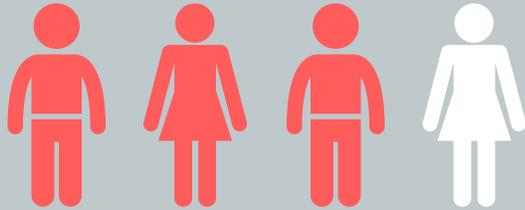


THE ORAL HEALTH OF AMERICAN SAMOA'S CHILDREN

3-OF-4 CHILDREN HAVE UNTREATED TOOTH DECAY



UNTREATED TOOTH DECAY CAN CAUSE...



Pain
Life-threatening infections



Missed school days
Poor school performance



Poor self esteem
Failure to thrive

1-OF-5 CHILDREN HAVE DENTAL PAIN OR INFECTION

IMPACTING A CHILD'S ABILITY TO LEARN



Children with dental pain have problems with concentration and are more likely to miss school and have poor school performance.

VERY FEW CHILDREN HAVE PROTECTIVE DENTAL SEALANTS

SEALANTS PREVENT TOOTH DECAY

Dental sealants protect the chewing surface of the permanent molars soon after they come into the mouth around 6 and 12 years of age. Sealants are a safe, simple and cost-effective way to prevent decay.

TOOTH DECAY IS PREVENTABLE

PREVENTION MUST START EARLY
WAYS TO PREVENT DECAY INCLUDE...

- Fluoride varnish
- Brushing with fluoride toothpaste
- Good eating habits
- Early and regular dental visits starting as soon as the first tooth appears
- Dental sealants
- Parent education



DATA SOURCE: 2020 oral health survey of 1st, 2nd and 3rd grade children in American Samoa.