

Health Indicator Report

Oral Health

Background

The purpose of this health indicator report is to provide information about self-perceived oral health, dentate status, and having been to a dental care provider for a preventative visit in the last year, among adults aged 18 and over living in Halton Region.

Maintaining good oral health is an important component of an individual's overall health. Poor oral health can have debilitating effects on one's quality of life by affecting their physical, mental and social well being.¹ Cavities and gum disease may be contributing factors to many chronic conditions, such as diabetes and respiratory diseases.² Brushing, flossing and visiting a dental care provider regularly are all steps that can be taken to maintain good oral health and may lower the risk of developing these chronic conditions.¹

This Health Indicator Report uses data from the Rapid Risk Factor Surveillance System.

Self-Perceived Oral Health Status

Trends Over Time

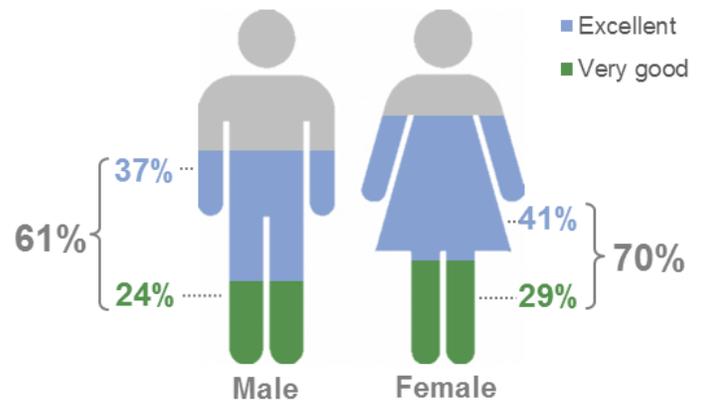
In 2014, 66% of Halton adults reported having very good or excellent (combined) oral health. From 2004 to 2014 the percentage of adults in Halton who reported having very good or excellent oral health (combined) increased from 58% to 66%, and this increase was **statistically significant**.



Percentage of adults aged 18 and over who report having very good or excellent oral health, Halton Region, 2004-2014

Sex

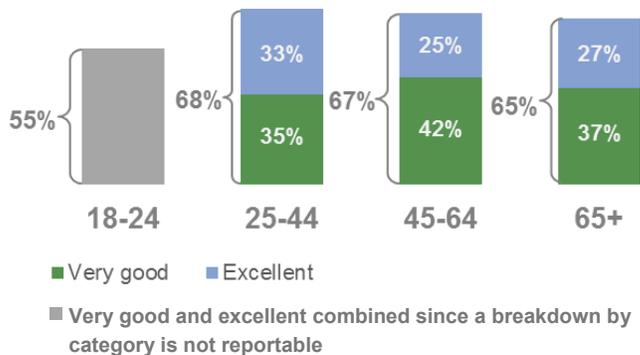
In 2014, Halton females were more likely than males to report very good or excellent (combined) oral health, and this difference was **statistically significant**.



Percentage of adults aged 18 and over who report having very good or excellent oral health, by sex, Halton Region, 2014

Age

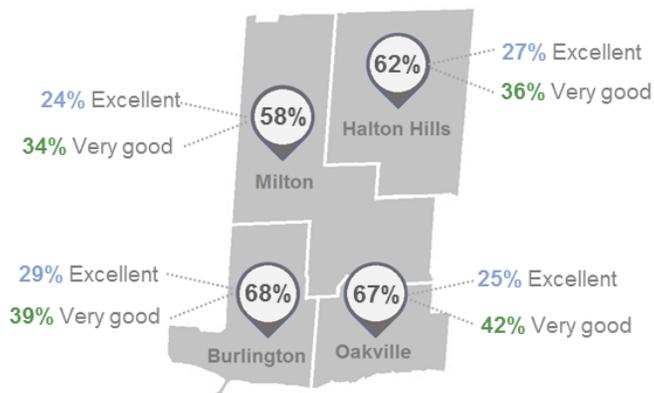
In 2014, there were no significant differences by age in the percentage of Halton adults who reported having very good or excellent (combined) oral health.



