



# The Healthy Smile Healthy Growth Survey is Coming to Your School



### Background

The Healthy Smile Healthy Growth (HSHG) survey is an assessment of oral health and BMI among Illinois third graders.

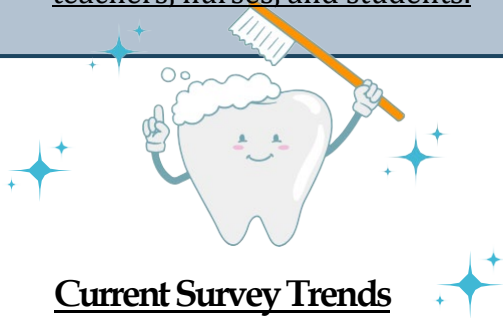
The purpose of HSHG is to inspire policies that would improve children’s health status in Illinois. The HSHG survey aims to raise awareness that good oral health promotes students’ learning and overall well-being.

The evaluation of the HSHG survey is only possible due to the efforts and cooperation of local health departments, school administrators, teachers, nurses, and students.

### Data Collection

Third graders (and their guardians) across 120 randomly selected public elementary schools in Illinois will participate in this voluntary survey. Consented students will receive free oral screening and weight/ height measurement assessment.

Data will be collected on height and weight, treated and untreated caries, rampant caries, sealants present, treatment urgency, and beverage consumption.




### Current Survey Trends


Untreated dental caries has remained steady at 22% in the last two surveys; higher than the nationally reported 15% in youth 6-11 years of age (Fleming E, 2018).


In the baseline survey conducted in 2003-04, less than 1 in 3 children had a dental sealant. This percent change increased by 96% to more than 1 in 2 children in the 2018-19 HSHG survey.


Although the overall combination of obesity and overweight trend over the last 15 years has been heading steadily down from a high of 41% in 2003-04, it remains higher than the national average of 30% (CAHMI, 2019).


### Most Recent Survey Report

 Non-Hispanic Black and non-Hispanic Asian students were more likely to have active dental disease.

 21% of students living in a rural area had unmet treatment need(s).

 4% of students in urban areas had rampant dental caries.

 1/3 of students had excessive weight during the 2018/19 academic year.

 22% of obese students were eligible for the Free or Reduced Meal Program (FRMP).