



Children's Oral Health Matters for School Success



Missing school days due to dental decay can negatively impact success in school and is costly for school districts.

351,000

children and teens missed at least one or more days of school due to dental problems in the past year (asked in 2022). **87 percent of these children missed more than one day of school.**



Tooth decay is the most chronic yet preventable health care need among California's children.

869,202

school days missed in a year due to dental problems, **costing school districts approximately \$60 million.**

To help your child have a healthy smile and successful school year:

Brush twice a day and visit your dentist when recommended! Children should brush for a full two minutes and use only a pea size amount of fluoridated toothpaste.

Visit smilecalifornia.org for more tips and to find a dentist right for you.

#NCDHM #Healthyteeth4CAkids #brightsmiles #happyteeth #healthyhabits

Let's make sure our children have **bright smiles and bright futures!**

Data Sources and Methods:

California Health Interview Survey (CHIS) 2022. Los Angeles, CA: UCLA Center for Health Policy Research. Missed school days due to a dental problem estimated among children ages 5–17 years.

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Local Control Funding Formula (LCFF) funds lost. General-purpose education funding is apportioned to school districts and charter schools through the "revenue limit" that is adjusted if attendance differs from estimates. The statewide LCFF in 2022–2023 of \$72.312 billion was divided by the average daily

attendance of 5,789,828, resulting in \$12,489 per student per year. The statewide average for revenue limits was approximately \$69 per day (\$12,489 divided by 180-day school year). (Communication with Michael Alferes and Edgar Cabral at CA Legislative Analyst's Office, February 6, 2024).