Percentage of adults aged 18 and over who report having very good or excellent oral health, by age, Halton Region, 2014

Municipality

In 2014, there were no significant differences by municipality in the percentage of Halton adults that reported having very good or excellent (combined) oral health.



Percentage of adults aged 18 and over who report having very good or excellent oral health, by municipality, Halton Region, 2014

Income

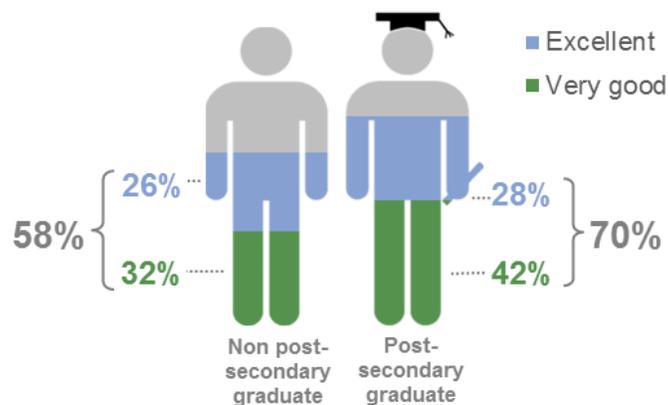
In 2014, the percentage of Halton adults who reported having very good or excellent (combined) oral health increased as income increased. This difference was **statistically significant** when comparing adults in the low income group to adults in the middle and high income groups.



Percentage of adults aged 18 and over who report having very good or excellent oral health, by income, Halton Region, 2014

Education

In 2014, Halton adults aged 25 and over who were post-secondary graduates were more likely to report having very good or excellent (combined) oral health compared to adults who were not post-secondary graduates. This difference was **statistically significant**.

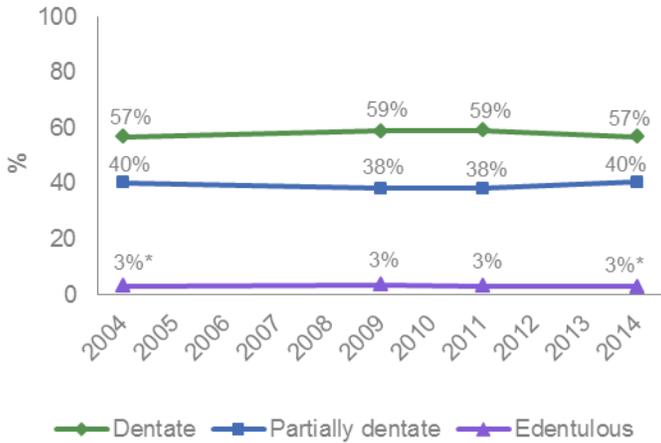


Percentage of adults aged 25 and over who report having very good or excellent oral health, by education, Halton Region, 2014

Dentate Status

Trends Over Time

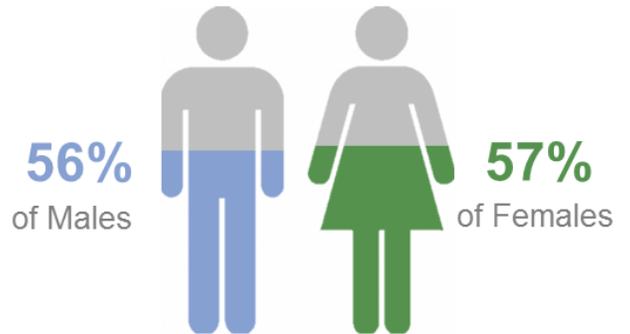
In 2014, 57% of Halton adults reported having all of their natural teeth (dentate), 40% reported having some of their natural teeth (partially dentate) and 3%* reported having none of their natural teeth (edentulous). There were no statistically significant changes in dentate status from 2004 to 2014.



