



## Adult Dental Health in Southwest Health & Human Services Service Area

Findings from the 2015 Southwest Minnesota Healthy Communities Survey

The 2015 Southwest Minnesota Healthy Communities Survey was conducted to learn about the health and health habits – physical activity, nutrition, tobacco use, dental health, and mental health – of residents living in 16 counties in southwest Minnesota. Southwest Health and Human Services (SWHHS) contracted with Wilder Research to produce summary reports for each of the six counties in their service area. This fact sheet summarizes survey results related to the dental health of adult residents in the SWHHS 6-county region.

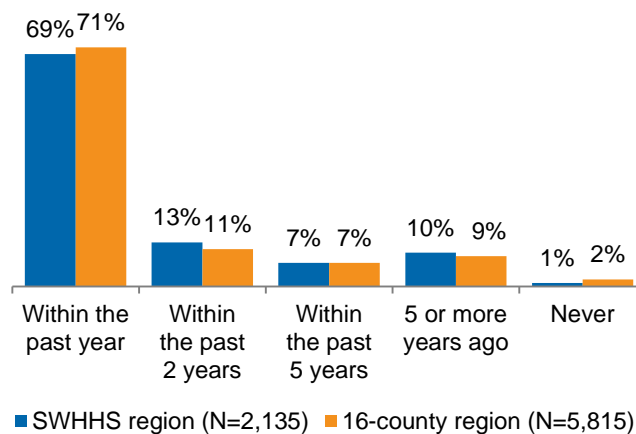
The survey was conducted April through July 2015 and was sponsored in part by the participating counties' grants from the Minnesota Department of Health's Statewide Health Improvement Program (SHIP).

In the following report, when response percentages are reported as higher or lower in the SWHHS service area compared to the 16-county region, this refers to a difference of 10 percentage points or more.

### Current dental care

Sixty-nine percent of respondents from the SWHHS region reported that they had their last dental exam or teeth cleaning within the past year.

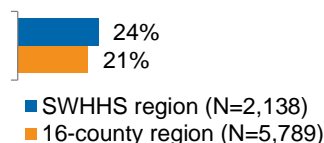
### LAST TIME RESPONDENTS HAD A DENTAL EXAM OR TEETH CLEANING



### Barriers to accessing dental care

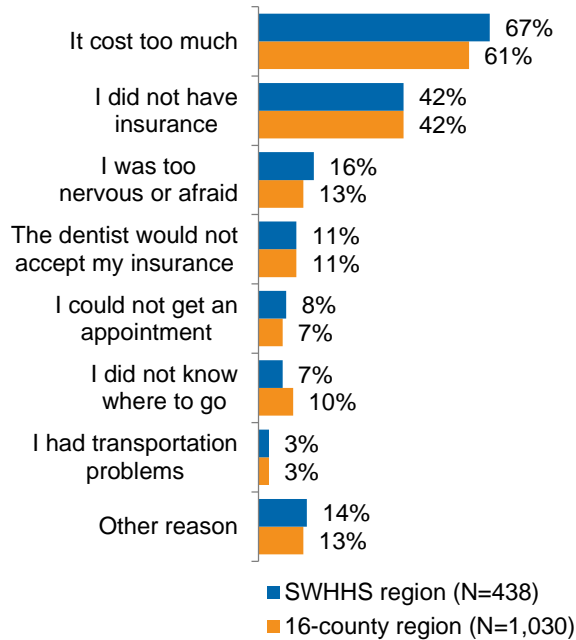
One-quarter (24%) of respondents from the SWHHS region said that during the past 12 months, there was a time when they needed dental care, but did not get it or delayed getting it. There is no significant difference in delayed dental care between the county and the region.

### RESPONDENTS WHO DID NOT GET OR DELAYED GETTING DENTAL CARE IN THE PAST 12 MONTHS



Of those who did not get or delayed getting dental care in the past 12 months, the most common reasons were because it cost too much and they did not have insurance.

#### REASONS FOR NOT GETTING OR DELAYING DENTAL CARE



#### *Compared with the region...*

Overall, the dental health of residents in the 6-county region served by SWHHS is comparable to the dental health of residents of the 16-county region.



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#### For more information

This summary presents findings from the 2015 Southwest Minnesota Healthy Communities Survey. For more information about the survey, contact Nicole MartinRogers at Wilder Research, 651-280-2682. For access to other reports, visit <http://www.swmhhs.com/public-health-assessment-and-planning/>

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