

Table 1. Prevalence of dental caries and sealants measures among US children with highest education level of second grade completed, National Health and Nutrition Examination Survey (NHANES) 2011–2016^{a, b}

Measures	Denominator sample size	Prevalence (%)	Standard Error (%)	95% Confidence Interval (%)	
Caries experience in primary or permanent teeth ^c	642	59.5	2.7	54.0	64.7
Untreated tooth decay in primary or permanent teeth ^d	642	19.9	1.9	16.3	24.0
Sealants on permanent molars ^e	636	41.5	2.4	36.8	46.3

Table 2-1. Prevalence of dental caries in primary teeth among US children aged 5 years, National Health and Nutrition Examination Survey (NHANES) 2011–2016^{a, b}

Measures	Denominator sample size	Prevalence (%)	Standard Error (%)	95% Confidence Interval (%)	
Caries experience in primary teeth ^f	559	41.9	3.1	35.8	48.2
Untreated tooth decay in primary teeth ^g	559	15.0	1.7	11.9	18.7

Table 2-2. Prevalence of dental caries in primary or permanent teeth among US children aged 5 years, National Health and Nutrition Examination Survey (NHANES) 2011–2016^{a, b}

Measures	Denominator sample size	Prevalence (%)	Standard Error (%)	95% Confidence Interval (%)	
Caries experience in primary or permanent teeth ^c	559	42.1	3.1	35.9	48.5
Untreated tooth decay in primary or permanent teeth ^d	559	15.0	1.7	11.9	18.7

Notes

^a Data source: National Health and Nutrition Examination Survey (NHANES) 2011– 2012, 2013-2014 and 2015–2016. In the 3 survey cycles, dental caries and sealants were assessed by trained dentists using a visual-tactile examination. For more information about the NHANES 2011–2016 survey methodology and oral health examination process, please see: https://wwwn.cdc.gov/nchs/nhanes/ContinuousNhanes/Default.aspx?BeginYear=2011 .
^b Caution is needed if comparing data from the State Oral Health Surveys (SOHS) to national data from NHANES. The survey design, sampling frames, and oral health examination protocols may not be comparable between the SOHS and NHANES.
^c Caries experience in primary or permanent teeth was defined as having at least one decayed or filled primary tooth or at least one decayed, missing or filled permanent tooth among children with at least one primary or permanent tooth present.
^d Untreated tooth decay in primary or permanent teeth was defined as having at least one primary or permanent tooth with untreated decay among children with at least one primary or permanent tooth present.
^e Sealants on permanent molars was defined as having one or more sealants on permanent first or second molars among children with at least one permanent molar present.
^f Caries experience in primary teeth was defined as having at least one decayed or filled primary tooth among children with at least one primary tooth present.
^g Untreated tooth decay in primary teeth was defined as having at least one primary tooth with untreated decay among children with at least one primary tooth present.