Water Fluoridation has *NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT* on Dental Health, according to US Government Data

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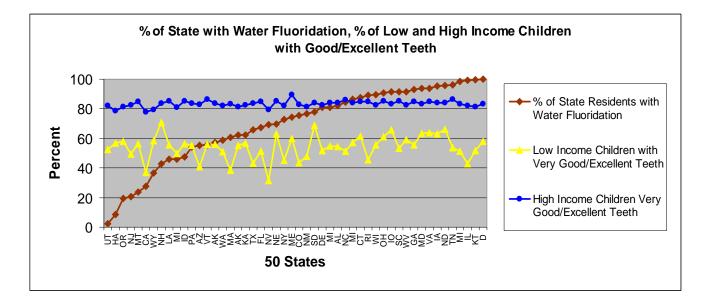


Fig 1: States with more fluoridation do not have improved dental health (1)

This graph shows that states with more fluoridated water do not have a corresponding increase in children with very good/excellent teeth. Conversely, kids in states with less fluoridation don't have worse teeth. Dental health remains at consistent levels regardless of fluoridation. The government data presented here does not support the claim that increasing water fluoridation will improve the dental health of children (1).

TOOTH DECAY HAS BEEN DECLINING ALL OVER THE WORLD WITH OR WITHOUT WATER FLUORIDATION

The First International Conference on the Declining Prevalence of Dental Caries examined the worldwide decline of tooth decay. A key finding: Tooth decay declined at the same rate in both fluoridated and non-fluoridated areas (2).

An editorial in a top science journal analyzed the large reductions in tooth decay that occurred worldwide over a thirty-year period. Similar reductions were observed in both fluoridated and non-fluoridated areas, so the drop in decay could not be attributed to water fluoridation. The editor concluded that the poor quality of research on fluoridation may have missed the real cause of the worldwide decay decline, and called for a scientific re-examination of the 'alleged' enormous benefits of water fluoridation (3).

A Real Answer to Tooth Decay: Access to Dental Care

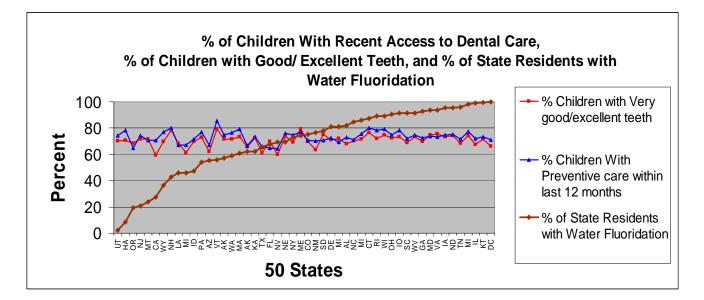


Fig 2: <u>Improved dental health closely follows increased access to dental care,</u> <u>but has no apparent connection with water fluoridation (1)</u>

This graph shows a close connection between the percentage of children with very good/excellent teeth and the percentage of children that have received preventative care in the past year. No connection is seen between better teeth and water fluoridation. *Oregon ranks 49th lowest out of 50 states in children's preventive dental care visits (1).*

A landmark study found dental health related to social class, but not to water fluoridation. Higher social class and income meant better dental health. When social class variables were accounted for, residents of the non-fluoridated areas actually had better dental health than the fluoridated residents (4).

Other valid suggestions to improve dental health in Oregon:

- Increased health education
- Increased preventive dental treatments
- Improved nutrition

1. Data from:

The National Survey of Children's Health, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services http://mchb.hrsa.gov/oralhealth/portrait/lcct.htm

U S Centers for Disease Control http://www.cdc.gov/oralhealth/waterfluoridation/fact_sheets/states_stats2002.htm

- 2. J of Dental Research, v 61, Nov, 1982
- 3. Diesendorf, Editorial, Nature, v 322, July 10, 1986
- 4. Colquhoun, "Influence of social class and fluoridation on child dental health," <u>Community Dentistry</u> <u>and Oral Epidemiology</u>, v 13/# 1, February, 1985