

Oral Health

Why Is This Important?

In Canada, dental caries (cavities) is the most common chronic disease affecting children. Tooth decay can cause pain and infection that affects a child's ability to eat, sleep, concentrate and learn. The prevalence of dental caries is related to feeding and nutrition, oral hygiene, dental insurance and care, and community water fluoridation.

What Is Being Done?

[Oral Health Program](#) in Saskatoon Health Region

[Saskatchewan Oral Health Coalition](#)

[Saskatchewan Prevention Institute](#) information

[College of Dental Surgeons of Saskatchewan](#) information

To Learn More:

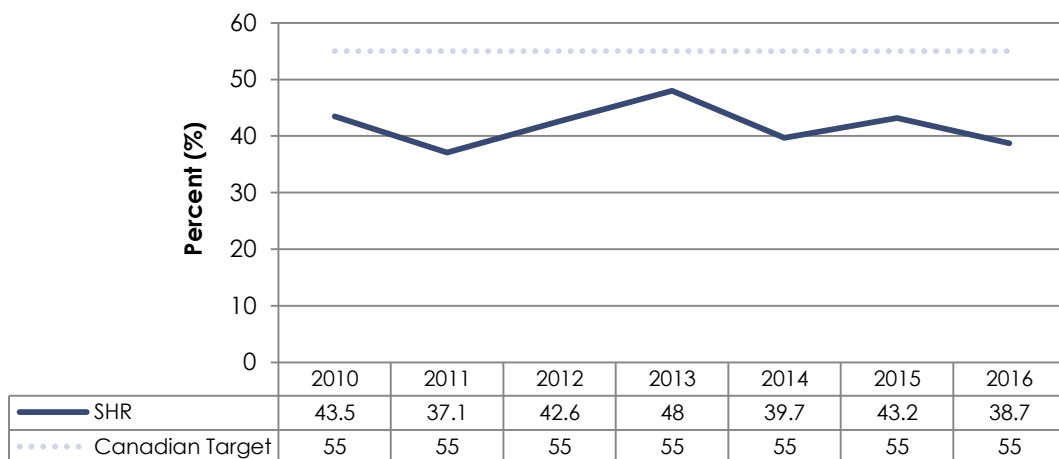
Chief Medical Health Officer's [Call to Action](#)

Highlights

Oral health among six year olds in the Region is not up to Canadian standards.

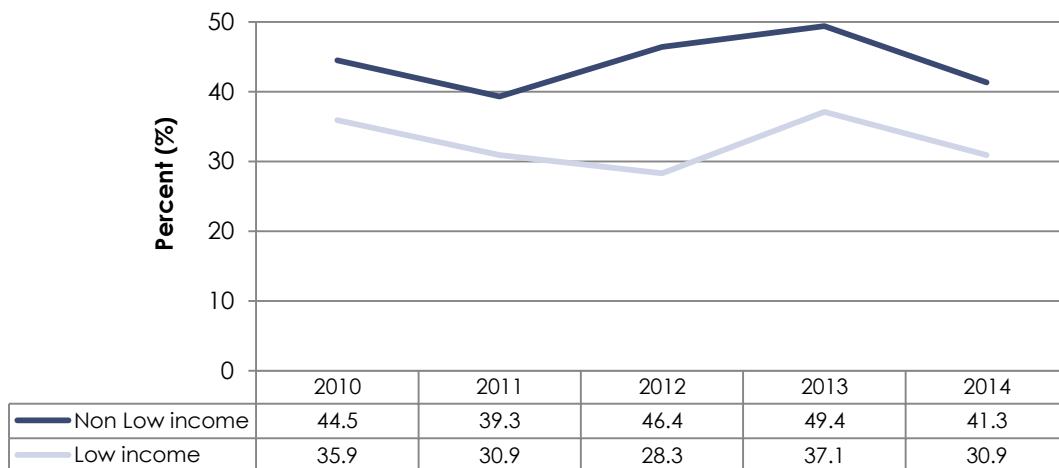
- About 40% of six year old children in Saskatoon Health Region were cavity free in 2016 (38.7%). This is less than the 55% standard, which has been established in Canada (Figure 1).
- A lower percentage of six year olds living in the lowest income neighbourhoods of Saskatoon were cavity free compared to those living in other neighbourhoods of Saskatoon (Figure 2).
- Little differences in the percentage of cavity free six year olds were seen between rural and urban areas of the Region (data not shown).

Figure 1: Percentage of Six Year Olds Cavity Free, Saskatoon Health Region, 2010 to 2016



Source: Saskatoon Health Region, Oral Health Program

Figure 2: Percentage of Six Year Olds Cavity Free, Neighbourhood Income Levels, Saskatoon, 2010 to 2014



Source: Saskatoon Health Region, Oral Health Program