Dentate status, adults aged 18 and over, Halton Region, 2004-2014

Sex

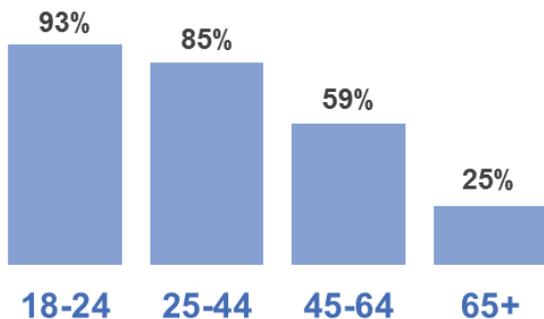
In 2014, there were no statistically significant differences by sex in the percentage of Halton adults who reported having all of their natural teeth.



Percentage of adults aged 18 and over who reported having all of their natural teeth, by sex, Halton Region, 2014

Age

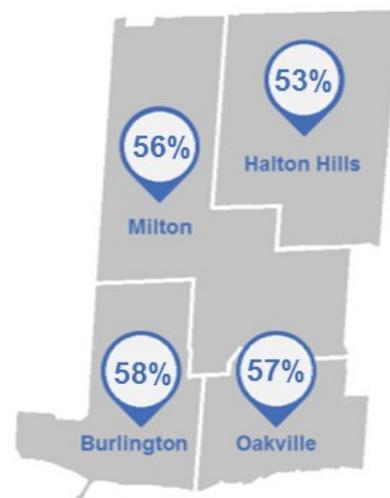
In 2014, the percentage of Halton adults who reported having all of their natural teeth decreased with age. This difference was **statistically significant** when comparing adults aged 18-24 to adults aged 45-64 and 65+, when comparing adults aged 25-44 to adults aged 45-64 and 65+, and when comparing adults aged 45-64 to adults aged 65+.



Percentage of adults aged 18 and over who reported having all of their natural teeth, by age, Halton Region, 2014

Municipality

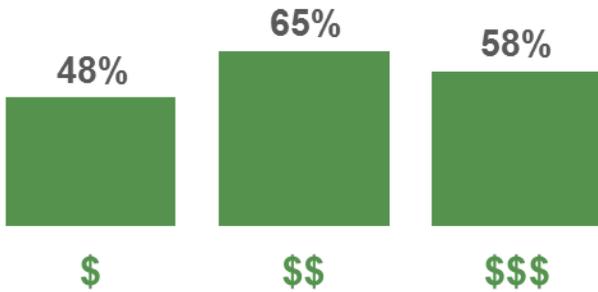
In 2014, there were no significant differences by municipality in the percentage of Halton adults who reported having all of their natural teeth.



Percentage of adults aged 18 and over who reported having all of their natural teeth, by municipality, Halton Region, 2014

Income

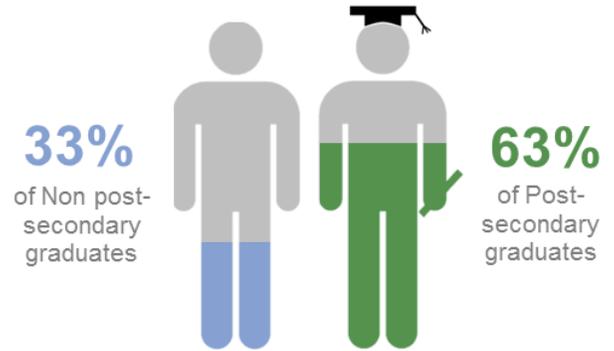
In 2014, Halton adults in the low income group were the least likely to report having all of their natural teeth followed by the high income group and the middle income group. This difference was **statistically significant** when comparing adults in the low income group to adults in the middle income group.



Percentage of adults aged 18 and over who reported having all of their natural teeth, by income, Halton Region, 2014

Education

In 2014, Halton adults aged 25 and over who were post-secondary graduates were more likely to report having all of their natural teeth compared to adults who were not post-secondary graduates. This difference was **statistically significant**.



