



Timeframe for Activities and Data Collection

Sample Selection: Jan-Feb 2019

- 65 AR schools were chosen; ASTDD assisted in selecting a state-wide probability sample that was representative of all 3rd grade students at public schools in Arkansas.
- Selected schools represented state in terms of geographical location and socioeconomic status.

School Organization: March-May 2019

- Office of Oral Health (OOH) secured participation, appropriate permissions, set up and provided assistance.
- Arkansas Dept. of Education (ADE) sent letter of support to schools, assisted with outreach to increase participation.
- Passive consent forms (opt out) to maximize number of students seen.

Contract Personnel: June-July 2019

- OOH advertised to recruit Oral Health Professionals (OHPs) for project through *Arkansas Democrat-Gazette* and dental hygiene and association email listservs.
- OOH contracted 7 Oral Health Professionals (including OOH Director) to complete open mouth screenings.
- Payment agreements and limitations were established with contractors.

OHP Calibration Training: August 2019

- Contracted OHPs attended a 1-day required training for Screening Survey Calibration, which ensured consistency of screening measures and data collection.
- Training included instruction on data collection, safeguarding personal health information, infection control, and OHP invoicing. Contractors received toolkits with all supplies—penlights, mirrors, sanitizers, and gloves.

Data Collection: Sept-Nov 2019

- OHPs assigned to designated schools, were also tasked with scheduling/coordinating tasks for school screening event
- Start date was the Monday after Labor Day, ending the last week before Thanksgiving.
- OHP open mouth screening data captured on tablet; uploaded into database after each event.

Data Submission and Analysis: Dec 2019-Feb 2020

- The tablet system used identifiers and barcodes from the school and ADE to allow for all data to interface and link.
- Tech Consultant with Arkansas Oral Health Coalition (AOHC) performed final linkage and quality assurances for integrity of data; worked with OOH Epidemiologist to submit data to ASTDD in desired format, and according to internal ADH process guidelines.

Report Writing and Publication: March-May 2020

- Results were used to develop the "Arkansas 3rd Grade Basic Screening Survey Report, 2019-2020," and publish to the ADH Oral Health Surveillance website.

The "Arkansas 3rd Grade Basic Screening Survey Report, 2019-2020" is located on the ADH Oral Health Surveillance website:

<https://www.healthy.arkansas.gov/programs-services/topics/oral-health-surveillance>

Tablet System Highlights

- The ADE provided demographic information of students enrolled in school year 2019-2020. The AOHC provided seven e-Tablets (iPads) for data collection and trained OHSs on how to enter and manage data including data linkage.
- Student/school data was imported into iPads containing BSS survey data collection software created by tech consultant.
- A barcode/scanning system linked student to ADE identifier and demographic information was developed for the iPads to simplify the survey data collection process and BSS data linkage.
- The electronic interface and data linkage barcode system saved time, eliminated data entry error, and seamlessly linked the data.
- A data sharing agreement and a series of MOUs existed between ADH-OOH, ADE, and AOHC Tech Consultant, adhering to HIPAA and ADH privacy/security policies, protecting safety and confidentiality of information shared.



4 Areas of Focus

- Decay experience
- Untreated decay experience
- Dental sealants presence
- Urgency of need for dental treatment

Key Findings for Arkansas

- 37% of students have a protective dental sealant
- 2% of students need urgent dental care, 18% need dental treatment, 80% were not in need.
- Students in schools with >50% NSLP eligibility have higher prevalence of decay experience, untreated decay, and need for dental treatment.
- The Northeast Public Health Region (PHR) had the lowest presence of sealants and the highest dental treatment need.
- Hispanic students have a higher prevalence of decay experience
- African American students have lower prevalence of dental sealants and higher dental treatment need.

Partners

- Arkansas Department of Education (ADE)
- Arkansas Oral Health Coalition (AOHC)
- Association of State and Territorial Dental Directors (ASTDD)
- Centers for Disease Control and Prevention Department of Oral Health (CDC-DOH)

