent Teeth Removal by Education Level, Mississippi 2018



MISSISSIPPI ADULTS DENTAL VISITS

- 56% of adults in Mississippi have visited the dentist or dental clinic within the past year. The following adults are less likely to visit the dentist:
 - ◆ Adults who have not attended college.
 - ◆ Adults of lower income groups.
 - ◆ Adults from racial/ethnic minority groups.
- 61% of women visited the dentist or dental clinic within the past year.
- 47% of adults over 45 years had not visited a dentist over the past year.
- 65% of Mississippi adults who had not had any of their permanent teeth removed visit a dentist at least once every year.



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