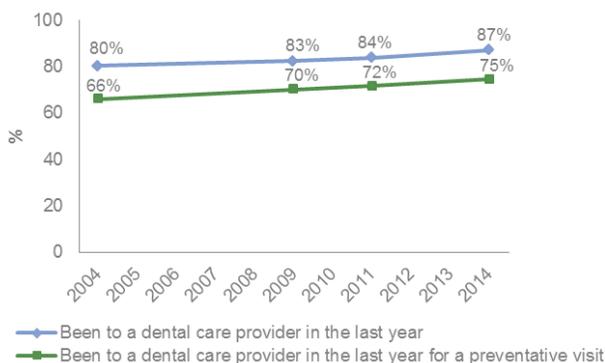
Percentage of adults aged 25 and over who reported having all of their natural teeth, by education, Halton Region, 2014

Preventative Visits to Dental Care Provider

Trends Over Time

From 2004 to 2014 the percentage of adults in Halton who reported having been to a dental care provider in the last year increased from 80% to 87%, and this increase was **statistically significant**.

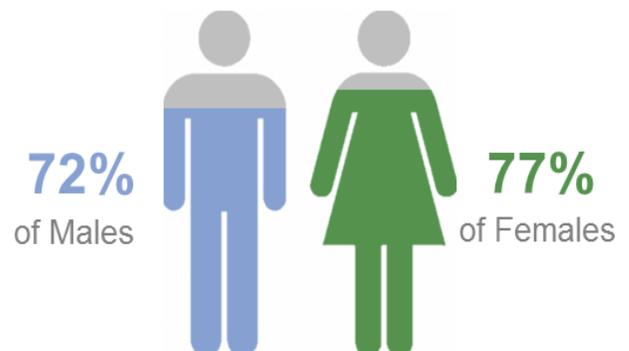
From 2004 to 2014 the percentage of adults in Halton who reported having been to a dental care provider for a preventative visit in the last year increased from 66% to 75%, and this increase was **statistically significant**.



Percentage of adults aged 18 and over who reported having been to a dental care provider in the last year and who reported having been to a dental care provider for a preventative visit in the last year, Halton Region, 2004-2014

Sex

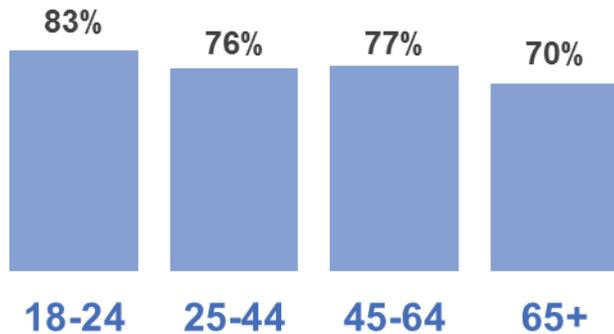
In 2014, there were no statistically significant differences by sex in the percentage of Halton adults who reported having been to a dental care provider for a preventative visit in the last year.



Percentage of adults aged 18 and over who reported having been to a dental care provider for a preventative visit in the last year, by sex, Halton Region, 2014

Age

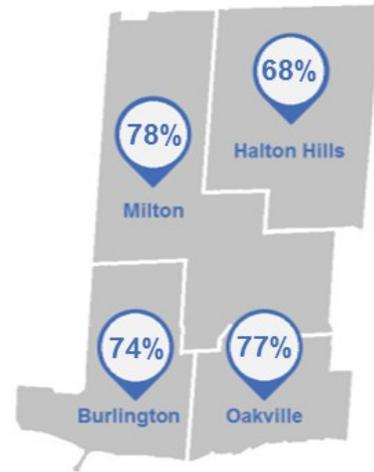
In 2014, there were no significant differences by age in the percentage of Halton adults who reported having been to a dental care provider for a preventative visit in the last year.



Percentage of adults aged 18 and over who reported having been to a dental care provider for a preventative visit in the last year, by age, Halton Region, 2014

Municipality

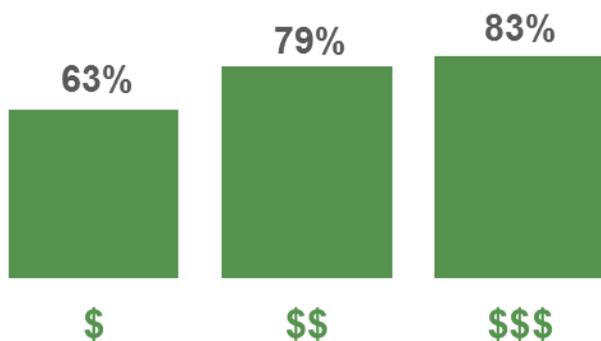
In 2014, there were no significant differences by municipality in the percentage of Halton adults who reported having been to a dental care provider for a preventative visit in the last year.



Percentage of adults aged 18 and over who reported having been to a dental care provider for a preventative visit in the last year, by municipality, Halton Region, 2014

Income

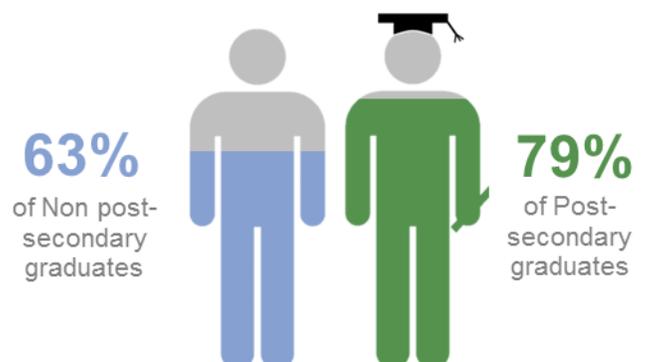
In 2014, the percentage of Halton adults who reported having been to a dental care provider for a preventative visit in the last year increased as income increased. This difference was **statistically significant** when comparing adults in the low income group to adults in the middle and high income groups.



Percentage of adults aged 18 and over who reported having been to a dental care provider for a preventative visit in the last year, by income, Halton Region, 2014

Education

In 2014, Halton adults aged 25 and over who were post-secondary graduates were more likely to report having been to a dental care provider for a preventative visit in the last year compared to adults who were not post-secondary graduates. This difference was **statistically significant**.



Percentage of adults aged 25 and over who reported having been to a dental care provider for a preventative visit in the last year, by education, Halton Region, 2014

Data Notes

For more information on RRFSS, methods, statistical significance and limitations associated with health indicator reports, please see the Data Notes and Guide available at www.halton.ca/healthstats

Definitions:

Dentate refers to individuals who have all of their natural teeth.

Partially Dentate refers to individuals who are missing some, most, or a few of their natural teeth.

Edentulous refers to individuals who do not have any of their natural teeth.

A *preventative visit* is a visit to a dental professional for the purposes of a regular cleaning or check-up.

Dental care provider refers to dentists and other dental health care providers.

Data Source: Rapid Risk Factor Surveillance System [January - April and October - December 2004, 2009, 2011 and 2014], Halton Region Health Department and Institute for Social Research, York University.

Estimates marked with an asterisk (*) should be interpreted with caution due to high variability.

References

1. Canadian Dental Association. 2015. Oral Health –Good for Life. Accessed May 20th 2015, from http://www.cda-adc.ca/en/oral_health/cfyt/good_for_life/
2. Health Canada. 2009. The Effects of Oral Health on Overall Health. Accessed May 20th, 2015 from <http://www.hc-sc.gc.ca/hl-vs/iyh-vsv/life-vie/dent-eng.php>

For more health indicator and health status reports, visit the Halton Health Statistics website at www.halton.ca/healthstats

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